

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 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

Brian Turek, Public Relations Officers for Partridge Creek Farm, announced the Partridge Creek Farm won the Smart Prize Competition for best business in a growth stage. They also received a Global Youth Services grant to sponsor a Volunteer Day at the incubator farm site on April 15th. He further provided an update on the various programs they were working on. He thanked the Council, the City staff, and the Community for working with them in the past, present, and hopefully in the future.

Leonard Jarrell, 548 Poplar Street, brought forth his complaint regarding the cutting down of trees by the Al Quaal lodge and expressed his displeasure with staff's decision to remove the trees.

Carol Fulsher, Iron Ore Heritage Trail, voiced their support for the amendments to Ordinance #5-1300 Regulating Off-Road Vehicle Use. She also announced the MSU Sustainable Built Environments grant submitted for the Lake Bancroft Area was awarded.

Aaron Carr, A. Lindberg and Sons, was present for the Land Modification Agreement pertaining to the dump site for materials generated from the roundabout project. He advised the location proposed was a very good site and in the end it would be a more appealing area for the surrounding property owners as well as the playgrounds. He also reported A. Lindberg and Sons would install water service to the two roundabouts as the work was being completed at no additional charge to the City.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the removal of Item #16-Request for staff to attend the MML Green Communities Workshop on April 20-22, 2016 in Roscommon.

AGENDA COMMENT

Jim Lampman provided a brief overview of the financial statements for the period ending March 31, 2016.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items.

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meetings (March 9th and March 17th)
- (b) Approval of Disbursements
- (c) Monthly Financial Statements
- (d) Declare Library cassette books (99) and books (55) as surplus
- (e) Gundlach Champion Pay Request #8 for City Facilities Improvement Project.

PRESENTATION FROM MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Scott MacInnes, U.P. Field Representative from the Michigan Municipal League (MML), provided information on the various services available through MML; and, also commented on the large amount of information that could be obtain on their website. He also summarized the various training that was available through webinars, or on-site; and indicated it would be very beneficial for elected officials.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #5-1300 REGULATING OFF ROAD VEHICLES

Mr. Slown advised the Iron Ore Heritage Trail supported the amendments and further advised the route would become a state designated route.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to adopt the amendments to Ordinance #5-1300 Regulating Off-Road Vehicles as of the second reading.

SECOND READING OF AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #4-400 DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to adopt the amendments to Ordinance #4-400 Providing for the Disposal of Solid Waste as of the second reading.

ADOPT REVISED CITY VEHICLE USE POLICY

Mr. Slown and Ms. Hoff explained the new policy would provide direction on some safety issues and also regulate the reporting of taxable benefits for employees.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the new Policy for Use of City Vehicles as presented.

REQUEST FOR ITEMS FROM ISHPEMING AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Discussion regarding the request for the City of Ishpeming 100th Anniversary sign and the various Seaborg items took place. Concern was expressed regarding turning over all the Seaborg items; and it was suggested to perhaps display some of those items in the new Council Chambers, as well as, the Library.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to allow the Ishpeming Area Historical Society to have on loan the 100th Anniversary sign and direct the City Manager to work with the Historical Society to create a complete inventory of the Seaborg items and to determine the best locations to display the items.

Ms. Hoff thanked Karen Kasper for all her volunteer work provided to the City and her care in preserving City artifacts.

DUMP SITE AGREEMENT FOR ROUND-ABOUT WASTE MATERIALS

Mr. Slown and Jon Kangas explained A. Lindberg and Sons had requested the use of City land located off Second Street as a disposal site for some materials, such as broken concrete and soils, from the round-about project. City Attorney Hoff had some minor changes/additions to make to the agreement.

Aaron Carr, from A. Lindberg and Sons, advised they would notify all the neighbors regarding the use of the area as a dump site.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the Land Modification Agreement with A. Lindberg and Sons contingent upon City Attorney Hoff's review and approval of the agreement.

Councilwoman Demarest thanked A. Lindberg and Sons for their offer to install the irrigation systems in both round-abouts which would be very beneficial for the beautification efforts in those areas.

