

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, in the Ishpeming City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Pro Tem Kurt Kipling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Kurt Kipling, Council Members Claudia Demarest, and Jason Chapman. (3). Absent: Mayor Pat Scanlon and Councilmember Brett Argall (2). Also, present was City Manager Randy Scholz and City Attorney Caroline Bridges.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented with amendments to the agenda to include three additional items: Section 19 Amendments, Audit Engagement Letters, and two Fill Agreements.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

John Korsman, 107 W. Ridge St.: provided a hand-out with a Statement to the City Council requesting the City to reimburse costs associated with a sewer main/pipe issue.

Christopher Germain, Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP), brought his successor Natalie Chmiko. Christopher will be with LSCP for the next three weeks. Natalie introduced herself; she will be the new CEO of LSCP, expressed her excitement about working with the city and provided a brief overview of her background.

Bill Anderson, 100 E. Barnum St.: expressed that he would have like to see the proposed City Charter language revisions in the council packet(s) prior to the meetings more in advance so the public could have more time to state their thoughts, comments, and concerns.

Mary Ellen Peterson, E. New York St. Apartments: looking for more information about the road closures, construction projects by her home The DPW Director will follow-up.

6. MANAGER OFFER OF INFORMATION – nothing to report

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting (April 15th pm and April 30th, Closed Sessions: April 15th and April 30th)
- b. Approval of Disbursements
- c. Declare Miscellaneous Furnishing at Library as Surplus

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

8. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS

a. Monthly Financial Statement Report

i. Balance Sheets – All funds

ii. Monthly Detail – All funds

iii. Section 19 Amendments

Grey Getschow presented the Financial Reports reviewing the Revenue and Expenditure Report Period Ending 04/30/2026, each Balance Sheet Period Ending 4/30/2026, and reviewed the Section 19 Amendments.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to accept the financial reports as presented.

b. DPW Update

Jake Roberts reviewed the two construction projects that are underway.

c. Police Department Update

Chad Radabaugh reviewed call services; gave a reminder about picking up miscellaneous debris. More traffic grants have been received.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS – There was none.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was none.

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Special Event Application

- i. Marquette County Walk for Hope: September 19, 2026
- ii. Marquette Marathon: September 5, 2026
- iii. Shelly's Rainbow Bar and Temporary Liquor License: July 3, 4, 5, 2026

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve all three special event applications as presented.

b. First Quarter Budget Amendments 2026

Grey Getschow reviewed the First Quarter Budget Amendments. Grey is looking for council recommendations for the major streets, local streets, public improvement, and sewer funds.

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to table the budget amendments until the next regular council meeting held in June.

c. Resolution #13-2026, Fire Equipment Bond no longer being levied

Grey Getschow presented Resolution #13-2026, Fire Equipment Bond.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #13-2026, the Fire Equipment bond to no longer be levied.

d. Fiscal State of the City

Grey Getschow presented the Fiscal State of the City. Randy Scholz and Grey Getschow will be providing the Fiscal State of the City presentation to the community, May 27th and May 28th. Information about the times and locations are available on the City's website. This will be a time to hear input from residents.

Millage proposals were discussed.

e. Declare Police Department Detective Vehicle as Surplus

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to declare the Police Department Detective Vehicle as surplus.

f. Declare DPW Equipment as Surplus: Elgin Sweeper (393); Case Backhoe (342); Jack Hammer Attachment

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to declare the DPW equipment as surplus as presented.

g. Additions/Amendments to Traffic Control Orders per Uniform Traffic Control Code

Cathy Smith reviewed the additions and removals in the traffic control orders.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to accept the additions/amendments to the Traffic Control Orders as presented.

h. Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance: Text Amendment – Duplex Definitions and Section 19.1(B)(2)

Attorney Caroline Bridges reviewed the Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning Ordinance stating there were no changes to the ordinance since the first reading.

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, carried unanimously to approve the Amendment to Ordinance 8-100, Zoning.

i. Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 4-1100, Open Burning

Attorney Caroline Bridges reviewed the Amendment to Ordinance 4-1100, Open Burning stating the packet has the text changes that were made since the first reading; these changes are highlighted in red.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to approve the Amendment to Ordinance 4-1100, Open Burning with the text changes.

j. Second Reading of Amendment to Ordinance 3-800, Special Events

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, carried unanimously to approve the Amendment to Ordinance 3-800, Special Events.

k. Rescind Policy #406, Special Events Policy

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, carried unanimously to rescind Policy #406, Special Events.

l. Approve Filing Suit on Two Blighted Properties

Attorney Caroline Bridges stated there is only one property listed to filing suit; reviewed the next steps for filing suit on the one property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve filing suit on the one blighted property as presented.

m. Approve City Charter Amendment Language for Ballot

Attorney Caroline Bridges reviewed the four resolutions to the City Charter Language and Ballot Language. Attorney Bridges stated that Council would be motioning to approve the ballot language as presented in the packet.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve the ballot language and the resolution to the Charter of the City of Ishpeming, Section 2.15-2.17.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve the ballot language and the resolution to the Charter of the City of Ishpeming, Section 10.6 (a) – (c) (Purchasing Procedure).

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve the ballot language and the resolution to the Charter of the City of Ishpeming, Section 5.1 (c) (Manager Residency Requirement).

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve the ballot language and the resolution to the Charter of the City of Ishpeming, Section 2.10 (Qualifications for Elective City Offices).

o. Audit Engagement Letters – Anderson, Tackman & Company (new addition to the agenda)

Grey Getschow reviewed the Audit Engagement letters for Anderson, Tackman & Company.

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve the Anderson, Tackman & Company Audit Engagement Letters.

p. Fill Agreements - Malton Road Agreements (new addition to the agenda)

Jake reviewed two Fill Agreements from the Malton Road Old Landfill Site; one with Payne and Dolan and the other with Linderberg and Sons.

A motion was made by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, seconded by Councilmember Jason Chapman, and carried unanimously to approve the Malton Road Old Landfill Site Fill Agreement with Payne and Dolan.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to approve the Malton Road Old Landfill Site Fill Agreement with Lindberg and Sons.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Cathy Smith reviewed Councilmember Brett Argall's Council Report as presented in the packet.

Council Member Jason Chapman has had several convos with elected officials regarding additional funding sources for the city. Had an open Coffee Hour for residents along with City Manager, Randy Scholz and Councilmember Claudia Demarest. Provided a thank you to Cathy Smith for her dedication to the city.

Councilmember Claudia Demarest attended the Parks and Rec meeting and the Open House for the Road Projects. Also provided a thank you to Cathy Smith for her 11 years of service.

Councilmember Kurt Kipling provided a thank you to Cathy Smith for her long hours and dedication to serving the city. Attended the Open House for Construction and observed the utilization of the Skate Park; happy to see the use it is getting from individuals of all ages. Provided with a construction season reminder and street cleaning is underway.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Scholz briefly reviewed his manager's report presented in the packet; stated that he would like to offer his time to Cathy Smith to give a farewell statement. Cathy thanked everyone and gave a farewell.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:59 p.m., a motion was made by Councilmember Jason Chapman, seconded by Councilmember Claudia Demarest, and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Emilie Stack, City Clerk/HR Manager