

**Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 23, 2026**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, February 23, 2026, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Brice Sturmer at 4:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Brice Sturmer, Brian Buchanan, Krystan Beaumont, Carrie Meyer, Kelly Milano, Tracy Magnuson, Lisa Petersen, Randy Scholz, and Antonio Adan (9). Absent: David Aro and Brett Argall (2). Also, present was DDA Liaison Diana Sundberg and Linda Andriacchi, Beautification.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, seconded by Member Meyer, and carried unanimously to approve the January 26, 2026, minutes as presented.

6. MONTHLY REPORTS

a. Finance Report

Members requested Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Grey Getschow provide the snow removal costs for the downtown area in the next report.

b. Beautification Committee Report

Linda Andriacchi advised she has ordered flowers for 2026 and asked DDA members to look for someone that would be interested in watering the baskets. She suggested the position be added to the TV6 job of the day and asked if the ad could be put on the City's website and Facebook page. Liaison Diana Sundberg would also place this ad on the LSCP site.

c. Ishpeming Community Events Report

Liaison Sundberg announced the next meeting for Ishpeming Community Events would be held on March 9th at the Iron Range Agency. She added the \$5,000 check was received from Tru North for the concert series as a presenting sponsor; and she would be putting together a card which would list on the upcoming events in Ishpeming for 2026 which could be placed at local businesses.

d. DDA Liaison Report

Liaison Sundberg provided a summary of her monthly report for the period 1/26/2026 through 1/23/2026 which included starting discussions with businesses related to a social district; Match on Main timeline; the grant writing workshop to be held at the West End Hub; the next Ishpeming Huddle scheduled for March 16th at Jasper Ridge; Facebook traffic has been increasing; and noted the various meeting she had attended for the month.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Develop Subcommittees

There was discussion among members related to having Standing Committees versus Advisory Committees as outlined in the DDA bylaws; advisory committees that could be established such as Planning, Beautification, and Events; what would be accomplished by establishing advisory committees; and the possibility of included some Planning Commission members on a Standing Committee for Planning.

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A motion was made by Member Magnuson, seconded by Member Adan, and carried unanimously to create three advisory committees: Planning, Events, Beautification, and any members interested should let Liaison Sundberg know and she would report this information at the March meeting.

b. Match on Main – Opened on February 18th, application close on March 18th

Liaison Sundberg announced the Match on Main grant opened on February 18th and applications could be submitted until March 18th. This was a great opportunity for eligible local businesses to receive grant funds up to \$25,000 to support, expand, or start new ventures.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. RAMBA – Trail Head – DDA Lot

Liaison Sundberg advised at the joint meeting of the Planning Commission/DDA/Parks and Recreation Commission this property was discussed and RAMBA expressed interest in developing the property. She met with Amy Lerlie, from RAMBA, to discuss and noted this park would be used by RAMBA but would also be available for all City residents to use and this was the perfect location for informational signage for local businesses and a memo board to provide information on upcoming events.

RAMBA representatives, Amy Lerlie, Secretary and Glen Lerlie President, were present and discussed the vacant lot across from The Mather which was right on the Iron Ore Heritage Trail adding RAMBA would like to improve this site and include on the site maps/kiosks, local business information, lighting, bike repair stations, and benches/tables. RAMBA would work in partnership with the DDA and would not be interested in purchasing the lot.

RAMBA would like permission to seek grant funding with Amy Lerlie preparing the grant application and if the grant was successful, a charette would be held to receive input from residents on the proposed plan. In addition, RAMBA would like a letter from the DDA authorizing preparation of grant applications, the planning process, and outline the flow of communication.

DDA members thanked RAMBA for their continued support to the City.

A motion was made by Member Magnuson, seconded by Member Milano and carried unanimously to authorize the chair to sign an agreement with RAMBA, pending legal review, to allow RAMBA to develop a plan for the site on Canda Street and to seek grant opportunities with the DDA maintaining ownership of the site; and bring the proposed plan design back to the DDA.

b. Update of 2018 Strategic Plan – See Beckett and Raeder Plan

There was discussion among Board members related to the Beckett and Raeder Embracing our History and Achieving our Potential Plan that was completed in 2018; the need to update the plan, the process that would be followed to have an update; and the possible cost of an update versus preparation of a new plan. Also talked about was preparing a Request for Proposals to receive quotes from firms for the plan update.

A motion was made by Member Buchanan, seconded by Member Beaumont, and carried unanimously to authorize staff to prepare a Request for Proposals for an update to the Beckett and Raeder Plan.

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c. Start Up Assistance Grant Application – Milano Chiropractic

There was discussion related to the Start-Up Assistance grant application received from Milano Chiropractic. Kelly Milano explained the funds would be used for equipment and some signage. The projected opening date will be in March.

Member Milano, owner of Milano Chiropractic, advised she would abstain from voting.

A motion was made by Member Buchanan, seconded by Member Scholz to approve the start-up assistance grant application from Milano Chiropractic as presented and award the grant in the amount of \$5,000. Motion passed 8-0, with Member Kelly Milano abstaining.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:15 p.m., a motion was made by Member Buchanan, seconded by Member Meyer, and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Cathy Smith, City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager