

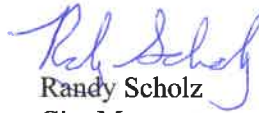
**ISHPEMING CITY COUNCIL**

**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers, 100 E. Division Street, Ishpeming MI (906) 485-1091**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Public Comment** *(limit 5 minutes per person--to be used for general public comment or reserved for an agenda item)*
- 6. Manager Offer of Information**
- 7. Consent Agenda**
  - a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (April 1<sup>st</sup> 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm; April 1<sup>st</sup> Closed Sessions)
  - b. Approval of Disbursements
  - c. Reappoint Larry Bussone to a 3-year term on the Iron Ore Heritage Authority, Term expiring 4-30-2029
  - d. Reappoint Brooke Routhier to a 5-year term on the Library Board, Term Expiring 5/3031
  - e. Reappoint Claudia Demarest to a 3-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission: Expiring 5/2029
  - f. Reappoint Amy Lerie to a 3-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission: Expiring 5/2029
- 8. Monthly Reports from Departments**
  - a. Monthly Financial Statement Report
    - i. Balance Sheets – All funds
    - ii. Monthly Detail – All funds
  - b. DPW Update
  - c. Library 2025 Annual Report
- 9. Public Hearings** *(limit 3 minutes per person) - None*
- 10. Unfinished Business - None**
- 11. New Business**
  - a. Proclamation: 2025-2026 Ishpeming Hematite Girls Basketball Team
  - b. City of Ishpeming Strategic Plan 2026-2030: Christopher Germain, Lake Superior Community Partnership
  - c. Special Event Application
    - i. Ishpeming Community Events: Festival of Treasures 7/3/2026; Music in the Park 6/18-9/3, 2026
    - ii. Barnes Hecker Cemetery Tour: July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> with Rain Dates of July 26<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup>
    - iii. The Living Room: A Place for Mom: The Village 5K on 5/9/2026
    - iv. 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Iron Range Roll Bike Race: June 6, 2026
  - d. NIWA 2026 Well Construction: Cemetery Location Fill Agreement
  - e. Purchase photocopier for the Department of Public Works
  - f. Resolution 10-2026, Authorize the 42-day City of Ishpeming Master Plan Public Review Period
  - g. First Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance: Text Amendment – Duplex Definitions and Section 19.1(B)(2)
  - h. Authorize City Manager travel to Crystal Mountain for 2026 Small Town & Rural Development Conference June 1-3, 2026
- 12. Mayor and Council Reports**
- 13. Manager's Report**
- 14. Closed Session** pursuant to MCL 15.168(e) to consult with its attorney in connection with specific pending litigation
- 15. Adjournment**

  
Randy Scholz  
City Manager



7(c)  
P.O. Box 326  
350 Iron Street  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
[ironoreheritage@gmail.com](mailto:ironoreheritage@gmail.com)

3/25/26

Ishpeming City Hall  
100 E Division Street  
Ishpeming, MI 49849

City Manager,

This letter is to ask the City of Ishpeming to reappoint Larry Bussone, Ishpeming resident, to the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority for a 3-year term as representative for the City of Ishpeming.

Mr. Bussone's current term will expire on April 30, 2026. A reappointment would extend his term to April 30, 2029.

Sincerely,

Bob Hendrickson, trail administrator  
Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority  
PO Box 326  
350 Iron Street  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
906.235.2923  
[ironoreheritage@gmail.com](mailto:ironoreheritage@gmail.com)

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND</b>				
TAX REVENUE		1,329,151.57		0.00
LICENSES & PERMITS		7,278.40		1,217.00
STATE GRANTS		33,350.76		12,007.85
STATE REVENUE		5,391.30		5,378.40
FINES & FORFEITS		16,405.53		8,032.96
CHARGES FOR SERVICES		291,988.98		139,647.35
CONTRIBUTIONS		10,267.91		464.29
INTEREST & RENTS		2,183.56		0.00
LAND SALE & LEASES		1,561.84		0.00
REIMBURSEMENTS & INSURANCE PROCEEDS		4,817.73		4,777.73
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>		<b>1,702,397.58</b>		<b>171,525.58</b>
PERSONNEL SERVICES		884,283.54		266,040.07
UTILITIES		61,010.01		34,414.36
EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES		102,169.72		37,383.85
PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES		56,771.46		29,143.88
OTHER SERVICES		56,681.16		19,508.83
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE		16,652.69		12,063.71
LIABILITY INSURANCE		29,605.00		0.00
EQUIPMENT RENTALS		7,785.36		7,785.36
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>1,214,958.94</b>		<b>406,340.06</b>
<b>Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND:</b>				
TOTAL REVENUES		1,702,397.58		171,525.58
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,214,958.94		406,340.06
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		487,438.64		(234,814.48)
BEG. FUND BALANCE		743,493.85		
NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025		3,116.80		
END FUND BALANCE		1,234,049.29		

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 202 - MAJOR STREETS				
	STATE REVENUE	151,764.47		135,476.51
	INTEREST & RENTS	1,468.23		0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES	153,232.70		135,476.51
	PERSONNEL SERVICES	107,457.47		36,942.93
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	6,914.97		35.00
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES	377.16		0.00
	EQUIPMENT RENTALS	122,944.21		61,447.43
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	237,693.81		98,425.36
Fund 202 - MAJOR STREETS:				
	TOTAL REVENUES	153,232.70		135,476.51
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	237,693.81		98,425.36
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	(84,461.11)		37,051.15
	BEG. FUND BALANCE	982,412.19		
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025	(349,901.72)		
	END FUND BALANCE	548,049.36		

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 203 - LOCAL STREETS				
	STATE REVENUE		42,756.54	42,756.54
	INTEREST & RENTS		1,073.11	0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES		43,829.65	42,756.54
	PERSONNEL SERVICES		106,189.05	42,095.41
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES		1,391.51	0.00
	EQUIPMENT RENTALS		109,214.41	72,589.23
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		216,794.97	114,684.64
Fund 203 - LOCAL STREETS:				
	TOTAL REVENUES		43,829.65	42,756.54
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		216,794.97	114,684.64
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		(172,965.32)	(71,928.10)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE		828,422.57	
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025		(228,747.73)	
	END FUND BALANCE		426,709.52	

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR	
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026	INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 248 - DDA					
	TAX REVENUE	177,500.01			0.00
	INTEREST & RENTS	1,748.20			0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES	179,248.21			0.00
	PERSONNEL SERVICES	3,871.60			1,363.13
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	20,000.00			0.00
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES	7,670.83			0.00
	DEBT SERVICE	140,215.00			0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	171,757.43			1,363.13
Fund 248 - DDA:					
	TOTAL REVENUES	179,248.21			0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	171,757.43			1,363.13
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	7,490.78			(1,363.13)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE	849,558.06			
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025	135,029.11			
	END FUND BALANCE	992,077.95			

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND				
	TAX REVENUE	420,536.84		0.00
	INTEREST & RENTS		960.64	0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES	<hr/>		0.00
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES	11,292.57		3,522.13
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES	73,310.53		42,350.40
	EQUIPMENT RENTALS	27,486.06		0.00
	DEBT SERVICE	43,515.00		0.00
	TRANSFERS OUT	6,000.00		0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<hr/>		45,872.53
<hr/>				
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND:				
	TOTAL REVENUES	421,497.48		0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	161,604.16		45,872.53
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	259,893.32		(45,872.53)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE	663,288.41		
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025	(729,111.98)		
	END FUND BALANCE	194,069.75		

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 590 - SEWER FUND				
	FINES & FORFEITS		7,184.06	2,639.02
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES		336,873.49	165,484.28
	INTEREST & RENTS		8,257.42	0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES		<u>352,314.97</u>	<u>168,123.30</u>
	PERSONNEL SERVICES		58,223.33	20,350.34
	UTILITIES		5,594.34	4,269.62
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES		7,327.22	8,169.78
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES		304,557.40	172,083.89
	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE		1,577.23	1,577.23
	LIABILITY INSURANCE		21,280.00	0.00
	DEBT SERVICE		56,447.55	56,447.55
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<u>455,007.07</u>	<u>262,898.41</u>
Fund 590 - SEWER FUND:				
	TOTAL REVENUES		352,314.97	168,123.30
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<u>455,007.07</u>	<u>262,898.41</u>
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		(102,692.10)	(94,775.11)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE		18,549,064.34	
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025		(3,789,530.93)	
	END FUND BALANCE		14,656,841.31	

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 591 - WATER FUND				
	STATE GRANTS		54,916.25	33,142.10
	FINES & FORFEITS		9,774.75	3,555.74
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES		477,452.56	229,658.56
	INTEREST & RENTS		5,673.90	0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES		<u>547,817.46</u>	<u>266,356.40</u>
	PERSONNEL SERVICES		119,432.66	38,088.19
	UTILITIES		14,672.38	7,245.62
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES		18,089.82	10,439.85
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES		1,257,278.11	1,014,542.24
	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE		1,577.23	1,577.23
	LIABILITY INSURANCE		18,620.00	0.00
	EQUIPMENT RENTALS		143.85	143.85
	DEBT SERVICE		38,239.31	38,239.31
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		<u>1,468,053.36</u>	<u>1,110,276.29</u>
Fund 591 - WATER FUND:				
	TOTAL REVENUES		547,817.46	266,356.40
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,468,053.36	1,110,276.29
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		(920,235.90)	(843,919.89)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE		11,640,199.64	
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025		(5,206,478.27)	
	END FUND BALANCE		5,513,485.47	

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 03/31/2026
				INCREASE (DECREASE)
Fund 596 - GARBAGE/RECYCLE				
	FINES & FORFEITS		2,501.20	591.45
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES		174,835.10	73,835.00
	INTEREST & RENTS		1,372.48	0.00
	TOTAL REVENUES		178,708.78	74,426.45
	PERSONNEL SERVICES		1,164.37	412.13
	UTILITIES		1,156.89	612.55
	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES		1,500.00	1,000.00
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES		149,823.60	56,361.06
	LIABILITY INSURANCE		1,995.00	0.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		155,639.86	58,385.74
Fund 596 - GARBAGE/RECYCLE:				
	TOTAL REVENUES		178,708.78	74,426.45
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		155,639.86	58,385.74
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		23,068.92	16,040.71
	BEG. FUND BALANCE		546,889.32	
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025		114,544.06	
	END FUND BALANCE		684,502.30	

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR
		03/31/2026		MONTH 03/31/2026
		NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	INCREASE (DECREASE)
<b>Fund 732 - POLICE &amp; FIRE RETIREMENT</b>				
	TAX REVENUE	219,790.07		72,457.94
	CONTRIBUTIONS	12,045.65		3,246.46
	INTEREST & RENTS	(24,676.04)		(313,419.29)
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>207,159.68</b>		<b>(237,714.89)</b>
	PERSONNEL SERVICES	130,420.50		42,156.22
	PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACT SERVICES	7,893.73		3.70
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>138,314.23</b>		<b>42,159.92</b>
<b>Fund 732 - POLICE &amp; FIRE RETIREMENT:</b>				
	TOTAL REVENUES	207,159.68		(237,714.89)
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	138,314.23		42,159.92
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	68,845.45		(279,874.81)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE	5,206,882.35		
	NET OF REVENUES/EXPENDITURES - 2025	828,799.23		
	END FUND BALANCE	6,104,527.03		
	<b>TOTAL REVENUES - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>3,786,206.51</b>		<b>620,949.89</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>4,219,823.83</b>		<b>2,140,406.08</b>
	NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	(433,617.32)		(1,519,456.19)
	BEG. FUND BALANCE - ALL FUNDS	40,010,210.73		
	END FUND BALANCE - ALL FUNDS	30,354,311.98		

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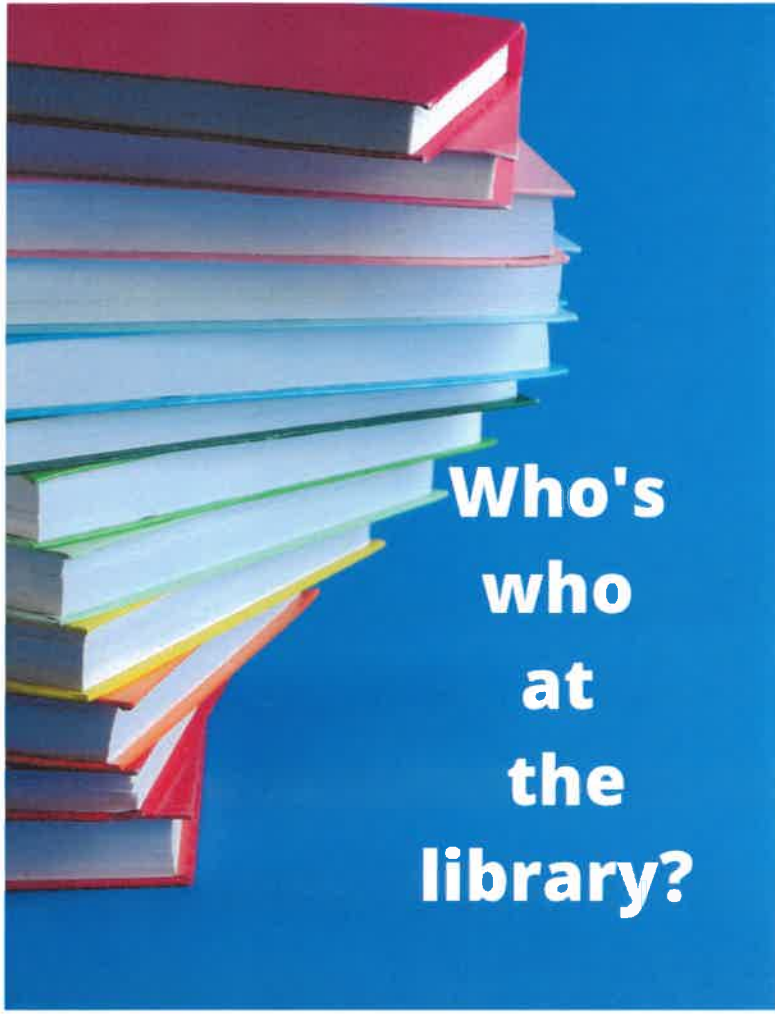
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ISHPEMING CARNEGIE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

2025  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

[www.ishpeminglibrary.info](http://www.ishpeminglibrary.info) / 906-486-4381 /  
[ishirtz@ishpeminglibrary.info](mailto:ishirtz@ishpeminglibrary.info)

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# Who's who at the library?

## Library Staff

**Jessica Shirtz,**  
Library Director

**Nicole Johnson,**  
Librarian

**Heather Lander,**  
Children's Librarian

**Heidi Silverstone,**  
Library Assistant

**Lorissa Laitinen,**  
Library Clerk (left May)

**Arwen Luttenton-Hamel,**  
Library Clerk (returned July)

## Library Board

**Paul Olson,** President

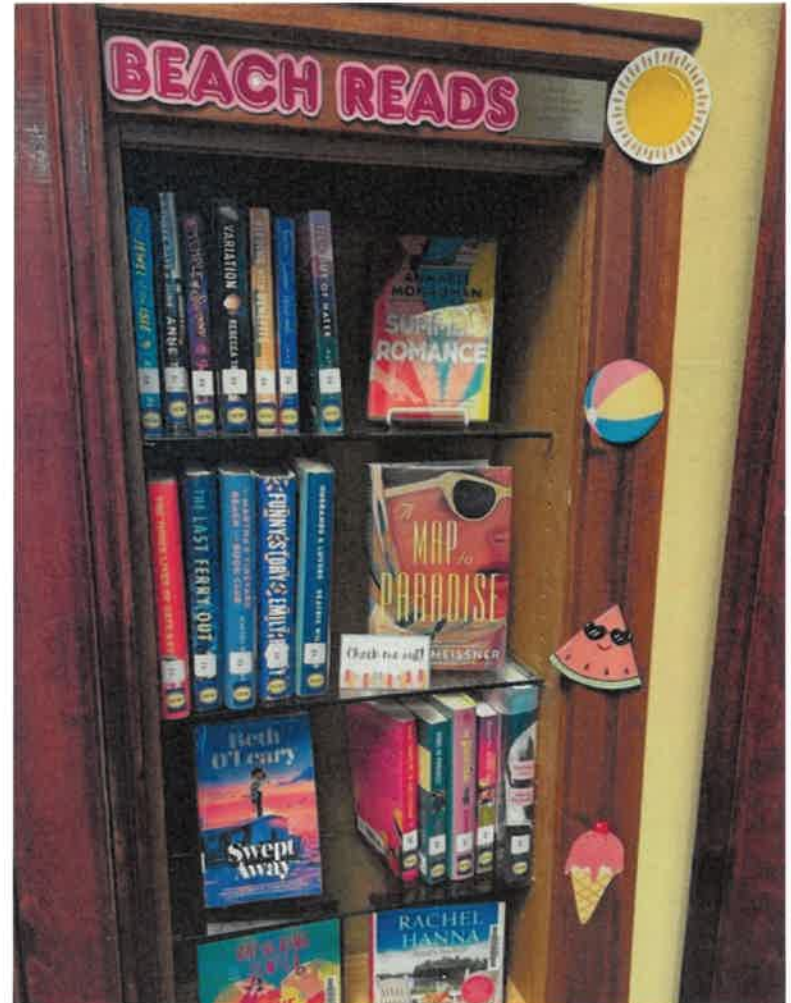
**Elyse Bertucci,** Vice President

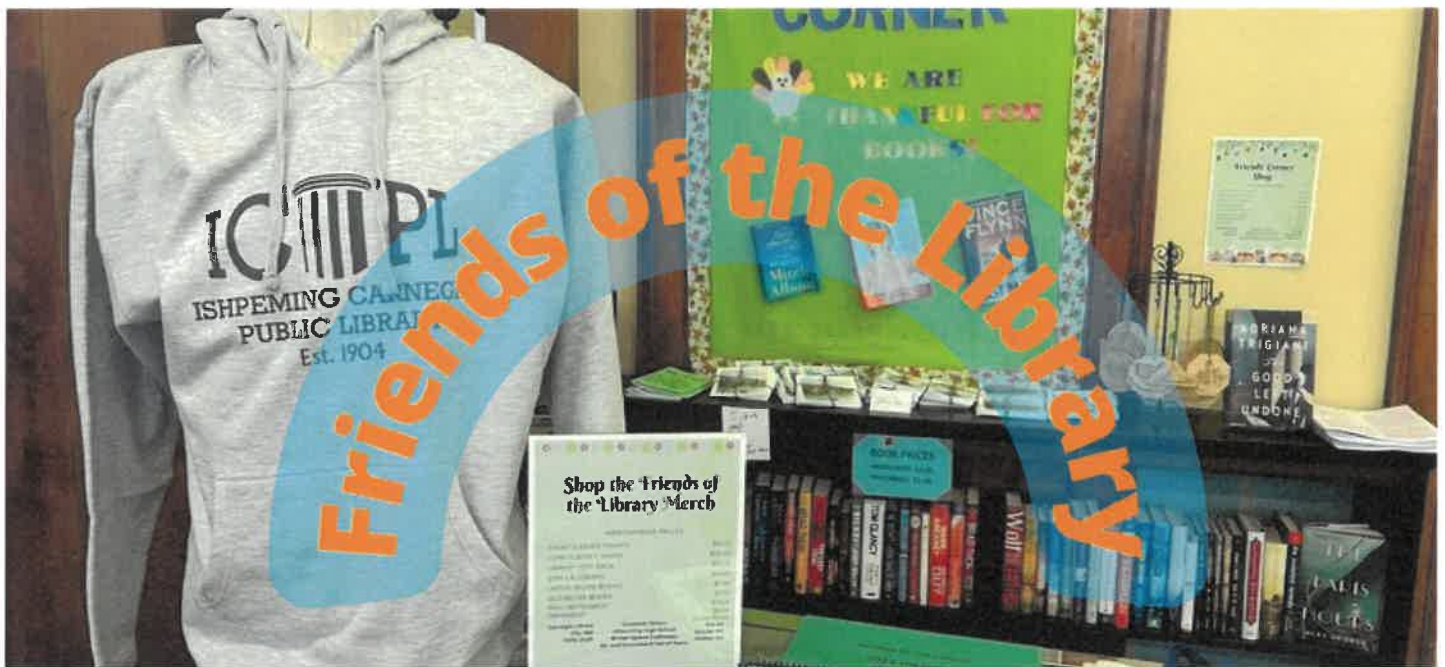
**Brooke Routhier,** Secretary

**Darren Boldt,** Trustee

**Kaylee Reno,** Trustee

*Jason Chapman,* City Council Liaison  
to the Library Board

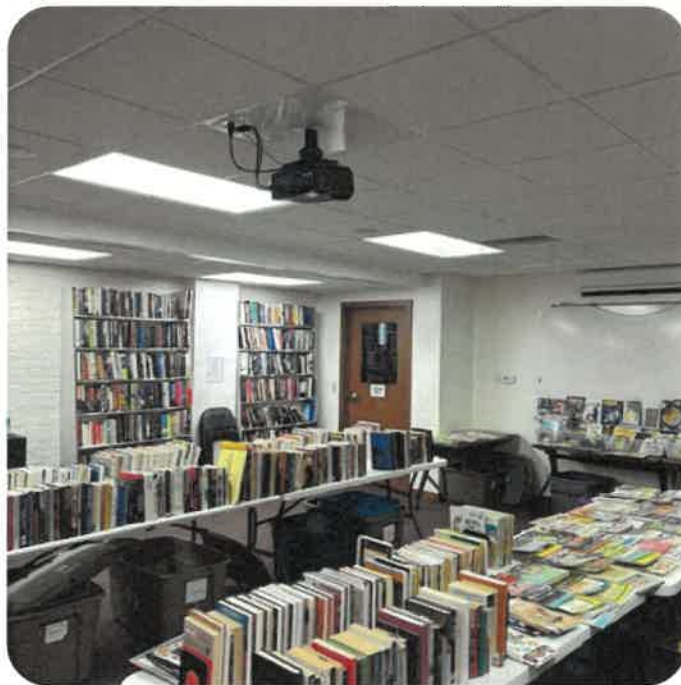




**Association of Friends of  
the Ishpeming Carnegie  
Public Library**

501(c)3 non-profit

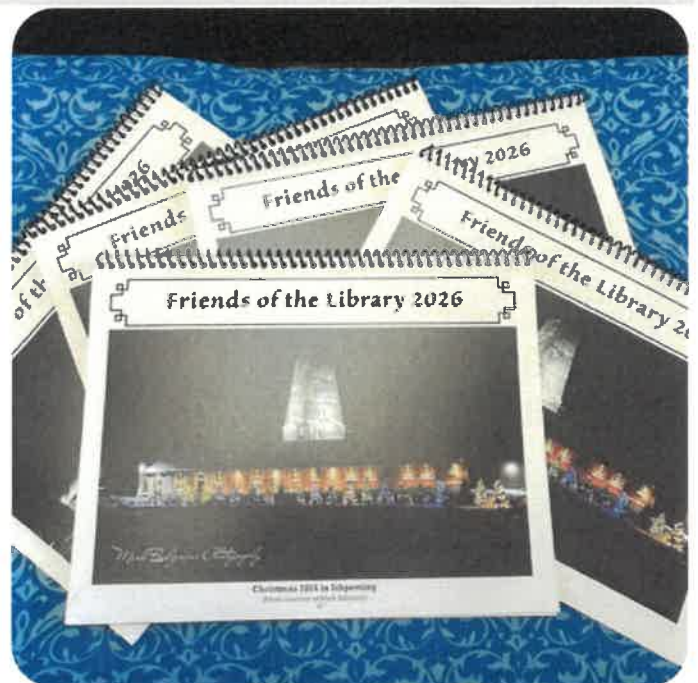
- Kay Tupala**, President
- Amy Robare**, Secretary
- Ann Kananen DeVowe**,  
Treasurer
- Jodi Firby**, Assistant  
Treasurer



The Friends sponsored our Fall lineup of programs for adults! They expanded to three used book sales in April, August, and December.

The FOL were instrumental in the library receiving a grant from United for Libraries/Penguin Random House (and matching it!) to purchase updated titles on Native American peoples and other cultures.

[ishpeminglibrary.info/friends](http://ishpeminglibrary.info/friends)



# FROM THE FRONT DESK

*Respectfully submitted by Jesse Shirtz, Library Director*

We had a busy 2025! We continued to experience a high demand for new programs for all ages and correspondingly saw high attendance at programs new and old.

We welcomed back former staff member Teagan Olivia King for the launch of her debut novel *Spit Back the Bones*, and once again hosted this year's Young Author (Adam Rex) for a fun-filled presentation for area children.

There were a stressful few months when the IMLS was eliminated at the federal level and we feared the loss of state-wide inter-library loan. Luckily, that has not come to pass.

We ended the year with the unfortunate failure of our steam boiler the weekend before Thanksgiving. We are grateful to the City for electing to replace the entire system.

In the meantime the extreme cold temperatures outside translated inside. We are appreciative of our patrons who continued visiting and using the library with their jackets on. We look forward to having a more efficient system next winter!



*RIP steam boiler*

We are beginning 2026 in the midst of a complete replacement of our heating system, except for our existing small hot water boiler that heats the Children's Room and Ray Leverton Community Room. All radiators and existing piping have been removed (along with the old boiler) and the new units will be installed soon. The project has a projected completion date of May 1. The Carnegie Corporation also gifted our library \$10,000 in January for still operating as a Carnegie library! We remain committed to providing materials and programming on a wide range of subjects for all of the residents of our service area.

# BY THE NUMBERS



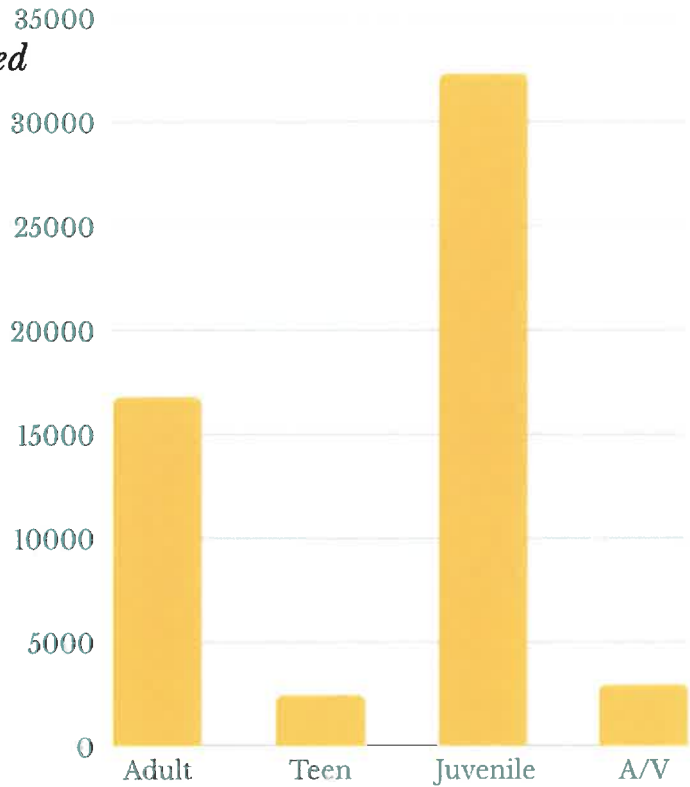
# CIRCULATION

*The number and character of items checked out during this year.*

# 59%

OF ITEMS CIRC'D ARE FOR KIDS

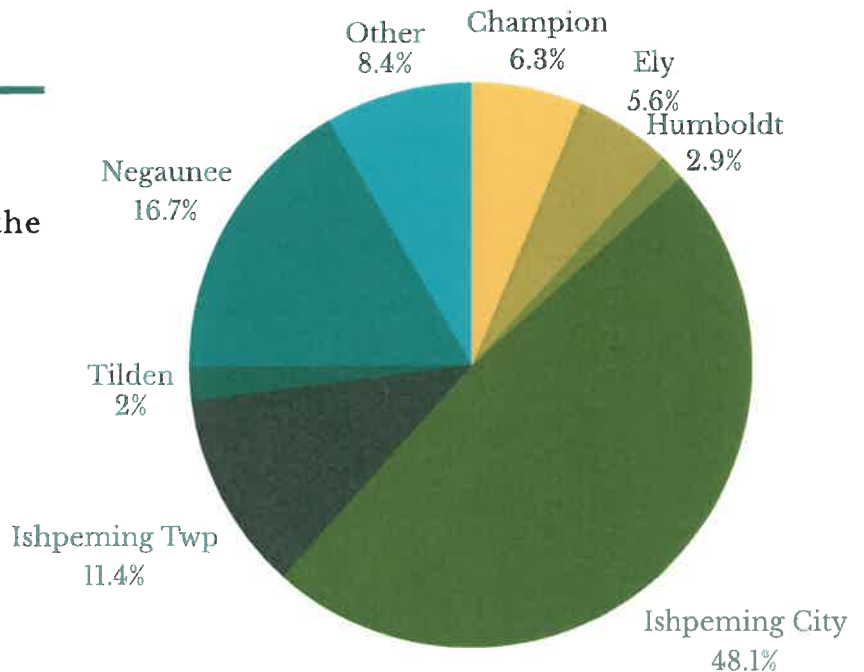
Juvenile items continue to be the most checked out at the library.



# 54K

TOTAL CHECKOUTS

Library users checked out 54,502 physical items this year. With an estimated individual cost of \$25, the value of all checked out items for 2025 was \$1,362,550.





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# PROGRAMS

*Regular, in-person programs are increasingly popular! The totals by age do not include Summer Reading programs.*

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## 183

### Adult Programs

1,735 attended our programs for adults, including several book clubs, crochet club, author visits, and Italian lessons (plus many more)!

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### Teen Programs

194 participated in our programs for teens, including craft programs, book clubs, and Open Book/Tween Thursdays.

## 26

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## 123

### Children's Programs

5,173 took part in our programs for kids, including Tot Tuesday Storytime, Homeschool Hangout, afternoon movies, author visits, and book clubs.

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### All Ages All Year Long Programs

We had 9,355 attendees at programs throughout 2025. This shows a 18% increase in number of programs offered and a 3% increase in participation.

## 403

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Children and caregivers read 1,000 books together before starting Kindergarten!

2025 Statistics:

Children Registered: 24

Completed the challenge: 3

Books read by all registrants: 7,985

**Sponsored by  
the Friends of the Library!**





The library offered monthly, seasonal, and yearly reading challenges in 2025.

**New Accounts: 134**

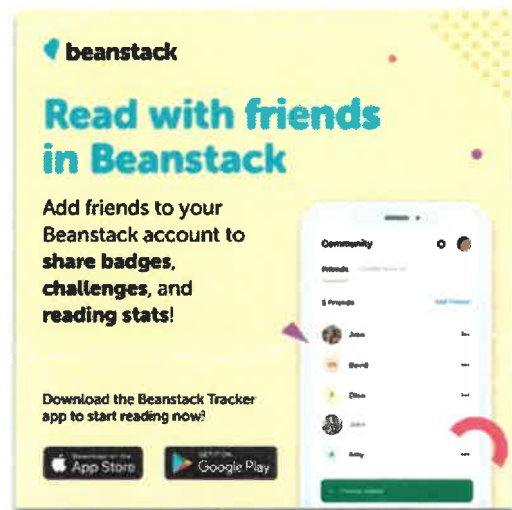
**Total Readers: 567**

**Challenges: 26**

**Challenge Completions: 335**

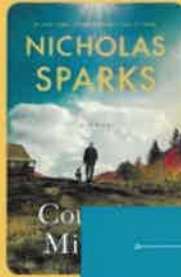
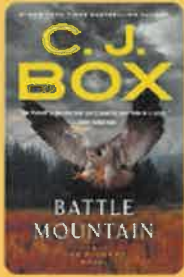
**Logged Books: 11,993**

**Logged Minutes: 720,108**

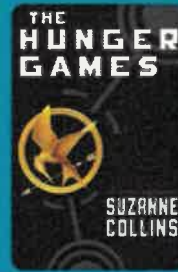


[ishpeminglibrary.beanstack.org](http://ishpeminglibrary.beanstack.org)

## TOP 5 ADULT BOOKS 2025

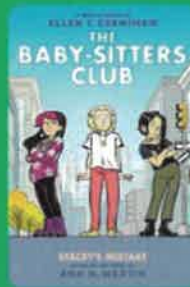


## TOP 5 TEEN BOOKS 2025



ICMPL  
INDIPENING CARNEGIE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## TOP 5 KIDS BOOKS 2025



ICMPL  
INDIPENING CARNEGIE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

# LIBBY

*The library now has access to fourteen shared collections across the state of Michigan, resulting in a much expanded digital collection available for checkout!*

**2354** eBooks

2,354 eBooks were checked out from the Great Lakes Digital Library site or the Libby app. 1,940 magazines circ'd.



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## eAudiobooks

eAudiobooks continue to be popular checkouts; now consistently overtaking eBook circulation.

**4048**

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**10,740**

## Shared Collection checkouts

10,740 digital items were checked out from the 14 additional shared collections by our patrons.

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## Average Monthly Unique Patrons

The number of Libby users each month varied from 145 to 194. There were also 130 patrons who began using Libby or the GLDL last year!