SMALL URBAN GRANT COMMITMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to commit to the local match of \$125,000 from the Streets Fund for the MDOT Small Urban grant application.

AUTHORIZATION TO HANDLE INSPIRATION ZONE FUNDING

Mr. Lampman advised if the funds were handled and disbursed by the City, all City internal controls would need to be followed. Discussion on the sidewalk plan took place and it was noted Bob Marietti, DPW, and the Ishpeming High School would be working together on this project.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the proposed sidewalk plan in the Inspiration Zone contingent upon review by City Attorney Hoff.

REQUEST FROM FINANCE MANAGER TO PURCHASE MERS SERVICE CREDIT

It was noted in the City Council minutes dated December 18, 1996, a motion was made and carried to adopt a City policy whereby City employees could purchase retirement service time provided they pay the entire amount. This policy should be written in the appropriate format and placed in the City Policy Manual.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the request from the Finance Manager to purchase five years of MERS service time and to incorporate the policy into the Policy Manual.

SET SPECIAL MEETING FOR GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

It was the consensus of Council to set the special meeting for Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilwoman Demarest questioned if a response had been received from the Department of Treasury regarding the discrepancy between the legal description and the map for the TIF District Boundary; Mr. Slown advised staff was still waiting for a response.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Demarest asked if the boulders could be removed by Malton Electric, just through the construction of the roundabouts, to help alleviate some of the traffic congestion. Temporary stop signs could be put up to slow down traffic through the neighborhood. Aaron Carr, A. Lindberg and Sons, advised a traffic control plan has already been developed with MDOT for the construction period.

In addition, Councilwoman Demarest discussed the Library hours of operations, and expressed concern specifically over the Library being closed to the public on Mondays; and also expressed concern over City Hall being closed to the public from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. She felt the hours of operation should be re-evaluated at both facilities.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Koski thanked the Iron Ore Heritage Trail for all their efforts and great work with the trails; thanked Scott MacInnes from MML and was very interested in the training opportunities they provided; and also thanked Jon Kangas and Jay Wilder for all their great work and improvements made to Al Quaal.

Councilman Juidici attended the Cemetery Board meeting; the Board was looking toward the future and making efforts to extend the life of the cemetery; and announced there was a vacancy on the Cemetery Board and anyone interested should contact City Hall.

Councilwoman Demarest attended the Library Board, DDA and Lake Bancroft Area Development Committee meetings; and thanked Jon Kangas and Jay Wilder for all their work at Al Quaal; the trees that were cut down were a hazard and had to be removed.

Councilman Tall advised the Central Dispatch Policy Board and the Housing Authority meetings were cancelled; and complimented Jon Kangas and Jay Wilder for their work at Al Quaal.

Mayor Tonkin attended the DDA, Lake Bancroft Area Development Committee, and Inspiration Zone meetings; commended Jon Kangas and Jay Wilder for all their work at Al Quaal; stated the trees that were cut down were in very bad shape and were a danger to citizens utilizing that area; and, suggested perhaps planting a couple new trees to replace the trees that were removed.

Jon Kangas reported the trees were removed due to their poor condition and for safety of the public utilizing the park. The park entrance was closed to prevent anyone from getting hurt during the removal.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Slown congratulated the Ishpeming Historical Society for receiving the Peter White award; announced the MSU Sustainable Built Environment grant through the Iron Ore Heritage Trail was received; the Veteran's Memorial would be visiting Ishpeming this year; the VFW was proposing to construct a veteran's memorial at Lake Bancroft Park; and congratulated the Fire Department and DPW on the ISO rating being dropped from a 6 to a 5.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Hoff reported staff was making progress with updating City policies and procedures; complimented Jon Kangas on his testimony at a recent court hearing; and was very happy and proud to be working for the City of Ishpeming.

CLOSED SESSION

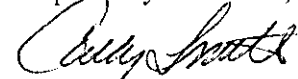
A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest and supported by Councilman Koski to go into closed session to consider the purchase of real property pursuant to MCL 15.268(d) at 8:30 p.m. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Demarest, Juidici, Koski, and Tall (5). Nays: None (0). Motion carried.

Returned to opened session at 8:41 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:41 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith

Recording Secretary