

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 in the Ishpeming Senior Center. Mayor Mike Tonkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Council Members Claudia Demarest, Joseph Juidici, Justin Koski, and Mike Tall (5). Also present were City Manager Mark Slown and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Nelson, former Mayor for the City of Ishpeming, explained the history of the TIF District and how the boundary was determined. He offered to attend future meetings to discuss the TIF District.

Scott Patrick, former DDA Member concurred with the history provided by Mr. Nelson and encouraged the Council to consider all the facts before making modifications to the TIF District boundary.

Tony Ghiringhelli and Kathy Carlson from the U.P. Regional Labor Federation advised they were present to answer questions regarding the use of Lake Bancroft Park for the Labor Day Festivities.

Jon Becker, Ore to Shore, coordinated all the road closures for the Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Race which would be held on August 8th and was requesting this item be added to the agenda under street closures. They would like the same street closures and assistance from DPW and Police as was provided the past several years.

Jesse Shirtz, Librarian, announced the elevator project at the Library was complete and looked wonderful. She encouraged all to stop in and see it.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest to approve the agenda as presented.

Mr. Slown requested the Ore to Shore and the IBA Summer Concert Series be added to the agenda under item 19, Request for Street Closure. He also requested adding to the agenda - Hiring a summer intern from Northern Michigan University.

Councilwoman Demarest amended her motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the above items which was seconded by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously.

Mr. Slown introduced Brian Downing who would be replacing Jill Dompierre as the Utility Billing Clerk.

AGENDA COMMENT – There was none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the May 6th and May 26th minutes as presented.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the disbursements as presented.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Lampman reviewed the monthly financial statements ending May 2015. There was discussion regarding the garbage fund, the contract for garbage collection, and tipping fees at the Landfill.

HIRING A SUMMER INTERN

Mr. Slown advised the intern would help with administrative work at City Hall for approximately 200 hours through the summer. He introduced the intern, Caroline Eickelkamp from NMU. A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the request to hire an intern in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,500.

MERS 2014 ACTUARIAL VALUATION

Terra Langham, MERS Regional Manager, reviewed the 2014 actuarial valuation for MERS. She highlighted the current plan and reviewed potential changes that could be made to the plan for new hires. She explained this was common among many groups. She indicated two thirds of the pension payments were from the market fund and one third was from the tax base.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve the legal services agreement with Bonnie Hoff for the water improvement project with Rural Development and authorize the Mayor to sign.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the contract with GEI Consultants for the water improvement project and authorize the Mayor to sign.

RAMBA REQUEST TO ESTABLISH NEW TRAIL SECTION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve RAMBA's request to establish a new trail section as presented.

ANDERSON, TACKMAN AND COMPANY PROPOSAL FOR 2017 AUDIT

Mr. Slown explained as part of the Rural Development water project, USDA required an auditor be contracted through 2017 and recommended waiving competitive bidding.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici, and carried unanimously to approve the proposal from Anderson, Tackman and Company for a 2017 audit in the amount of \$16,800 with the Manager's recommendation to waive competitive bidding.

FILING ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the agreement with Public Financial Management, Inc. as presented with the Manager's recommendation to waive competitive bidding.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED NEW EVENTS POLICY

Ms. Hoff introduced the draft policy developed by the Adhoc Events Policy Committee and explained input was received from other groups and organizations. Mr. Kangas reviewed some of the specifics of the policy and explained the Committee would like this policy to take effect on January 1, 2016. There was discussion regarding the differences between City-operated events, co-sponsored events, non-profit events, and for-profit events. This policy would minimize the City's liability for events because a liability insurance certificate would need to be provided. Council felt this was a very well written document and an excellent job was done in a short period of time.

Mr. Kangas explained all events using the business route would need a MDOT permit which staff filed. There would be a fee of \$100 if an MDOT permit was needed.

Dr. Stephen Piereson, Events Policy member, stated this policy would bring some consistency and clarity for the City as well as for event organizers.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve the City of Ishpeming Special Events Policy effective January 1, 2016 with the addition of the \$100 fee for the MDOT permit.

