

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Pat Scanlon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pat Scanlon, Council Members Ben Argall, Brett Argall, and Jason Chapman. (4). Absent: Kurt Kipling (1). Also, present was City Manager Randy Scholz (via Zoom) and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pat Scanlon advised the equipment number for item 11(e) is #161 not #167.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda incorporating the above change.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Jennings, 672 Duncan Street, expressed his concerns with the utility billing process as it related to the public assistance programs for eligible residents. He asked if the City would consider allowing a longer extension on water bills so residents in need of assistance would have time to get it.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, asked to reserve time under item 11(f).

Sarah Garver, Powwow Committee, 3759 County Road CL, provided a recap of the Powwow that took place in September at the Mining Heritage Pavilion. She suggested the City consider providing a checklist for event coordinators to follow; consider adding language to either an ordinance or policy to allow ceremonial fires; and added they would like to make the Powwow and annual event.

Jeremy Johnson, 901 N. Third Street, thought the water and sewer project was very unorganized and lacked communication with the residents. He expressed some of his concerns about the sidewalk and curb replacement on Third Street and would like to see communication during construction projects improved. He questioned multiple digs during the project.

6. MANAGER OFFER OF INFORMATION - There was no additional information.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (9/10/2025, 9/17/2025)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Confirm reappointment of Carrie Meyer to a 4-year term on the DDA: Term Exp 7/2029
- d. Confirm reappointment of Brice Sturmer to a 4-year term on the DDA: Term Exp 7/2029
- e. Confirm Mayor appointment of Julie Luehmann on the Housing Commission: Term Exp 10/2030

8. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Monthly Financial Statement Report

Finance Director Grey Getschow reviewed the unaudited monthly financial report including the General Fund, Major and Local Streets, Sewer, and Garbage Fund, DDA, and Police and Fire Retirement Fund for the period ending September 2025.

iii. Proposed 2026 Budget

Finance Director Getschow provide a copy of the proposed 2026 budget which was due to Council on or before October 15th as required by the City Charter. He gave a summary of the budget narrative for 2026, and suggested Council begin to look at what is mandated and what is not; consider a library millage in future; and continue to look for new revenue sources. He gave a brief overview of each fund.

b. DPW Update

DPW Director Bill Anderson attended the meeting for the MDOT Small Urban Grant funding and advised the City would receive the grant in 2029; staff purchased the shoulder machine; the skate park was under construction and there was approximately 5 weeks of work remaining; Kwik Trip was scheduled to open on October 23rd; all streets should be paved by the beginning of November and noted there were two changes: the intersection of Hematite and Third would now be at 90 degrees and Third Street would be narrower with no parking on either side.

c. Police Department Update

Chief Chad Radabaugh announced he received notification of the Kwik Trip ribbon cutting for November 12th and advised Kwik Trip donated to the Police Department.

d. City Clerk Update

City Clerk Cathy Smith reminded residents of the upcoming November 4th Special election with both precincts being open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. She advised the Clerk's Office is required to be open for 8 hours the weekend prior to the election and will be open on Saturday, November 1st from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for residents to obtain absent voter ballots, register to vote, or for any election related questions. She also reminded residents there would not be 9-days of early in-person voting as this is only a requirement for State and Federal Elections.

9. PUBLIC HEARING – There were none.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was none.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Special Event Application

i. Christmas Festivities and Parade Permit: 11/28, 12/4, 11, 18 and potentially a Saturday

ii. UPCROSS Cyclocross Bike Race at Al Quaal: October 25 and 26, 2025

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve both special event applications as presented.

b. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

i. Resolution #28-2025, Designating an Authorized Representative for CWSRF

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #28-2025, Designating an Authorized Representative for the CWSRF as presented.

ii. Resolution #29-2025 Designating an Authorized Representative for DWSRF

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #29-2025, Designating an Authorized Representative for the DWSRF as presented.

iii. Resolution #30-2025, DWSRF Reimbursement Request #7

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #30-2025 DWSRF Reimbursement Request #7 in the amount of \$1,826,559.88 as presented.

Chris Holms, UP Engineers and Architects, explained that the multiple digs on the Third Street project were due to the water, sewer, and storm sewer all being replaced. He noted construction would be paused at Michigan Street this year and the project would be completed next year.

c. Resolution #31-2025, City Health Insurance per Public Act 152
City Clerk Smith reviewed the options available for PA 152.

A motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution #31-2025, City Health Insurance per Public Act 152 selecting Section 8 the Exemption Option as presented.

d. Resolution #32-2025, Authorizing the City Manager as signatory for USDA Grant Documents

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #32-2025, Authorizing the City Manager as signatory for USDA Grant Documents as presented.

e. Request to declare DPW Gator #167 #161 as surplus

DPW Director Bill Anderson advised the number on the equipment was incorrect on the agenda, it should be Equipment #161 for the Gator.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to declare the Gator, equipment #161, as surplus and to be included in the next auction.

f. Professional Services Agreement with the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP)

Chris Germain, LSCP Director, explained the LSCP contract has been separated into two individual contracts: one for the DDA which included the Liaison position and one for the City. He reviewed the agreement with the City and the scope of services. He noted the City is close to being Redevelopment Ready certified; reviewed the core services that would be provided; and highlighted the work that had been done to date. The end date for the contract was December 31, 2027.

Claudia Demarest, 821 Maurice Street, advised she has not been a fan of the LSCP and expressed her concern that nothing has been done for the residents, only for business, and would like to see the approximately \$58,000 be spent more wisely, and go towards City owned building in need of repairs.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ben Argall, seconded by Councilmember Brett Argall, and carried unanimously to accept the agreement with the Lake Superior Community Partnership with a term of November 2025 through December 2027 in the amount of \$58,958.34, with funding to come from the General Fund.

Council discussed what the LSCP has done and was happy with the partnership with the LSCP. Residents may not see all the great work being done by the LSCP for the City.

g. 2025 Third Quarter Budget Amendments

Finance Director Getschow reviewed the quarter three budget amendments.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Ben Argall, and carried unanimously to approve the third quarter budget amendments as presented.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Ben Argall attended the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and DDA; and attended the Powwow which was a huge success.

Councilmember Brett Argall attended the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and DDA; and attended the community after hours at Goldies.

Councilmember Jason Chapman attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and discussed the repairs to be made to the lodge; talked about the possible fund raising for the parks; attended the Powwow; did a Police Department ride along and thanked the Police Department for the great work that they do; and thanked Representative Karl Bohnak, Senator McBroom; the Council, the Mayor, our County Commissioner, and Fire Chief Jason Annala for all their work to obtain the funding for the new fire truck for the City of Ishpeming.

Mayor Pat Scanlon noted receiving funds for a new fire truck was huge and also thank Councilmember Jason Chapman for all his efforts; Council would continue to seek funding for the fire hall and city hall; attended the Powwow; and announced the Kwik Trip ribbon cutting to be held on November 12th.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT – None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:01 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Brett Argall, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Cathy Smith, City Clerk