**167**

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# COLOR OUR WORLD™

## Youth Summer Reading 2025

KIDS & TEENS

2025 SUMMER  
READING RECAP

560

PARTICIPANTS

94

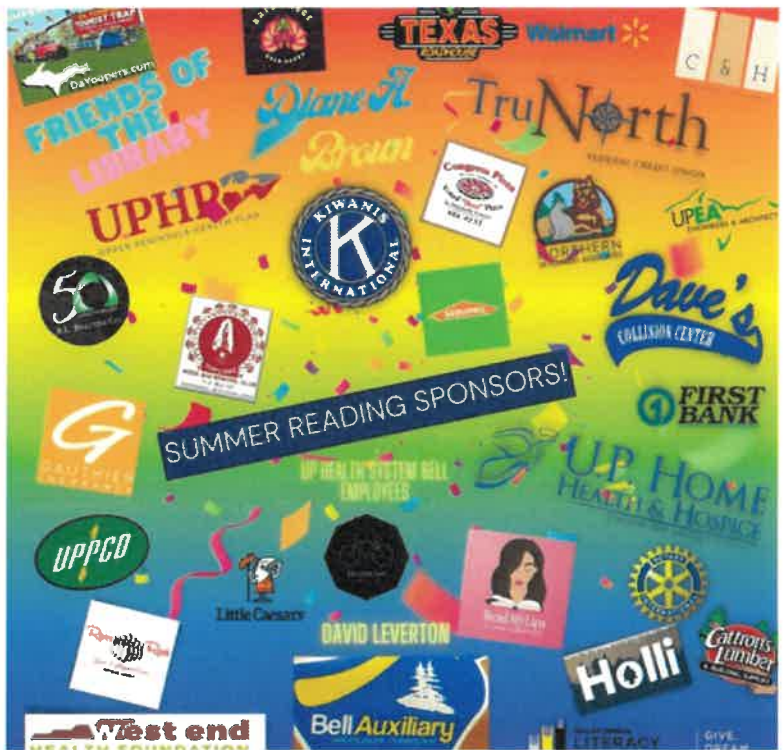
MORE REGISTRANTS  
THAN 2024

30

PROGRAMS

1283

ATTENDEES



# COLOR WORLD™

## Adult Summer Reading 2025



**ADULT**  
**2025 SUMMER READING RECAP**

<b>104</b> PARTICIPANTS	<b>667</b> BOOK REVIEWS
<b>41</b> PROGRAMS	<b>970</b> ATTENDEES





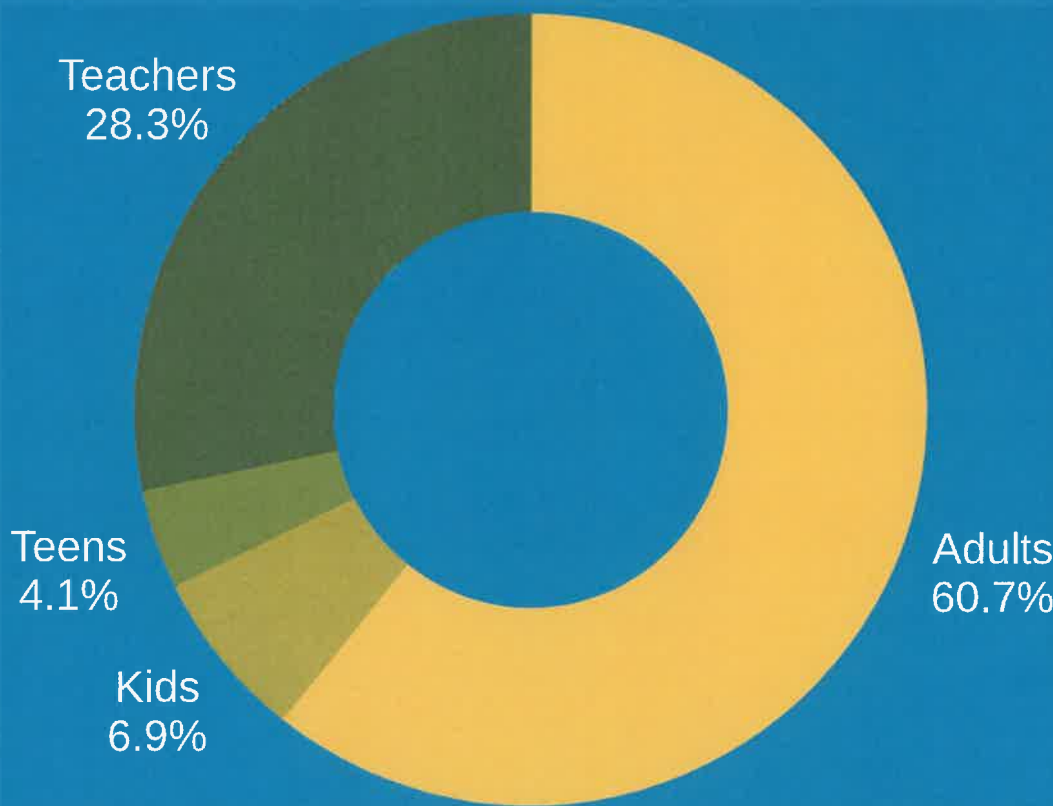
# Strawberry Hill Seed Library 2025

The Strawberry Hill Seed Library at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library opened in April 2023 with the help of Partridge Creek Farm and numerous volunteers.

During 2025, we had 39 people fill out forms to “check out” seeds. These 39 people checked out a total of 309 seed packets!

If you would like to donate seeds, please contact the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library at 906-486-4381 or send an email to Heidi Silverstone at [hsilverstone@ishpeminglibrary.info](mailto:hsilverstone@ishpeminglibrary.info)

# Who uses the library?



\*Percentage of items checked out on cards belonging to the listed demographics.

# 2025

---

Checkouts	26,236
Cardholders	4,522
State Aid	\$6,999
Penal Fines	\$15,869

# 73%

of Ishpeming City residents  
have an active library card.

Ishpeming  
City



# 2025

---

Checkouts	3,432
Cardholders	200
Contract Fee	\$394
State Aid	\$285
Penal Fines	\$646

# 80%

of Champion Township residents have an active library card.

Champion  
Township



# 2025

---

Checkouts	3,032
Cardholders	358
Contract Fee	\$2,652
State Aid	\$2,166
Penal Fines	\$4,910

# 18%

of Ely Township residents  
have an active library card.

Ely  
Township



# 2025

---

Checkouts	844
Cardholders	65
Contract Fee	\$469
State Aid	\$373
Penal Fines	\$847

# 19%

of Humboldt Township residents have an active library card.

Humboldt  
Township



# 2025

---

Checkouts	6,227
Cardholders	745
Contract Fee	\$4,646
State Aid	\$3,867
Penal Fines	\$8,766

# 21%

of Ishpeming Township residents have an active library card.

Ishpeming  
Township



# 2025

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Checkouts	1,067
Cardholders	201
Contract Fee	\$1,324
State Aid	\$1,191
Penal Fines	\$2,700

# 19%

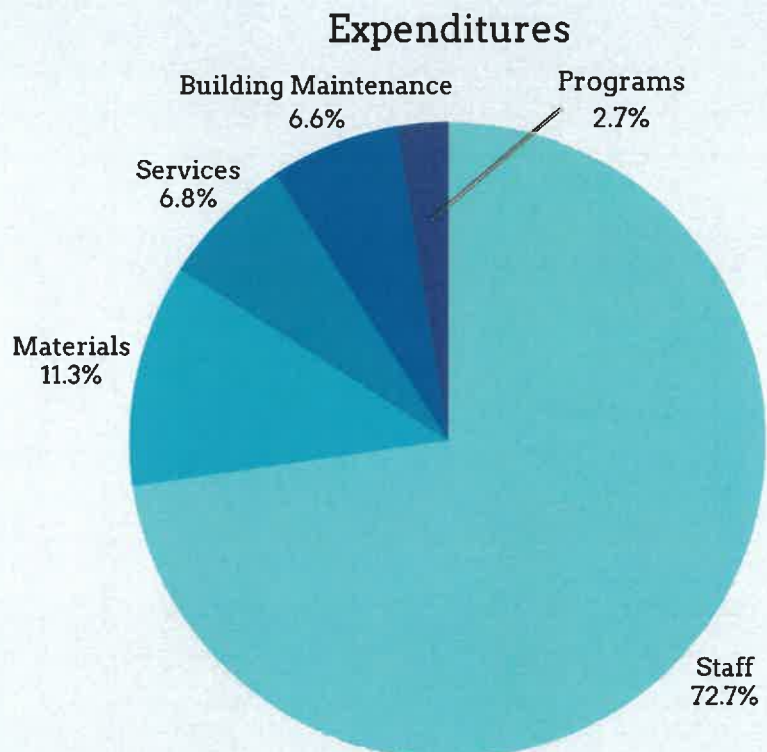
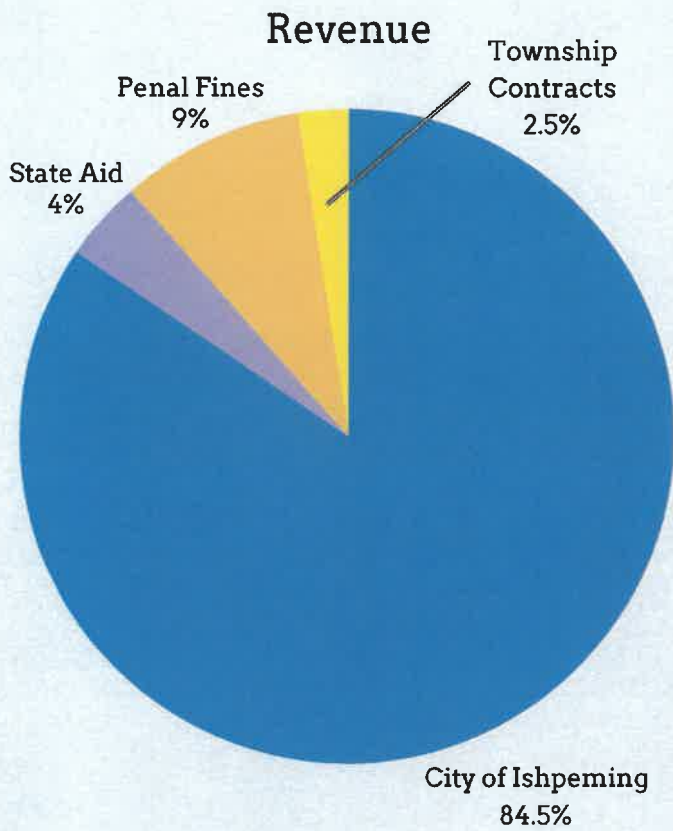
of Tilden Township residents  
have an active library card.

Tilden  
Township



# 2025 BUDGET

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11(a)

**PROCLAMATION**

**CITY OF ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN**

*Whereas, the City of Ishpeming, Michigan, has for many years enjoyed a tremendous athletic program and has supported all teams in their respective events; and*

*Whereas, the Ishpeming Hematite Girls Basketball team exhibited determination, skill, poise, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the 2025-2026 season while compiling an impressive record of 25-3; and*

*Whereas, the team defeated Munising in the District Finals, Ewen Trout Creek in the Regional Finals, Indian River Inland Lakes in the Quarter finals, Morenci in the Semi Finals; and*

*Whereas, the Ishpeming Hematite Girls Basketball team defeated Portland St. Patrick to win the Division 4 State Championship on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, at The Breslin Center in East Lansing, Michigan; and*

*Whereas, under the patient and skillful guidance of Coach Ryan Reichel, the team has become a great source of pride within our community, as well as throughout the County, the Upper Peninsula, and the State of Michigan.*

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Ishpeming City Council that the highest praise and tribute be awarded to the*

**2025-2026 Ishpeming Hematite Girls Basketball Team**

*Be It Further Resolved that the Ishpeming City Council expresses its appreciation and congratulations to the Ishpeming High School Girls Basketball team winning the State Championship in 2025-2026 which was the second time in history for Girls Basketball;*

*Be It Further Resolved that the City Council declares Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, as "Ishpeming Hematite Day" in the City of Ishpeming.*

*Pat Scanlon  
Mayor*

*Kurt Kipling  
Mayor Pro-Tem*

*Jason Chapman  
Councilmember*

*Brett Argall  
Councilmember*

*Randy Scholz  
City Manager*

1((b))



**CITY OF ISHPEMING**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**STRATEGIC PLAN**  
**2026-2030**



## INTRODUCTION

The City of Ishpeming Strategic Plan (2026–2030) provides a shared framework to guide City Council priorities, policy decisions, and investments over the next five years. It reflects input from residents, City Council members, City staff, and community partners and is rooted in Ishpeming’s history, neighborhoods, and community identity while focused on shaping a clear and practical path forward.

This plan is intended to clarify City Council’s priorities and role, support informed and consistent decision-making, improve coordination across City efforts, and strengthen communication and trust with residents.

This document is strategic, not prescriptive. It does not replace existing plans such as the City’s Master Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, Parks and Recreation Plan, Downtown Development plans, or the work of boards and commissions. Instead, it serves as an umbrella plan that helps City Council align decisions and investments across multiple efforts. As is the case with those other plans, all decisions made using this plan should be tied to existing processes including the Capital Improvements Plan and staff capacity.

The Strategic Plan is a living document. It is expected to evolve as conditions change, opportunities arise, and progress is made.



## COMMUNITY HISTORY AND PLANNING CONTEXT

The City of Ishpeming’s identity is deeply shaped by its history as a mining community, its role as a regional center for recreation and culture, and its long-standing tradition of civic pride and resilience. From its founding on the Marquette Iron Range to its evolution as a complete small city, Ishpeming has consistently adapted to economic, demographic, and social change while retaining a strong sense of place.

Over the past decade, the City has undertaken a series of intentional planning efforts aimed at positioning Ishpeming for long-term stability, reinvestment, and quality of life. In 2019, the City completed a Downtown Assessment and Redevelopment Strategy focused on walkability, historic preservation, mixed-use redevelopment, and public space improvements. The 2022–2027 Master Plan followed, providing a comprehensive framework for land use, housing, economic development, infrastructure, downtown development, and quality of life.

More recently, the City adopted the 2024–2029 Parks and Recreation Plan, recognizing parks, trails, and recreation as essential services and economic drivers. In 2025, the City completed a Marketing and Branding Strategy as part of its Redevelopment Ready Communities efforts, articulating an authentic brand rooted in Ishpeming’s history, recreation assets, affordability, and rugged creativity—captured in the tagline “Rooted in Community. Fueled by Adventure.”

What has been less explicit is a unifying framework to help City Council translate multiple plans into annual priorities, communicate clearly with residents about tradeoffs, and maintain continuity through leadership transitions. This Strategic Plan fills that gap. It is rooted in prior planning work and reflects a moment when the City has both momentum and capacity to be more intentional about how decisions are aligned, communicated, and prioritized.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The strategic planning process was facilitated by the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) and included review of existing City plans and studies, a community-wide strategic survey, a parallel City Council strategic survey, a facilitated City Council work session (October 29, 2025), a public open house and visioning exercise (October 30, 2025), and supplemental outreach including paper surveys. Michigan State University Extension was subcontracted to provide professional, third-party facilitation of the council work session and community open house stations.