AMENDMENTS TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Ms. Hoff reviewed the new FOIA amendments, including the forms required, and advised the new policy would need to be adopted by July 1st or there would be penalties.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to adopt the new Freedom of Information Act policy as presented.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING APPLICATION FOR NEZ CERTIFICATE

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2015-4; Resolution acknowledging receipt of application for Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Certificate.

U.P. REGIONAL LABOR FEDERATION REQUEST TO USE LAKE BANCROFT PARK

Kathy Carlson stated this event had been taking place in the City since 2008. They would like to have the adult beverage tent be located in the Lake Bancroft Park instead of on the Cliff's Shaft property because it was felt this would enhance the event and allow everyone to be together in one place. Tony Ghiringhelli assured all Liquor Control Commission requirements would be met and the liability insurance would be provided to the City. He also requested the closure of Euclid Street as was done in previous years.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the request to serve alcoholic beverages at Lake Bancroft Park with the contingencies that the City would be named as an additional insured, all Liquor Control Commission requirements be met, and coordinate with DPW and the Police for the closure of Euclid Street.

Mayor Tonkin would provide a welcome speech at the event.

REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the street closures for (a) Good News Assembly of God – Portion of Malton Road, (b) Fire Department – Fire Hose Testing, (c) Rob’s Auto Repair, (d) Fourth of July Parade, (e) Festival of Treasures, (f) Ishpeming Fire Department Parade, (g) IBA Concert Series, and (h) Ore to Shore Bike Race.

REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE AND TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the street closure and temporary liquor license for: Rainbow Bar, Brogie’s Tavern, Venice Pub, Paradise Bar, and Jack’s Teepee with the understanding each would provide their own fencing; and if the City needed to provide the fencing the cost for labor would be charged.

MMRMA BOARD VACANCY

Mr. Slown explained there was a vacancy on the MMRMA Board if there was any interest. No action was taken.

REAPPOINT JON KANGAS TO THE BUILDING AUTHORITY

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to appoint Jon Kangas to a three year term on the Building Authority.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Demarest questioned the progress of pursuing the property located at 110 E. Canda Street. Mr. Slown explained a meeting with the bank was being arranged but no commitments would be made.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Tonkin advised there was a Neighborhood Improvement Committee meeting; thanked Anne Giroux and the County for submitting the Blight Elimination Grant; provided an update on the “Spring-Clean Up” day in the Inspiration Zone, and assisted in planting 16 new trees on Lakeshore Drive.

Councilwoman Demarest attended the Library Board meeting at which they requested DPW water the planter boxes and hanging planters by the library.

Councilman Tall advised the Housing Commission was doing well and the meals they prepared were excellent; attended the 9-1-1 meeting; and congratulating Mike Kline on being appointed to Undersheriff.

Councilman Juidici attended a few Event Policy Adhoc Committee meetings; attended the Cemetery Board meeting; and commented on how great the cemetery looked for Memorial Day.

Councilman Koski reported there was not a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, he attended one of the Events Policy Adhoc Committee meetings; attended the AMCAB public session held at the library and many good comments were received; provided 27 hours of labor at the Farm site installing posts and thanked Bob Marietti for his help with installation.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Slown reported a lot has been going on and Ms. Hoff had been putting many hours in; town was starting to look good, many housing improvements have been made but there was still much room for improvement; and a new business would be opening downtown which would provide all organic lotions, creams, and candles.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Hoff advised May was a very busy month and June will be equally busy and she was looking forward to working with Mark Stoor and Al Pierce on the water improvement project.

CLOSED SESSION

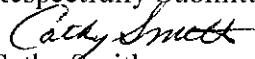
A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest and supported by Councilman Koski to go into closed session to discuss attorney-client privileged communication pursuant to MCL 15.268 (h) at 9:04 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Demarest, Juidici, Koski, and Tall (5). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Tall, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to return to open session at 9:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m., a motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary