

A Special Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Tuesday, July 21, 2015, in the City Hall Conference Room. Mayor Tonkin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

#### DISCUSSION OF CARNEGIE LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS

There was discussion related to the repair of the library stairs, handrails, and columns as well as the weather seal on the outer door and lighting upgrades. The need for engineering services was also discussed. It was felt the bid specifications could be developed by staff and the project put out for bids. The bid specification should include replacement of stairs, with non-skid surface, installation of handrails, columns stripped and resealed, lighting replaced and upgraded, outer doors resealed, and inner doors leveled.

#### BID AWARD FOR CITY FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Three bids were received for the project: Cross General Contracting \$1,394,000; Gundlach Champion \$1,386,000; and Premeau Construction \$1,854,000. If the alternates were removed, the bids would be within budget, however, it was determined all work needed to be completed and the entire project should be done. Mr. Slown explained the USDA bond could be increased by \$200,000 or \$250,000 to accomplish all the work.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to request additional bonding from Rural Development in the amount of \$250,000.

Tony Retaskie, UP Construction Council, advised his comments were unsolicited by Gundlach Champion, but he wanted to advise the City Council Gundlach had won many safety awards and always hired and trained apprentices, so he encouraged the Council to award the bid to Gundlach Champion.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to award the bid for the City Facilities Improvement Project to Gundlach Champion in the amount of \$1,386,000.

#### DAN PERKINS REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY FOR PARTRIDGE CREEK FARM II

Mr. Perkins advised he had a small operation behind his home that encompassed approximately a quarter of an acre of land for a garden. He was working on a petition from his neighbors because he wanted to get their support. He felt it was a very positive project and would like to continue the operations on the property.

Staff and Council explained that piece of property was dedicated to the use of the public for playground and park purposes. It was within a recorded Plat and could not be used for farming purposes. The City had no authority to grant access unless the Plat was amended or revised to eliminate the public park which would involve filing a lawsuit in the Marquette County Circuit Court. In addition it was not zoned for farming under the Zoning Ordinance so the Ordinance would also have to be amended.

Mr. Slown stated the gardening on the property needed to stop. They could harvest what they had grown but absolutely no new planting was to be done next year. He asked Mr. Perkins to make a public statement that he would not plant in that area next year. Mr. Perkins pledged not to farm or do any gardening in that area at all next year, unless granted permission to do so.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to deny the request from Dan Perkins to use City property for the Partridge Creek Farm II.

DISCUSSION ON CITY HALL ISSUES

Mr. Slown explained several other issues outside the scope of work for the USDA project have been noted: the condition of the stone face, movement of some brick and stone joints, a roof leak and other roof issues, and moisture in the basement. These issues could be addressed by the contractor selected for the USDA project or separate proposals could be sent out.

REDRAFT OF CGI COMMUNICATIONS LETTER

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Mayor Tonkin and carried unanimously to authorize the Mayor to sign the redraft of the CGI Communication letter incorporating the changes made by Ms. Hoff.

SPECIAL EVENTS POLICY REVISION

Ms. Hoff explained she added language to the policy under "Liability Insurance Requirements" to cover the situations in which the current language mandated by MMRMA was slightly modified and approved by the City with prior approval from MMRMA or the local agent.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to accept the revision to the Special Events Policy as presented.

QUOTES FOR NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Mr. Slown explained two quotes were received from 906 Technologies and Range Telecommunications. This was not a budgeted item and the cost would be spread out amongst departments. He further explained he authorized installation of a new fiber line between City Hall and DPW/Fire/Police at a cost of \$3,000 which was needed for the upgrade.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to concur with the Manager's recommendation and accept the bid from 906 Technologies for the new phones in the amount of \$10,899.72.

RESOLUTION TO DEMOLISH 207-209 DIVISION STREET


A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #2015-9 Permission for Marquette County Landbank Authority to demolish 207-209 Division Street.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest and supported by Councilman Juidici to go into closed session to discuss attorney client privileged communication pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) at 11:05 a.m. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Demarest, Juidici, Koski, and Tall (5). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:25 a.m., the City Council returned to open session and a motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,  
  
Cathy Smith  
Recording Secretary