The public open house drew residents from across the community who participated in focus-area comment stations and an open-ended “A Perfect Ishpeming” visioning exercise. Together, these sessions generated hundreds of individual responses reflecting resident priorities, aspirations, and concerns. That data was the true driver of the five focus areas found in this strategic plan.

Following the two work sessions, the LSCP team received a report from MSU Extension that was then shared with Council. The LSCP proceeded to develop this strategic plan document, sharing updates with Council as progress was made. The final version of the plan was recommended to Council in April 2026.

## PURPOSE OF THIS STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CITY COUNCIL

This Strategic Plan supports City Council in its role as Ishpeming’s policy-setting and priority-setting body. It helps Council:

- Focus on long-term priorities rather than individual projects
- Align policies, funding, and partnerships
- Guide staff and boards without micromanaging
- Communicate priorities clearly to residents
- Provide continuity during leadership transitions

City Council’s role is not to implement every action directly, but to set direction, enable partnerships, steward resources, and reinforce shared expectations.

## HOW THIS PLAN SUPPORTS OTHER PLANS AND BOARDS

Ishpeming’s City Council operates within a governance structure that includes the City Manager, Planning Commission, Downtown Development Authority, Parks and Recreation Commission, and other boards and advisory bodies. This Strategic Plan is intended to strengthen—not override or duplicate—the work of those bodies.

The Planning Commission guides land use and zoning decisions in accordance with the Master Plan. The Downtown Development Authority leads business attraction, façade programs, and downtown activation. The Parks and Recreation Commission stewards the City’s outdoor assets and implements the Parks and Recreation Plan. Each body has defined authority and expertise that Council relies on and supports.

Council’s role in this framework is to set overarching direction, align resources through the budget process, appoint capable board members, and hold itself and partner bodies accountable to shared outcomes. Where this plan identifies actions, the intent is for Council to adopt, authorize, or formally direct the appropriate body—not to act as the implementing party.

This distinction matters. When Council stays at the policy and governance level, it empowers staff and boards to do their best work, makes better use of limited time, and builds the institutional trust that allows Ishpeming to move faster and further on its priorities.



## COMMUNITY VISION

The City of Ishpeming is a welcoming, community-oriented place rooted in its neighborhoods, history, and sense of place, supported by dependable and connected infrastructure that allows residents to thrive. Parks, trails, local businesses, and a people-friendly downtown create places to gather and connect, while collaboration, sustainability, and shared pride guide the city forward.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS (2026–2030)

The following five focus areas reflect where City Council leadership can have the greatest influence over the next five years. Each includes community context, recent momentum, Council’s role, and an action table with concrete steps, lead responsibility, and suggested timeline. Not every action will be pursued. This plan is designed to support thoughtful prioritization, not create obligation and it will change over time.



To keep the plan relevant and achievable, Council will annually review the plan early in the budget process to establish 3 – 5 priority action items from the plan for the upcoming year. This will be done in partnership with the City Manager and key staff to ensure City resources and capacity align with the chosen priorities. Not all focus areas are required to have a priority action each year as some may require other actions to set the foundation. For example, in Year 1 Council may wish to focus on establishing key programs or processes in the Community & Civic Pride focus area as that can add capacity for more complex items in other focus areas for future years. A typical annual prioritization process may look as follows:





## VIBRANT AND WALKABLE DOWNTOWN

### COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Downtown Ishpeming is the symbolic and functional heart of the community. Engagement consistently emphasized walkability, active storefronts, historic preservation, and gathering spaces not as a new priority but as a longstanding one with renewed momentum. Residents called for more restaurant and dining options, incentives to activate vacant buildings, and programming that brings energy to Main Street year-round. Council members noted the challenge of business attraction and pointed to nearby examples of other communities taking a more proactive approach to their downtown development. Changing the narrative about Ishpeming emerged as a priority in itself – residents see progress happening and want to help tell that story.

### RECENT MOMENTUM

Recent business openings, reinvestment activity, and the launch of the “Rooted in Community. Fueled by Adventure.” brand give the City new tools to project a consistent, authentic identity. The Downtown Development Authority is an evolving partner with increasing capacity for business attraction, façade programs, and activation. The recent partnership between the DDA and the Lake Superior Community Partnership to create the DDA’s first-ever Liaison position has greatly expanded the capacity of the DDA in the past six months.

### COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council signals downtown vitality as a community-wide priority, aligns policy and investment decisions, and ensures the DDA has the direction and resources it needs to succeed. Council sets the tone and expectations; the DDA and City Manager lead implementation. Council reviews DDA progress against shared goals through the annual budget and work plan process.

### POSSIBLE METRICS

The following are core metrics Council should track annually to measure progress on this focus area:

- Total taxable value of Downtown properties
- Number of new business starts in the downtown
- Number of community event attendees in the downtown



## VIBRANT AND WALKABLE DOWNTOWN

Category	Action	Who Leads	Timeline
Policy & Direction	Adopt a formal resolution reaffirming downtown vitality as a core City priority	Council	Year 1
Policy & Direction	Review and update policies on adaptive reuse, mixed-use development, and historic building rehabilitation	Planning Commission	Year 2
Policy & Direction	Continue holding an annual joint meeting between the Council and DDA to ensure shared priorities are clearly communicated.	Council & DDA	Annual
Investment	Prioritize downtown sidewalks, lighting, and streetscape improvements in the Capital Improvement Plan	City Manager + Council	Year 2
Investment	Direct the City Manager and DDA Liaison to evaluate options for strategic use of City-owned downtown properties and report back to Council	City Manager w/ support from DDA Liaison	Year 3
Investment	Ensure DDA work plan and budget align with Council's downtown goals through formal annual review	Council → DDA	Annual
Partnership	Direct the DDA to develop a building activation and business attraction strategy with specific targets for vacant storefront reuse	DDA	Year 3
Partnership	Direct the DDA to prioritize recruitment of gathering-oriented businesses (restaurants, cafés) as a measurable annual goal	DDA	Ongoing
Communication	Host a downtown-focused listening session with business owners, property owners, and residents to understand DDA needs, opportunities, and challenges	Council	Annually, beginning in Year 2





## **STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING CHOICES**

### **COMMUNITY CONTEXT**

Housing availability, affordability, and neighborhood conditions were raised throughout engagement as concerns for households at every stage of life. Residents and Council alike called for blight reduction, infill development on vacant parcels, and activation of underutilized City-owned land. Interest in diverse housing types—duplexes, tiny homes, move-in-ready options—was strong. The Anderson Block was specifically named as a development opportunity. Community members also noted the connection between strong neighborhoods and school vitality.

### **RECENT MOMENTUM**

Early progress on housing discussions, work to identify developable parcels, and regional conversations at the Marquette County level reflect growing recognition that proactive planning—not reactive responses to individual proposals—is essential. Ready-to-go site planning and alternative housing models are gaining traction as practical approaches. The City has recently identified some notable housing development opportunities and is also in the process of securing additional land which may be used for housing.

### **COUNCIL'S ROLE**

Council drives housing outcomes through zoning and land-use policy, budget decisions, and formal direction to the City Manager and Planning Commission. Council sets clear housing principles and expectations, then relies on the Planning Commission for technical work and the City Manager for coordination with developers and regional partners.

### **POSSIBLE METRICS**

The following are core metrics Council should track annually to measure progress on this focus area:

- Number of new and rehabilitated housing units in the city
- Number of city-owned sites successfully redeveloped to add new housing
- Number of neighborhood-led events



# STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOUSING CHOICES

Category	Action	Who Leads	Timeline
Policy	Adopt shared housing principles to guide all future land-use and investment decisions	Council	Year 2
Policy	Direct the Planning Commission to review zoning regulations for clarity and flexibility, with a focus on diverse housing types	Council → Planning Commission	Year 2
Policy	Formally signal openness to innovative housing models including tiny homes, duplexes, and ADUs through zoning updates or policy statement	Council + Planning Commission	Year 2
Policy	Direct staff and the Planning Commission to report annually on housing inventory, vacancy, and need	City Manager + Planning Commission	Annual
Land & Sites	Direct the City Manager to inventory City-owned parcels suitable for housing and present options to Council with disposition recommendations	City Manager	Year 1
Land & Sites	Adopt a 'Ready to Go' site strategy, with staff identifying and preparing shovel-ready sites to attract private housing investment	Council → City Manager	Year 3
Land & Sites	Direct the City Manager to develop and present options for housing development at the Anderson Block	City Manager	Year 2
Neighborhood	Reinforce blight reduction as a policy priority and direct staff to report on enforcement activity and outcomes quarterly	Blight Committee	Ongoing
Neighborhood	Develop a rehabilitation incentive program to complement enforcement	City Manager	Year 3
Engagement	Authorize and direct the City Manager to design and implement a Neighborhood Ambassadors Program	City Manager	Year 2
Engagement	Host at least one neighborhood-based listening session annually on housing and neighborhood conditions	Council	Annual





## **SAFE, CONNECTED, AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **COMMUNITY CONTEXT**

Infrastructure – roads in particular – ranked as the top urgent resident priority in engagement. Council members noted that roads and DPW capacity are foundational, not discretionary. Residents called for a transparent road prioritization plan and a DPW with the capacity to maintain safe conditions. Beyond roads, residents called for sidewalks to be restored where removed, multimodal street design, improved wayfinding, and connections between neighborhoods, downtown, schools, and recreation assets. Specific corridors including Malton Road, Lakeshore Drive, and Third Street were named as streetscape priorities. While not stated explicitly during discussions, any conversation around infrastructure must be considered within the budgetary realities of municipal governments in Michigan. Recent changes to the state’s road funding system have established the Neighborhood Roads Fund which will send additional dollars directly to local governments, but still not enough cover the decades of deferred maintenance.

### **RECENT MOMENTUM**

Ongoing infrastructure investments reflect sustained commitment to Ishpeming’s built environment. The Parks and Recreation Plan and Downtown Assessment both reinforce viewing roads, sidewalks, and trails as an integrated system. Transparent prioritization processes help Council make defensible decisions and maintain public trust.

### **COUNCIL'S ROLE**

Council adopts the Capital Improvement Plan, sets expectations for how priorities are determined, and ensures the City Manager has direction and budget authority to resource the DPW. Council asks strategic questions about long-term stewardship and tradeoffs; operational details belong with DPW staff and the City Manager. As Council focuses on the actions in this area, it must keep in mind its obligation to tie infrastructure decisions to the Capital Improvements Plan and budget realities. This likely requires Council to think more long-term about this focus area than any of the others due to existing systems.

### **POSSIBLE METRICS**

The following are core metrics Council should track annually to measure progress on this focus area:

- Total miles of local roads constructed/fixed
- Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER)
- Number of policy actions completed



## SAFE, CONNECTED, AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Category	Action	Who Leads	Timeline
Priority-Setting	Adopt a formal long-term road prioritization framework and direct staff to apply it consistently in CIP planning	Council → City Manager	Year 2
Priority-Setting	Require the City Manager to include a DPW staffing and equipment needs assessment in each annual budget submission	Council → City Manager	Annual
Priority-Setting	Require lifecycle cost and maintenance impact analysis as part of any significant capital decision	Council	Ongoing
Priority-Setting	Hold at least one infrastructure-focused work session per year with the City Manager and DPW to review priorities and condition data	Council	Annual
Connectivity	Direct that sidewalks, trails, and safe pedestrian routes be weighted in CIP prioritization alongside road condition	Council → City Manager	Year 2
Connectivity	Direct the City Manager to evaluate streetscape opportunities on Malton Road, Lakeshore Drive, and Third Street and bring a prioritized recommendation to Council	City Manager	Year 2
Connectivity	Adopt a policy position supporting multimodal transportation planning in all future street design and reconstruction projects	Council	Year 3
Connectivity	Direct staff to develop a citywide wayfinding and signage improvement plan	City Manager	Year 4
Communication	Establish a standard practice of presenting infrastructure tradeoffs in plain language when competing capital needs arise	City Manager	Ongoing





## **PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS, AND COMMUNITY LIFE**

### **COMMUNITY CONTEXT**

Ishpeming’s recreation and cultural assets are among its greatest competitive advantages. Parks, trails, outdoor facilities, arts, and community events ranked as both investment priorities and sources of community pride. Residents called for better utilization of Al Quaal and the winter sports complex, continued Brasswire Campground development, and improvements to Lake Bancroft. The Suicide Hill Ski Jumping Tournament’s 138-year legacy is a signature asset that defines Ishpeming’s identity. Residents also expressed strong interest in re-establishing Nordic ski culture, expanding the skate park, building a bandshell, adding a splash pad, and supporting signature cultural events including the Pow Wow and Blueberry Fest.

### **RECENT MOMENTUM**

The 2024–2029 Parks and Recreation Plan provides a Council-adopted framework for prioritizing investments and maintenance. A recent land purchase creates new opportunities to expand outdoor facilities, trails, and beach access. Strong volunteer and partner networks—including the ISC trail system—amplify City capacity. Recognition of recreation and arts as economic drivers reinforces the case for sustained investment.

### **COUNCIL'S ROLE**

Council ensures budget allocations keep pace with the Parks and Recreation Plan, provides clear direction to the Parks and Recreation Commission, and recognizes recreation and arts as contributors to economic development and Ishpeming’s brand. The Parks and Recreation Commission brings implementation recommendations to Council; Council provides resources and direction.

### **POSSIBLE METRICS**

The following are core metrics Council should track annually to measure progress on this focus area:

- Number of grants for recreation amenities applied for (DNR, MDARD, etc.)
- Number of actions from the Parks & Recreation Plan completed
- Number of attendees at public events in the city



## SAFE, CONNECTED, AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Category	Action	Who Leads	Timeline
Investment	Require annual Parks and Recreation Commission report on implementation progress against the 2024–2029 Parks and Recreation Plan, tied to CIP and budget review	Parks & Rec Commission	Annual
Investment	Direct the City Manager to incorporate the new land purchase into a Parks and Recreation Plan update through a formal public process	City Manager	Year 2
Investment	Include Brasswire Campground, Lake Bancroft, and Al Quaal maintenance and enhancement needs in the annual CIP process	City Manager + Parks & Rec Commission	Annual
Investment	Direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to evaluate high-priority community amenity requests—including a splash pad and expanded skate park—and bring cost and partnership options to Council	Parks & Rec Commission	Year 2
Activation	Direct staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission to pursue event and arts partnerships, including a bandshell feasibility study	City Manager + Parks & Rec Commission	Year 2
Activation	Formally recognize the Suicide Hill Ski Jumping Tournament, the Pow Wow, and Blueberry Fest as strategic community assets and direct staff to identify appropriate City support for each	Council → City Manager	Year 1
Activation	Establish a policy expectation that recreation assets are actively promoted through the City’s brand and marketing strategy	Council → City Manager	Year 3
Communication	Publicly recognize volunteer and partner contributions to parks and recreation annually as part of Council’s public communications	Council	Annual
Communication	Establish an annual public report on Parks and Recreation Plan and Strategic Plan progress as a shared accountability mechanism	City Manager	Annual





## **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION, AND COMMUNITY PRIDE**

### **COMMUNITY CONTEXT**

Residents expressed a desire for stronger two-way communication with City leadership and a more inclusive approach to civic participation throughout every phase of engagement. People want to understand how decisions are made, feel that their input matters, and see City Council as accessible and accountable. A hopeful undercurrent ran through the process: residents believe Ishpeming is making real progress and want to help change the community’s narrative.

Youth engagement emerged as a widely supported priority. Residents called for a Youth Council, programming for teens and young adults, youth involvement in downtown and community initiatives, and spaces like the skate park where younger residents can gather and feel ownership. Seniors were also highlighted – ideas like “senior storytelling” reflect a desire to honor long-time residents and integrate them meaningfully into civic life.

### **RECENT MOMENTUM**

New City leadership, refreshed branding, and this strategic planning process itself represent meaningful steps toward more inclusive and transparent governance. The “Rooted in Community. Fueled by Adventure.” brand provides a framework for consistent, authentic storytelling. Sustaining this momentum requires treating engagement as an ongoing practice, not a periodic event.

### **COUNCIL'S ROLE**

Council sets the tone for how the City engages residents and models the transparency and accessibility it wants the community to experience. Council authorizes civic structures like a Youth Council, sets clear engagement expectations across the organization, and uses the City’s brand and communication tools to tell Ishpeming’s story honestly and optimistically. The City Manager and staff implement engagement programs; Council provides direction, authorization, and accountability. As many of these potential actions would result in new programs or activities, Council should take extra care to factor in necessary staffing and resources prior to committing to them.

### **POSSIBLE METRICS**

The following are core metrics Council should track annually to measure progress on this focus area:

- Number of attendees at City Council listening sessions
- Percentage of residents who feel connected to Council (Require annual Pulse survey)
- Percentage of residents who feel the City is on the “Right Track” (Require annual Pulse survey)



## SAFE, CONNECTED, AND RELIABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Category	Action	Who Leads	Timeline
Youth Engagement	Adopt a resolution authorizing a Youth Council, with the City Manager responsible for structure, recruitment, and implementation	Council → City Manager	Year 3
Youth Engagement	Set a formal expectation that youth voices are reflected in relevant City decisions affecting recreation, downtown, and neighborhoods	Council	Year 2
Youth Engagement	Include skate park expansion and other youth-focused amenities in the CIP process, with the Parks and Recreation Commission providing a recommendation	Parks & Rec Commission	Ongoing
Inclusive Engagement	Adopt inclusive engagement standards that apply across all City planning and public input processes	Council	Year 3
Inclusive Engagement	Direct the City Manager to implement varied outreach approaches beyond formal meetings, including digital tools, pop-up outreach, and neighborhood conversations	City Manager	Year 2
Inclusive Engagement	Direct the City Manager to design and implement a Neighborhood Ambassadors Program	City Manager	Year 1
Inclusive Engagement	Establish a formal mechanism for seniors to contribute to City storytelling and civic processes	City Manager	Year 4
Communication	Implement an annual “Pulse Survey” to capture information on progress and current feelings of residents	Council	Year 1
Communication	Direct the City Manager to ensure all City communications use language consistent with adopted brand standards	City Manager	Ongoing
Communication	Model open, candid communication about progress and tradeoffs in all public Council meetings and communications	Council	Ongoing
Communication	Highlight partnerships, volunteer efforts, and local successes in Council communications to reinforce Ishpeming’s momentum	Council	Ongoing



# MEASURING & REPORTING PROGRESS

No plan is complete without a clear process for measuring progress and reporting results to an organization's key stakeholders. For City Council, those key stakeholders are its residents and businesses. In order to provide an ongoing structure for measuring progress, Council will do the following:

1. Conduct a "Pulse" survey annually in the early fall as part of budget preparations. This will allow the city to collect key metrics and also gather feedback on which items should be prioritized in the upcoming year.
2. Hold downtown-focused, neighborhood-based, and topic-specific sessions, as well as joint conversations with boards, commissions, and partners. These sessions are for listening, clarifying, and aligning – not for negotiating individual projects or substituting for staff and board work.
3. Provide a full annual report on the progress of this plan. The report should include the core metrics, progress on the previous year's priorities, and overall progress on the plan. It should be written in plain language and made readily available on the city's communications channels.

While the budget process is a natural time for assessing progress and setting strategic plan priorities, Council may conduct its annual reporting and surveying activities during a different time of year if it so chooses.

# CONCLUSION

The City of Ishpeming Strategic Plan (2026–2030) reflects a shared commitment to thoughtful leadership, collaboration, and long-term progress. Rooted in the community's history, identity, and prior planning work—and in the voices of residents who showed up to share their vision for a better Ishpeming—this plan gives City Council a practical framework to guide decisions, engage residents, and continue building a strong, connected, and resilient community.



11(d)



**CITY OF ISHPEMING**

**ISHPEMING CEMETERY FILL AGREEMENT  
A. LINDBERG AND SONS**

The City of Ishpeming does hereby grant permission to A. Lindberg and Sons to access, fill, grade, and restore portions of City-owned property. Specifically, the property commonly known as the “Ishpeming Cemetery” and the location is on the Northwest portion of the Cemetery, located behind the city owned Garage. The area proposed for the fill site is as indicated in Exhibit labeled Ishpeming Cemetery (attached) and is accessible using existing city streets as shown.

1. A. Lindberg and Sons will provide fill (uncontaminated soils with rock limited to 6” or less **ONLY**), excavated from the Negaunee Ishpeming Water Authority (NIWA) Well Project. Total volume of fill placed shall not exceed 25,000 cubic yards without approval from the DPW Director. Placement and Compaction Efforts will be done to ensure no future settlement occurs.
2. A. Lindberg and Sons will Clear/Grub and Strip Fill Areas as needed. Areas will be filled to match existing cemetery contours and elevations. Fill Area will be adequately Compacted and graded to drain.
3. A. Lindberg and Sons will follow all designated soil erosion control practices as established in the NIWA Well project contract as well as site storm water monitoring during construction.
4. A. Lindberg and Sons will provide topsoil, seed and mulch to all disturbed areas.
5. A. Lindberg and Sons will replace any damaged pavement caused by this activity.
6. A. Lindberg and Sons will provide adequate dust control for this site throughout construction activities.
7. A. Lindberg and Sons will sweep all loose materials and dust from city streets affected by these activities also needed and once at the conclusion of the construction activities.
8. A. Lindberg and Sons will provide adequate Traffic control signs in the area to alert the public to the construction activities involved with this work.
9. A. Lindberg and Sons will provide a minimum \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy, naming the City of Ishpeming as an additional insured, and stating: **“It is understood and agreed that the following shall be Additional Insureds: The City of Ishpeming, including all elected and appointed officials, all employees and volunteers, all boards, commissions, and/or authorities and their board members, employees, and volunteers. It is understood and agreed by naming the City of Ishpeming as additional insured, coverage afforded is considered to be primary and**

**any other insurance the City of Ishpeming may have in effect shall be considered secondary and/or excess.”**

10. A. Lindberg and Sons agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Ishpeming and its agents and employees from and against claims for damages, losses and expenses, including, but not limited to attorneys’ fees, arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work described in this Agreement, including the negligent acts or omissions A. Lindberg and Sons, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose actions they may be liable.
11. All permits and other regulatory requirements which may be necessary for the work contemplated under this Agreement shall be the responsibility of A. Lindberg and Sons to secure.
12. This Agreement expresses the final agreement and understanding of the parties, and all prior discussions, promises, agreements and all other written or oral communication between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement are superseded and are merged into this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the dates shown below.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

