

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 in the Council Chambers at Ishpeming City Hall. Mayor Mike Tonkin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Tonkin, Council Members Claudia Demarest, Joseph Juidici, and Mike Tall (4). Absent: Council Member Koski. Also present were City Manager Mark Slown and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

A motion was made by Councilman Tall, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to excuse Councilman Justin Koski from the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael L. Klein, 175 Kivela Road, Negaunee, advised he was currently the Marquette County Undersheriff but was running for Sheriff. He gave a brief history of himself and highlighted past experience noting his career had begun in the Ishpeming Police Department. He would continue to work with and keep the great existing relationship between the City and the Sheriff's Department.

Eugene Bilkey, 1818 Prairie Avenue, expressed concern over making a left hand turn at the intersection of Hickory and U.S. 41 and questioned if MDOT could be encouraged to install and traffic signal at that location.

Elaine Racine, Third Street, commended and thanked Mr. Slown on all his work and dedication to the City of Ishpeming and always having an open door to all the citizens of the City.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was by Councilman Juidici and supported by Mayor Tonkin to remove Item #18 Duties and Responsibilities of the City Manager from the agenda. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Juidici and Tall. Nays: Councilwoman Demarest. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Demarest questioned why item #18 was removed; it was clarified since the whole Council was not present; she also questioned the numbering of the agenda items in the Manager's Report as they did not coincide with the agenda numbers.

Item #20, Finance Director Employment Agreement was also removed from the agenda.

AGENDA COMMENT

Jim Lampman provided a brief overview of the financial statements for the period ending May 31, 2016; he advised the Facilities Improvement Project was wrapping up and the final draw from the Rural Development Loan would be requested soon; and, he had met with Department Heads and would present budget amendments at the July meeting.

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 (May 4th, 12th, 23rd and June 2nd)
- (b) Approval of Disbursements
- (c) Monthly Financial Statements
- (d) Services Agreement with MSU – Sustainable Built Environment Grant
- (e) Reappoint Jim Lampman to a three year term on the Building Authority
- (f) Request for Payment for Jasper Street Sanitary Sewer Repair – Associated Constructors
- (g) Declare Library books and other miscellaneous items as surplus
- (h) Special Event Applications
 - (i) Ahmed Temple – Shrine Parade - August 6th
 - (ii) Negaunee Lions Club – Teal Lake Paddle, July 2nd

- (iii) Festival of Treasures – July 1st
- (iv) Summer Concert Series/Farmers Market
- (i) Request for Street Closures and Temporary Liquor License
 - (i) Rainbow Bar
 - (ii) Cognition Brewing Company
 - (iii) Brogies Tavern
 - (iv) Venice Pub
 - (v) Jack's Teepee Bar

Councilwoman Demarest advised there were approximately 17 closed session minutes that still needed approval and questioned when they would be on the agenda; it was noted they would be on the next Council agenda.

UPDATE FROM DOMINIC BERTUCCI, ISHPEMING HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Dominic Bertucci, Youth in Government Governor, highlighted his experiences as the Youth Governor; was very grateful and thankful for all his experiences during the year and thanked the City Council for having him provide an update; and he also thanked the community and the High School for their unprecedented support.

PROCLAMATION – DESIGNATE MONTH OF JUNE AS “RELAY FOR LIFE MONTH”

Mr. Slown read the proclamation for the American Cancer Society to designate the month of June as “Relay for Life Month”.

RESOLUTION 2016-9 TO ACCEPT NEZ CERTIFICATE APPLICATION-1052 HIGHLAND DRIVE

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2016-9 – Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of Application for Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Certificate for 1052 Highland Drive.

APPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME CITY CLERK

Mr. Slown recommended appointment of Tammie Leece, part-time Assistant Clerk to the position of part-time City Clerk.

Councilwoman Demarest questioned the motion made at a May 3, 1989 Council meeting stating the all job openings be advertised three times prior to hiring. She further felt the City was not giving the public equal opportunity by not advertising for these positions because others may have interest in applying.

Ms. Hoff stated the City Manager was responsible for administrative decisions and staffing, Council hires the City Attorney and City Manager; she further discussed development of a personnel policy versus employment agreements for staff; and noted with the limited staff and the many goals for the City, staff continues to work hard on all project to accomplish goals.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici and supported by Councilman Tall to concur with Mr. Slown's recommendation and appoint Tammie Leece as part-time City Clerk. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Juidici and Tall (3). Nays: Councilwoman Demarest (1). Motion passed.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT – CLERICAL CHAPTER OF LOCAL 1282

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve the Letter of Agreement regarding part time seasonal workers with the Clerical Chapter of Local 1282.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT – DPW CHAPTER OF LOCAL 1282

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the Letter of Agreement regarding part time seasonal workers with the DPW Chapter of Local 1282.

ADOPT NEW INTERNET USE POLICY

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to adopt the new Internet Use Policy as written.

WELLS FARGO ACCOUNT CLOSURES

A motion was made by Councilman Tall, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to authorize the Finance Director to close the Cemetery Care Account at Wells Fargo, and move the funds to one of the City's pre-approved depositories.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to allow the Finance Director to close the two Wells Fargo accounts as part of the City's pooled cash and move the fund into the City's pooled cash saving account at mBank.

PUCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR ISHPEMING HILLS BOOSTER STATION

Mr. Slown advised the Ishpeming Hills Booster Station was located on property owned by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dellangelo. Rural Development required the City own this piece of property with the booster station for the Water Improvement project. After discussions with Robert Dellangelo, he agreed to sell the property to the City for one dollar.

Everyone thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dellangelo for their donation of this property; and, it was suggested that a thank you letter be sent.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to accept the warranty deed from Country Village Highlands, LLC in the amount of one dollar.

VACATION OF ALLY WEST OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

A motion was made by Councilman Tall, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to begin the process to vacate the alley west of St. Vincent DePaul and require that two marked handicapped spaces be provided in the existing parking lot.

REVIEW AND COMMENT OF CITY OF NEGAUNEE MASTER PLAN

A motion was made by Councilman Tall, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to post pone review and comment until the July meeting.

CLOSE A PORTION OF WALNUT STREET FOR GATEWAY SIGN

Mr. Slown explained the proposal was to close a portion of Maple Street on the North side of U.S. 41 for the gateway sign.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to schedule a public hearing at the July 6, 2016 meeting to take comments on the proposed closure.

LAKE BANCROFT PARK – PARTRIDGE CREEK FARM RAISED GARDEN BED PROJECT

LAKE BANCROFT PARK – VETERANS MONUMENT PROPOSAL

Mr. Slown explained these two items were tabled at the last meeting until after the charrette with Michigan State University.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest and supported by Councilman Juidici to table both of these items until the report was received from Michigan State University for the Sustainable Built Environment grant. Ayes: Council Members Demarest, Juidici, and Tall (3). Nays: Mayor Tonkin (1). Motion passed.

Mayor Tonkin expressed concern over holding off on these projects since people were ready to proceed and willing to put time, effort, and dollars into the development; he did not feel the location of these projects would affect the potential layout for alternatives for the park.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Tall was pleased to begin the process for the vacation of the alley west of St. Vincent DePaul.

Councilman Juidici asked staff to research the development of a policy for food trucks in the City.

Mr. Slown explained there were additional alternatives available for the Malton Road Non-Motorized Trail project. Mark Stoor, GEI Consultants, further described the proposal to pave the trail versus using the limestone surface. The estimate received from Associated Constructors for the surface change was approximately \$13,000 over the original amount, however, since the sub-base material was very good, the paving of the 8 foot wide trail would instead be approximately \$5,000 over the original budget. This would be a cost savings in the long-term by the reduced maintenance cost to DPW. This would require a budget amendment and that amendment would be included in the mid-year budget adjustments to be presented in July.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve the additional \$5,000 and authorize GEI Consultants to proceed with the paving of the trail.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Juidici complimented the DPW staff on all their hard work in preparing the Cemetery for Memorial Day; a lot of people commented on how good the cemetery looked.

Councilwoman Demarest attended the Library Board, Downtown Development Authority, and Lake Bancroft Area Development Committee meetings. She was disappointed on how item 18 was worded on the agenda as it involved her letter dated May 31, 2016 requesting City Manager Slown's resignation. She felt Mr. Slown has violated the City Charter, violated City Ordinances, had not kept confidential information confidential, and has missed deadlines. She further talked about transparency in government which promoted accountability and provided information for citizens about what government was doing. She said when an employee in a managing position continually makes mistakes elected officials were obligated to let the public know, and further felt it was not good for the City as a whole to retain this employee. She had 21 items listed and would provide copies to anyone.

Councilman Tall thanked the staff for getting the cemetery in such great shape for Memorial Day; attended the Housing Commission and Central Dispatch meetings; and he felt Mr. Slown was great with public relations and has done a wonderful job to promote the City of Ishpeming, everyone he talked to commented on how town was different, it was changing, and it was getting better; he did not agree with the chastising.

Mayor Tonkin attended the Lake Bancroft charrette and several other meetings. He also commented on Mr. Slown. He saw the City moving forward and would like to continue to see progress. He did not want progress to stagnate. He felt employees need to be allowed to do their jobs and if they drop the ball on occasion, Council would then help them to get back on track. The City had a manager system to allow consistency and efficiency for staff. Mr. Slown has had a very positive impact on the City and it was starting to show.

Councilman Juidici felt the City's infrastructure had taken great steps and the majority of that had to do with Mr. Slown applying for Rural Development loans and various grants. The City was moving forward, everyone makes mistakes, but we have come a long way and wanted to continue to see the forward movement.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Slown stated he was humbled and thankful for the support he had received and pledged to continue doing his very best for the City.

Mr. Kangas reported the intersection of Hickory and U.S. 41 should be resolved within the next week or two.

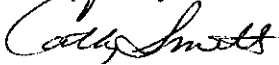
ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Hoff welcomed everyone to the new Council Chambers, thanked Council, staff, and citizens of Ishpeming for all the accomplishments made and was very proud of all the accomplishments; no one was perfect but staff continues to work hard to accomplish goals; and she thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dellangelo for the donation of the property for the water improvement project.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:55 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary