

**Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2026**

81. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, May 18, 2026, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting was called to order by David Aro, DDA Chair, at 4:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Lisa Peterson, Tracy Magnuson, David Aro, Antonio Adan, Brice Sturmer, Kelly Milano, Krystan Beaumont, and Randy Scholz (8). Absent: Brian Buchanan, Carrie Meyer, and Brett Argall (3). Also, present was DDA Liaison Diana Sundberg, and Linda Andriacchi, Beautification.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Brice Sturmer, seconded by Member Tracy Magnuson, and carried unanimously to approve the April 27, 2026 minutes as presented.

5. MONTHLY REPORTS

a. Finance Report

Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Grey Getschow reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Report, period ending April 30th, 2026. A Motion was made by Member Randy Scholz, seconded by Member Brice Sturmer, and carried unanimously to approve the financial report as presented.

b. Beautification Report

Linda Andriacchi provided a beautification report that included plants have arrived and will be planted into containers, the DPW will be watering the plants again this year and provided an overview of who will be cleaning up the garden beds/landscaping throughout the city.

c. DDA Liaison Report

Diana Sundberg reviewed the DDA Liaison Report. Some of the efforts Diana has been doing during the months of April-May include: conducted meetings and outreach with potential business start-ups interested in locating downtown, met with local realtors to identify available commercial spaces, continued coordinating the Social District Steering Committee, assisted with the planning of the upcoming Vintage Treasure Hunt event, supported preparations for the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC), and created three new radio commercials in partnership with Radio Results Network.

d. Ishpeming Community Events

Members presented events coming up this summer which include Music on Main, Festival of Treasures, Vintage Treasure Hunt, and Old Ish Days. Old Ish Days will provide a weeklong of events around the Fourth of July to include chalk art, farmers market, music, and a Skatepark event with Bates Bikes to have prizes, demonstrations, free helmets, etc.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. RAMBA Trail Head Update

Liaison Sundberg gave a brief overview of the information in the packet along with the statement of explanation and noted that RAMBA is actively seeking month for the beautification project of the RAMBA Trailhead to include landscaping, lighting, and picnic table installation.

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A motion was made by Member Antonio Adan, seconded by Member Lisa Peterson, carried unanimously to allocate up to \$7,700 to RAMA to kickstart their beautification project of the RAMBA Trailhead pending the final request in writing and final cost estimate.

b. Old Ish Restoration

Randy Scholz provided a review of the efforts done by looking into the restoration of the Old Ish. One individual provided a quote of \$2,240 to look at the restoration Old Ish. There was a discussion regarding who has the responsibility of caring for Old Ish and funding concerns with restoration. Suggestions from members included setting up a community fundraiser, retirement of Old Ish, and looking into grant funding.

A motion was made by Member Tracy Magnuson, seconded by Member Brice Sturmer, unanimously carried to approve up to \$2,240 to have someone come to look at the cost of the restoration of Old Ish.

c. RFP Submissions

Mark Miller, Carlisle/Wortman Associates was present to review the submission of the proposal he provided digitally to the DDA members.

A motion was made by Member Tracy Magnuson, seconded by Member Kelly Milano, unanimously carried to approve the Carlisle/Wortman RFP submission for up to \$22,140.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Stone Market Court Start-Up Assistance Grant Application

John Hughes, 101 Bank Street; was present to review the Stone Market Court Start-Up Assistance Grant Application and to answer any questions from the DDA. The Stone Market Court was designed and developed based on projects in Traverse City. Mr. Hughes stated that food trucks have been very successful in that area, which then turn into brick-and-mortar businesses. Mr. Hughes stated this area could be used for other events occurring in the City of Ishpeming when not in use by the food trucks. Intent is to have this area open to three to five food trucks and would be open Spring to Fall.

A motion was made by Member Kelly Milano, seconded by Member Randy Scholz, unanimously carried to approve the Stone Market Court Start-Up Assistance Grant Application.

b. Sturmer LTD LLC Façade Grant Application

Brice Sturmer reviewed the Sturmer LTD LLC Façade Grant Application. Brice stated this a very large project; one main goal is to increase the efficiency of the building. Brice doesn't have a timeline for completion of the project; it could be 18 months to two years.

A Motion was made by Member Krystan Beaumont, seconded by Member Lisa Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the Façade improvement grant to Sturmer LTD LLC for up to \$20,000. Member Brice Sturmer abstained from voting.

8. INFORMATION SESSION

a. Open Informational Session

The Informational Session was called to order by Brice Sturmer, DDA Vice Chair at 5:17 p.m.

b. Public Comment

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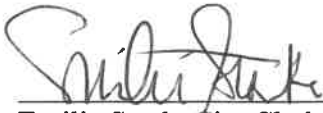
Diana presented a report on the organizational efforts, business development initiatives, community partnerships, and downtown revitalization activities completed on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority.

c. Close Informational Session

At 5:22 p.m. DDA Vice Chair, Brice Sturmer closed the informational session.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:22 p.m., a motion was made by DDA Vice Chair Brice Sturmer, seconded by Member Krystan Beaumont, and carried unanimously to adjourn.



Emilie Stack, City Clerk/Human Resources Manager