City of Ishpeming

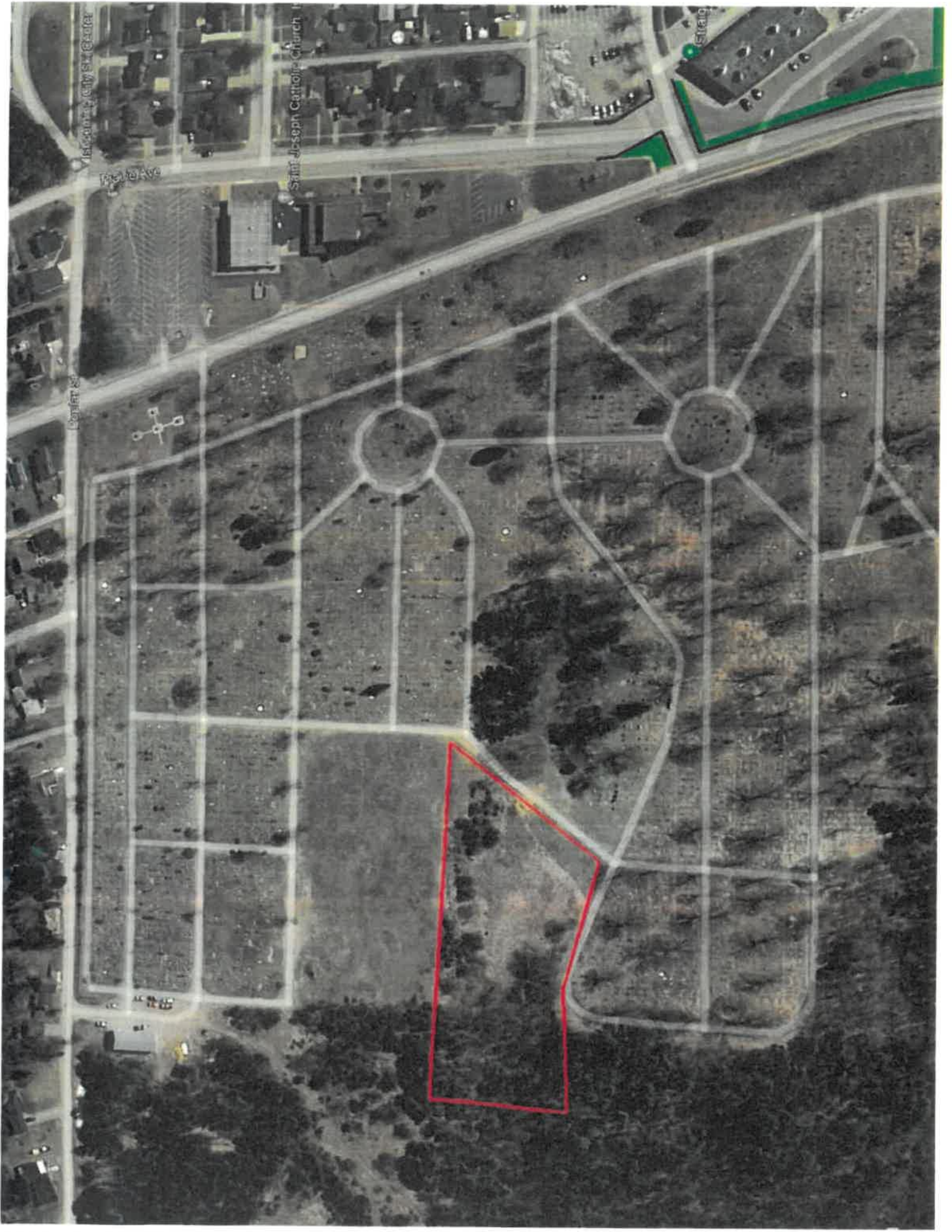
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pat Scanlon, Mayor

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Lindberg and Sons

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_



Missouri City Senior Center

Peggy Ave

Saint Joseph Catholic Church

Strain

Conifer St

11f

# City of Ishpeming Statement of Explanation

## 1. Agenda Item Information

Agenda Item Title: 11f. Resolution 10-2026: Master Plan 42-day Review Period

Department: Planning

Prepared By (Name & Title): Cathy Smith, City Clerk/Human Resources Manager

Date Submitted (MM/DD/YYYY): 4-10-2026

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## 2. Background & Purpose

Purpose / Background:

The City received a Housing Resource Initiative Grant from MSHDA and CUPPAD was awarded the contract. A portion of the work under this grant was amending the Master Plan to include updates for housing. The amendments have been completed and reviewed by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission at their meeting on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> moved to recommend to the City Council to begin the 42-day public review period for the updated Master Plan.

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## 3. Fiscal Impact

Total Cost / Revenue Impact: N/A

Funding Source(s):

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## 4. Recommended Action & Alternatives

Recommended Action:

Adopted Resolution 10-2026 and authorize the 42-day public review period for the amended Master Plan.

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## 5. Approval & Routing

Department Head Approval

(Name & Signature):  Date: 4/10/26

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11(F)

ISHPEMING CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION #10-2026  
APPROVING 42-DAY MASTER PLAN PUBLIC REVIEW AND AUTHORIZING DISTRIBUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended) is the State enabling statute which states the roles and responsibilities for adopting a community master plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has made careful and comprehensive surveys and studies of present conditions and future growth within the planning jurisdiction with due regard to its relation to neighboring jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has consulted with representatives of adjacent local units of government in respect to their planning so that conflicts in master plans and zoning may be avoided; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has cooperated with all departments of the state and federal governments, public transportation agencies, and other public agencies concerned with programs for economic, social, and physical development within the planning jurisdiction and has sought the maximum coordination of Ishpeming's programs with these agencies.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has completed a thorough review of the completed draft plan; and

**WHEREAS**, MCL 125.3841, a section of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, states that the Planning Commission shall submit the proposed master plan to the legislative body for review and comment and shall not proceed further unless the legislative body approves the distribution of the proposed master plan; and

**WHEREAS**, MCL 125.3841 also provides that, if the legislative body approves the distribution of the proposed master plan, it shall notify the secretary of the Planning Commission, and the secretary of the Planning Commission shall submit a copy of the proposed master plan to all statutorily required entities and initiate a public review period of forty-two (42) days; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Ishpeming City Council:

The Ishpeming City Council authorizes the 42-day public review of the Master Plan and its distribution to all statutorily required entities and the public at-large to begin on April 16th, 2026 and concluding on May 28th, 2026.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_ and second offered by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_.

Upon roll call vote, the following voted:

Aye:

Nay:

Absent:

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION was adopted at a rescheduled regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council on April 1, 2026, by the number of votes required for adoption of a resolution under the Ishpeming City Charter.

BY: Cathy Smith, City Clerk  
Name and Title (please print or type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## City of Ishpeming Master Plan Update – Summary of Key Changes

The City has completed a targeted update to the Master Plan to reflect current conditions, community priorities, and housing needs. Major updates include:

### Housing Data, Housing Chapter 7

- Added a new housing analysis informed by recent market data and a Target Market Analysis (TMA)
- Identified a need for **more diverse housing types**, including townhomes, smaller homes, and rental options
- Introduced strategies to support housing affordability and rehabilitation of existing homes

### Future Land Use

- Refined Future Land Use categories to better align with existing development patterns
- Emphasized **infill development and growth in areas with existing infrastructure**
- Clarified intent for mixed-use and residential areas

### Zoning & Implementation

- Added recommendations to **modernize zoning standards**, including setbacks, parking, and housing flexibility
- Introduced tools such as potential overlay districts and updated development standards
- Strengthened alignment between the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance

### Infrastructure & Services

- Reinforced the importance of coordinating growth with available water, sewer, and transportation infrastructure
- Encouraged efficient use of existing public investments

### Community Priorities

- Updated goals and objectives to reflect current community needs and regional trends
- Placed greater emphasis on housing, reinvestment, and long-term sustainability

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### How to Review

The **full draft Master Plan** should be reviewed for complete context. This summary is provided as a guide to major updates and does not replace the full document.

11(+)

Implementation Strategy

People and Community

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
4.1.1	Assess City's existing technology infrastructure and facilities to determine needs for supporting remote workers.	City Council		2031-2033	
4.1.2	Work with partners to highlight and protect the unique qualities of Ishpeming to target outdoor enthusiasts.	City Council, LSCP, Travel Marquette, GINCC, NMU		2027	
4.1.3	Increase housing stock by reviewing Zoning areas and zoning ordinances annually to increase house placement opportunities.	Planning Commission		2027	
4.1.3	Review zoning to promote alternative housing options such as tiny homes and accessory dwellings.	Planning Commission		2027	
4.1.5	Assist in promoting successes of key local partners in education, skilled trades, and industry.	City staff, Ishpeming Schools		2027	
4.2.1	Conduct walkability assessment city-wide and identify needs for improvement.	City Staff, DPW, Ishpeming Schools, CUPPAD		2028-2030	
4.2.1	Take advantage of AARP's age-Friendly Livable Communities Training Resource.	AARP, City Boards and commissions		2027	
4.2.4	Work with the senior center to understand types of events and attractions that could appeal to the demographic group they serve.	City Boards and commissions		2027	
4.3.1	Work with local schools to survey youth to understand events and interests that could appeal to this demographic group.	City staff, Ishpeming Schools, GINCC, Marquette County West End Youth Center, City Parks and Rec		2027	
4.3.2	Work with local school to appoint a youth liason to the planning commission.	Planning Commission, Ishpeming Schools		2027	
4.4.1	Formally adopt and annually review the City's Public Participation Plan.	City Council, Planning Commission		2027	
4.4.2	Create a page on the City Website for new residents that directs them to resources and things they should know when moving to the City.	City staff		2027	
4.4.2	Develop a City Welcome Wagon program	City Staff		2028-2030	
4.4.3	Create opportunity for local groups to discuss community development activities as they relate to City Plans	City staff, city council, City Boards and commissions		2027	

Economic Development

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
5.1.1	Annually review the zoning code for new types of uses which may need to be adopted or modifications that would promote economic development while preserving the recreational resources, character, and heritage of Ishpeming.	Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission		2027	
5.1.3	Work with innovate MQT SmartZone to develop an innovation center in the City of Ishpeming.	Innovate MQT SmartZone, city staff		2028-2030	
5.2.2	Work with MSU's First Impressions Tourism program to determine opportunities and challenges.	MSU Extension, City boards and commissions		2031-2033	
5.3.4	consider the development of a local incentives policy for redeveloping property within the City.	City Council		2028-2030	
5.4.2	Develop and adopt a marketing plan.	City staff		2028-2030	
5.4.3	Work with LSCP to produce an annual economic development publication for the City.	LSCP, City staff		2027	
5.5.1	Promote the installation of a recreation and public vehicle EVC station in downtown near trailheads.	City staff, DPW, Parks and rec		2028-2030	
5.5.2	Work with SAIL to assess local outdoor recreation amenities and suggest improvements that could make them universally accessible creating equitable experiences.	SAIL, City staff, DPW, Parks and rec		2028-2030	

Natural Resources, Environment, and Energy

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
6.1.1	Explore the potential for solar generation on the former landfill.	City staff		2028-2030	
6.1.1	Annually review ordinances and note consistent areas of challenges for renewable energy technologies and discuss with appropriate boards and the County.	Planning Commission		2027	
6.1.2	Work with organizations such as UPPCO and Mi Energy Office to educate and market energy efficiency resources.	City Staff, UPPCO, Mi Energy Office		2028-2030	
6.2.1	Review best practices for stormwater management and adopt appropriate regulations.	Superior Watershed Partnership, DPW, City council		2031-2033	
6.2.3	Develop a recreational trails sustainability plan.	Parks and rec, City Staff, IOHT, Ramba		2027	
6.2.3	Consider future zoning for water, wetland, greenways and forest preservation.	Planning Commission		2028-2030	
6.3.2	Develop standards for new trail development.	City council, Parks and rec, DPW, IOHT, Ramba, City staff		2027	

Housing and Neighborhoods

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
7.1.1	Review zoning and ordinances annually to reduce blight and nuisances to improve the community appearance.	Planning Commission		2027	
7.1.1	Reducing minimum lot size, setbacks and lot coverage requirements for residential uses.	Planning Commission		2031-2033	
7.1.2	Review zoning to promote alternative housing options such as tiny homes and accessory dwellings.	Planning Commission		2031-2033	

7.2.2	Identify opportunities for infill development and work with the Marquette County Land Bank to encourage development.	City staff, Marquette County Land Bank, Marquette County Brownfield Authority		2027	
7.2.2	Reducing parking requirements to 1.5 spaces or less per unit.	Planning Commission		2028-2030	
7.2.2	Increasing maximum height to four (4) stories in Multiple Residential (MR) District.	Planning Commission		2028-2030	
7.2.2	Allowing multi-use dwellings and mixed use wherever commercial use is allowed.	Planning Commission		2031-2033	
7.2.4	Create a local housing repair program that complements Marquette County's program.	Planning Commission		2031-2033	
7.2.5	Review the need for a short term rental management system within the City to maintain a reasonable and responsible balance of short term rentals.	Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator		2027	
7.2.7	Review zoning maps annually for additional housing opportunities in areas not currently residentially zoned.	Planning Commission		2027	

#### Quality of Life

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
8.1.5	Review city design standards to include Complete Streets components to ensure roadways provide access to all legal users.	City staff, DPW, City Council		2028-2030	
8.1.4	Maintain and improve the public use trash bins and recycling bins.	DPW, schools		2027	
8.2.4	Encourage the development of a Weekly farmers market in conjunction with Thursday music event with the road closed to vehicles and outdoor dining permitted.	DDA, city staff		2027	
8.3.1	Develop branding for Wayfinding signs.	City staff, DDA, City Council, LSCP, Parks and rec		2028-2030	
8.3.1	Create a program to add bike racks that promote the City's brand.	DPW, DDA		2028-2030	

