

ISHPEMING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting of November 25, 2013

A meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, November 25, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Chairman David Aeh called the meeting to order.

Present: David Aeh, Charlie Anderson, Judy Hodges, Elaine Racine, Mark Slown, and Stuart Skauge. Absent: Dave Aro, Diane Gauthier, Jason Gauthier, Rosemarie Strom, and Stacey Willey.

Also present were Mike and Jill Koski of Congress Pizzas, Council Members Claudia Demarest and Joe Juidici, Zach Jay of the Mining Journal, Pat Coleman and Brian Savolainen of UPEA, and Chamber Director Kori Tossava.

Public Comment

Jason Schneider, Enterprise Facilitator for Accelerate UP, said they offer their services free to clients, have been in business for about seven months, work with the Lake Superior Community Partnership, and get their funding for the next two years from Rio-Lundin to find jobs for when the mines expire in about ten years.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Skauge to accept the minutes of October 28, 2013, as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report

A verbal financial report was received from Treasurer Jim Lampman. Payments of \$51,565 to Lindberg for Pay Request #8 for Malton Road and \$1,072.50 for the refunding bonds interest were made during the past month.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Ms. Tossava stated member recruitment and renewals continue, work is underway for the Arctic Blast Color Dash, the Community Guide/Power Book is completed, the City Manager open house was a success, holiday events such as the Chamber punch card, shop local, and marketing for area events are progressing, and plans are being made for 2014 events.

Purchase Agreement for former Penney Lot by Congress Pizzas

A motion was made by Mr. Skauge and seconded by Mrs. Racine that City Attorney David Savu make the necessary changes to the purchase agreement as outlined in the letter of November 19, 2013, from Mike Koski. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Skauge and seconded by Mrs. Racine to grant an extension to execute the purchase agreement until June 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Requests for Financial Assistance

A motion was made by Mr. Slown and seconded by Mr. Skauge to approve the requests of Ishpeming Independence Day, Inc., for \$1,000 and of the Ishpeming Renaissance Festival and Art Faire for \$500 for their 2014 events. Motion carried.

Downtown Streetscape Change Order No. 1

A motion was made by Mr. Skauge and seconded by Mrs. Racine to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$3,295 for the DIG Grant/Streetscape Project. Motion carried.

Malton Road Update

A meeting was held to discuss the additional cost that was required due to the discrepancy in quantities for Malton Road. To resolve the issue, UPEA is offering to assist in the process of developing a gateway concept that is satisfactory and within budget.

Following discussion on possible improvements, a motion was made by Mr. Skauge and seconded by Mr. Aeh to hold a joint meeting with the City Council to discuss the entryway project. Motion carried.

Ishpeming Business Association Report

Mr. Anderson stated Ladies Night Out was held from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m., and a majority of the customers preferred the expanded hours. The Christmas parade will be held on Friday. The Shop locally campaign, sleigh rides, and nativity scene are part of the holiday events.

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh and seconded by Mrs. Racine to reimburse the Chamber of Commerce the amount of \$139.37 for the City Manager open house. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the invoice from Yvonne Leaf, Superior Blooms, in the amount of \$440 for beautification services in November.

Mr. Slown indicated that economic development is important for the community, and Lake Superior Community Partnership and other agencies could provide assistance.

Mr. Aeh stated the Historical Society is having a silent auction at Tru North on Friday.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Racine and seconded by Mrs. Hodges to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Carol Holmgren
Recording Secretary