#### Downtown Development

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
9.1.1	Conduct joint meetings with the Downtown Development Authority and Planning Commission twice per year.	Planning Commission, DDA		2027	
9.1.2	Engage with InnovateMarquette SmartZone to establish a local innovation center in Ishpeming.	City Manager, Innovate Marquette SmartZone		2028-2030	
9.1.2	Encourage place making opportunities in the Downtown with a emphasis on a Farmer's Market.	DDA		2027	
9.2.1	Promote temporary sidewalk dining options during Downtown events such as the weekly outdoor concert or future Farmer's Market.	City Staff, City council, Planning Commission, DDA.		2028-2030	
9.3.1	Work with LSCP to create a marketing and branding strategy for downtown.	LSCP, city staff		2027	
9.3.2	Promote branding strategy and signs throughout downtown.	DDA, City council, LSCP		2028-2030	

#### Infrastructure

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
10.1.1	Annually review and update the Capital Improvement Plan.	City Staff, City council, Planning Commission.		2027	
10.1.1	Develop review and approval guidelines for Capital Improvement Plans - value categories? Exclusion of equipment replacement?	City Staff, City council, Planning Commission.		2027	
10.2.1	Participate in monthly regional US 41 Corridor management meetings.	City Staff	Low	2027	
10.2.1	Work with US-41 access management entities to ensure safe ingress/egress for the US-41 corridor in the City.	City staff, MCRC, Marquette County, MDOT		2027	
10.2.3	Create a Natural buffer plan for alley north of Hematite/south of Canda to improve visual quality downtown and along the IOHT.	DDA/DPW/IOHT		2028-2030	
10.2.3	Create a Natural buffer plan for the IOHT within the blighted areas of the City to improve visual appeal (Hematite drive to Stone street).	DDA/DPW/IOHT		2028-2030	

#### Land Use

Follows Goal(s)	Action Item	Responsible party/partner	Estimated cost	Timeframe to complete	completed
11.1.1	Review zoning ordinances for opportunities for incorporating form based elements.	Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission		2028-2030	
11.1.2	Review the zoning ordinances annually for balance between development and preservation of natural resources and for future land use.	Planning Commission	0	2027	
11.1.4/11.2.1/11.2.2	Develop zoning districts such as Low impact future land, wetland, waterway and forest preservation to preserve select environments.	Planning Commission		2031-2033	
11.1.3	Coordinate with neighboring cities on recurring or controversial topics.	City Manager		2027	
11.1.4	Preserve open space by supporting development that preserves open space such as PUD and conservation subdivisions.	Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission		2027	
11.3.1	Encourage regional trail planning to enhance and maintain the existing trail network.	Planning Commission, city staff, DPW, Parks and rec	0	2027	

11(g)

## City of Ishpeming Statement of Explanation

### 1. Agenda Item Information

Agenda Item Title: 11g. First Reading for Text Amendment to Ordinance 8-100 Zoning Ord.

Department: Planning and Zoning

Prepared By (Name & Title): Cathy Smith, City Clerk/Human Resources Manager

Date Submitted (MM/DD/YYYY): 4-10-2026

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### 2. Background & Purpose

Purpose / Background:

At the April 6, 2026 Planning Commission meeting, the Commission discussed the text amendment which included the addition of definitions for: Duplex; Duplex-Conversion; Duplex-Stacked/Up-and-Down; and Duplex-Side-by-Side. Also included in the amendment is language in Section 19.1(B)(2) to allow for Stacked/Up-and-Down and Conversion Duplexes to not be required to have a 7,500 square foot lot minimum or 75-foot lot width. All other requirements remain the same.

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### 3. Fiscal Impact

Total Cost / Revenue Impact: N/A

Funding Source(s):

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### 4. Recommended Action

Recommended Action:

Approve the first reading of the text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance #8-100 as presented.

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### 5. Approval & Routing

Department Head Approval

(Name & Signature): Cathy Smith Date: 4/10/26

11(g)

## Definitions

**Driveway:** A passage for vehicles which provides access to a parcel or premises which is built in accordance with generally accepted construction practices sufficient to provide all-season passage for emergency vehicles and fire trucks. This passageway is to be of 14' minimum width, primarily for use by motor vehicles, over private property, leading from a street, other public way, or private road to a garage or parking area. A horseshoe shape drive or a "T" shape drive located within a front yard is included within this definition. *In the event the passageway is more than one hundred fifty (150') feet in throat length from a public Right-of-Way to the dwelling, a perpetual Hold-Harmless agreement protecting the City of Ishpeming is to be recorded prior to home occupancy in the event that weather events prevent access by emergency service providers (fire, police, EMS).*

**Duplex:** A two family residential structure containing two separate dwelling units.

**Duplex, Conversion:** A single family home that has been remodeled or divided into a two family dwelling containing two separate units.

**Duplex, Stacked/Up-and-Down:** A two family dwelling containing two units located directly above and below the other separated by a shared floor and ceiling.

**Duplex, Side-by-Side:** A two family dwelling containing two units placed adjacent to the other separated by a shared vertical wall.

**Dwelling, Multiple Family:** A building containing three or more dwelling units designed for residential use and conforming in all other respects to the standards set forth in Section 22.6.

**Dwelling, Single Family:** A building containing not more than one dwelling unit designed for residential use, complying with the standards set forth in Section 22.6.

**Dwelling, Stacked Flats:** means a type of attached dwelling unit building occupied by three (3) or more families, where dwellings are divided by party walls in the horizontal plane and floor-ceiling assemblies in the vertical plan in an appropriate manner for multiple-family use. Each dwelling unit is capable of individual use and maintenance without trespassing upon adjoining properties, and utilities and service facilities are independent for each property.

**Dwelling, Townhouse:** means a one-family dwelling in a row of at least three such units in which each unit has its own front and rear access to the outside, no unit is located over another unit, and each unit is separated from any other unit by one or more vertical common fire-resistant walls.

**Dwelling, Two Family:** A building containing not more than two separate dwelling units designed for residential use, complying with the standards set forth in Section 22.6.

**Dwelling, Upper Floor Commercial:** A dwelling unit located in the upper floors of a commercial establishment, with an outside entrance allowing the occupants to come and go without entering the commercial establishment. The separate outside entrance shall not be necessary for approved live-work land uses. There may be more than one dwelling unit associated with a single commercial establishment.

**Easement:** A right-of-way granted, but not dedicated, for limited use of private land for private, public

**SECTION 19.1: FOOTNOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF GENERAL REGULATIONS (A thru J)**

**A.** Where a side yard abuts a street, and where there is a common rear yard, the minimum side yard requirement shall be:

- 25 feet for SR/Single Residential
- 25 feet for GR/General Residential
- 30 feet for MR/Multiple Residential
- 20 feet for GC/General Commercial

In the case of a rear yard abutting the side yard of an adjacent lot, the side yard abutting the street shall not be less than the required front yard of that district.

Lots which are fifty (50') feet or less in width and platted prior to enactment of this Ordinance shall be required to comply with Sections 19.0 and 19.1 to the greatest extent possible.

**B.** Prior Platted Lots. For lots platted prior to the adoption of this ordinance, the requirements shall be:

1. Platted lots with a frontage of up to fifty (50') feet and a lot depth of up to seventy-five (75') feet, the minimum front yard shall be determined by taking the average front setback of the nearest adjoining permitted principal structures. The minimum side yard setback shall be equal to the pre-existing setback of principal permitted structures and in no circumstances shall be less than three (3') feet. The minimum rear yard setback shall be twenty (20') feet.

2. For lots platted prior to the adoption of this ordinance the requirements for side-by-side duplexes shall be a minimum lot area of 7,500 square feet with a minimum frontage of seventy-five (75') feet and a minimum lot depth of one-hundred (100') feet. Stacked/up-and-down or conversion duplex use shall be required to comply with Sections 19.0 and 19.1 to the greatest extent possible.

**C.** Lot Depth. The depth of any lot in the Single Residential, General Residential, and Multiple Residential Districts (SR, GR and MR) shall not exceed three (3) times the width of the lot.

**D.** Transition Yards.

1. To provide suitable transition yards for the purpose of reducing the impact of the conflicts between incompatible land uses abutting non-residential district boundaries, boundary transitional yards are required.
2. No structure, building, or part thereof located in any (GC) and (I) Districts abutting the district boundaries and land uses of (SR)(GR)(MR)(DD) shall hereafter be erected, constructed, altered or maintained closer to the district boundary line than specified in the following table:

<b>BOUNDARY TRANSITIONAL YARD REQUIREMENTS</b>				
District in Which Trans. Yd. is Required	Abutting District			
	SR	GR	MR	DD
- NC/Neighborhood Commercial	30 ft.	30 ft.	30 ft.	30 ft.
- GC/General Commercial	30 ft.	30 ft.	30 ft.	30 ft.
- I/Industrial	50 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
CITY OF ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN  
100 EAST DIVISION STREET  
ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN 49849

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**City of Ishpeming Manager's Report**  
**Council Meeting – April 15, 2026**  
**(Reporting Period: March 14– April 10, 2026)**

**1. Operational and Administrative Updates**

- Held weekly meetings with the Deputy City Manager/Finance Director and City Clerk
- Held weekly meetings with legal counsel
- Held weekly meetings with the Planning & Zoning Director
- Held weekly meetings with DPW Foreman
- Held weekly meetings with the Mayor
- Held monthly meetings with the Planning Commission Chair
- Held monthly meetings with the DDA liaison
- Held monthly Department Head meetings
- Attended DDA meeting
- Attended meetings regarding 2026 water and sewer projects
- Had a meeting with GEI about the Lake Bancroft Outflow Project
- Attended meetings with Marquette County Emergency Management – regarding the snowstorm
- Had a meeting with City Attorney and Wastewater Treatment Plant Director – To review the system and the Interlocal Agreement
- Worked on Resolution – DPW employees' appreciation
- Submitted a slightly over \$1 million grant for DPW snow equipment through Congressionally Directed Spending – Senator Slotkin & Senator Petters
- Compiled offer letter of employment for DPW Director
- Met with Union on side letter of agreement for DPW Director position
- Met with Waterwork – to begin work on rate study
- Meeting with Marquette Land Bank, DDA Liaison, and LSCP CEO
- Worked with Councilmember on resolution – Ishpeming Girls Basketball Proclamation
- Applied to LSCP to participate in the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Local Economics program. We held our first kickoff meeting, and the program will help strengthen entrepreneurship and small-business ecosystems. The DDA Liaison also worked with the team to schedule the first round of meetings with Ishpeming businesses.

*The City of Ishpeming is an equal opportunity provider/employer.  
Auxiliary aids and service are available upon request to individuals with disabilities*



**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
CITY OF ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN  
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ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN 49849**

- Worked on Cliffs purchase agreement – final version sent to Cliffs for approval – I hope to have final draft to Council in May
- Held budget review meeting with Deputy City Manager/Finance Manager, Library Director, and Chief of Policy
- Attended meeting with City Staff, NIWA, and GEI – Regarding water Line Easement for Al Quaal and a overall project review
- Had a meeting with SEH – Looking at Safe Streets and Roads for All grant – U.S. Department of Transportation grant
- Had meeting with UPEA – PFAS grant
- Had meeting with EGLE, Deputy City Manager/Finance Director about the DWAM and TMF grant timeline

## **2. Capital Projects and Infrastructure**

- Funding for City owned Buildings Request for Proposals – As of right now funding will not be available in 2026
- Submitted Congressionally Directed Spending applications – DPW snow equipment – Total amount submitted was a little over \$1 million
- Submitted MIO TAC Technical Assistance grant application – it will provide technical support for identifying grants for street projects

## **3. Financial and Budgetary Overview**

- The 2026 budget was approved by City Council
- Meetings have started with Department Heads to review departmental budgets on a monthly or quarterly basis
- Grey is working on a presentation to the Council regarding the fiscal reality of the City and will present it to Council in May or June

## **4. Community Engagement and Public Services**

- Attended Senior Center Butterfly Garden Opening
- Worked with citizen to see if their property would be part of the Cliffs purchase – it was not part of the purchase
- Met with citizen about long-term rentals
- Attended LSCP Economic Alliance Quarterly meeting
- Attended monthly Michigan County Ambassador Meeting

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