

The Regular Meeting of the Ishpeming City Council was held on Wednesday, August 3, 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, Justin Koski, and Mike Tall (5). Also present were City Manager Mark Slown and City Attorney Bonnie Hoff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alexander Alspach, 331 S. First Street, requested information regarding how to participate on Council; he would like to make Ishpeming a better place and questioned how to become a Council Member.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

AGENDA COMMENT

Jim Lampman provided a brief overview of the financial statements for the period ending July 31, 2016; he also advised the Deficit Plan had been submitted to the Department of Treasury, however they had requested some revisions to the Plan and he would discuss this under Old Business; he reported several delinquent accounts had been paid since the new Utility Billing and Payment Policy was implemented; and auto-pay had successfully been set up and staff would like to begin providing it to customers on September 1, 2016.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to implement auto-pay for utility bills beginning on September 1, 2016.

Carr Baldwin requested, on behalf of NORTHIRON Church, that the City provide a letter to the Church if the City was no longer interested in the NE corner of their property for the Gateway Sign.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meetings (July 6th)
- (b) Approval of Disbursements
- (c) Monthly Financial Statements
- (d) Special Event Applications
 - (i) Marquette County Labor Council: Labor Day Festivities – September 5th
- (e) CUPPAD Membership Dues for 2017
- (f) UP Travel and Recreation Association Investment Allocation Support
- (g) Declare library books surplus property

THANK YOU TO THE INSPIRATION ZONE MEMBERS

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Tall and carried unanimously to approve the thank you letter to the members of the Inspiration Zone as presented.

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE A PORTION OF WALNUT STREET FOR GATEWAY SIGN

Discussion took place regarding conversations with Mr. Gravedoni, the water and sewer lines in that area, and the pros and cons of eliminating access to US 41 at that location. Mr. Slown reported MDOT had agreed to pay for half the cost of the work to close that portion of the road leaving an approximate cost of \$7,500 for the City.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the closure of the portion of Walnut Street for the west bound Gateway Sign. Ayes: Mayor Tonkin, Council Members Demarest, Juidici, and Koski (4). Nays: Council Member Tall (1). Motion carried.

CONFIRM VACATION OF ALLEY ON WEST SIDE OF ST. VINCENT dePAUL BUILDING

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to confirm the vacation of the alley on the west side of the St. Vincent dePaul building.

JASPER STREET SEWER REPAIR – ASSOCIATED CONSTRUCTORS
CHANGE ORDER #2 AND FINAL PAY REQUEST

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve Change Order #2 for a reduction of \$4,695.13 for the project and to approve the final payment request in the amount of \$99,462.23.

MMRMA PARTICIPATION CONTRIBUTION – STOP LOSS COVERAGE RATE

Mr. Slown explained the two quotes received from MMRMA for the 2016-2017 renewal regarding the stop loss coverage rates.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the Stop Loss Program Participation Agreement for \$150,000 with the lower annual rate and authorize the Manager or the Mayor to sign.

RESOLUTION 2016-11 ACCEPT APPLICATION FOR NEZ CERTIFICATE: 1052 HIGHLAND DRIVE

Mr. Slown explained this was a revised resolution for the NEZ Certificate for the property because the building permit was taken out before the NEZ application was submitted, and per Public Act 147 of 1992 the City can allow an application to be submitted within 6 months of issuance of a building permit; however, the resolution must state that.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2016-11 acknowledging receipt of application for NEZ Certificate for 1052 Highland Drive.

CHANGE TITLE VI COORDINATOR DESIGNEE

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the change in language of the Title VI Coordinator in the Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan from Jon Kangas, Interim City Manager to City Manager.

MALTON ROAD TRAIL EXTENSION – RAMBA

Mr. Slown explained RAMBA had agreed to build a short trail extension of their single track along the bluff down to the end of the new paved trail.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the trail extension as proposed by staff and RAMBA.

2017 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PLAN

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the 2017 Capital Improvement Project Plan as presented.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Mr. Slown explained with the budgetary problems due to the bond schedule for the DDA, the DDA decided to revise their bylaw regarding the number of meetings held per year to save on administrative costs.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to approve the DDA Bylaws amendment to hold meetings a minimum of six times per year beginning in January 2017 versus once a month.

RECOMMENDATION FOR BANNING/RESTRICTING SMOKING IN CITY PARKS

Ms. Hoff explained the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission was to make all Parks smoke and tobacco free and she further reviewed her memo which summarized options for banning or restricting smoking in public parks. She advised the proposed ordinance could completely ban smoking or just restrict smoking to certain areas. She suggested a Committee of two be established to discuss options.

It was the consensus of Council to establish a subcommittee consisting of Councilman Juidici and Councilman Koski to discuss development of an ordinance.

STRIKE UNCOLLECTABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR 2005-2010

Kaitlyn Feldbauer, Treasurer, explained the Personal Property Taxes for 2005-2010 needed to be struck from the records as uncollectable pursuant to the General Property Tax Act, Act 206 of 1893.

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to strike the 2005-2010 uncollectable personal property taxes from the records.

Ms. Hoff further explained for the 2005-2010 personal property taxes to be struck from the record, she would need to file a motion in Circuit Court, get a hearing date, and appear before the Judge to have the personal property taxes struck.

CUPPAD CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE

A motion was made by Councilman Koski, supported by Councilwoman Demarest and carried unanimously to approve the CUPPAD contract extension for the update of the Zoning Ordinance with a new amount of \$7,000.

CITY HALL TOWER ACCESS, CLEANUP, AND REPAIRS

Mr. Slown explained the tower at City Hall was in need of clean-up due to birds getting into the tower, and was also in need of repairs.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Juidici and carried unanimously to request bids for the clean-up as soon as possible, with repairs to be made after the clean-up.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Lampman explained revisions had to be made to the Deficit Elimination Plan which were requested by the Department of Treasury. He would like to receive input from the City Manager, DPW Director, and City Attorney before the Plan was submitted back to Treasury. If the Plan changed in any way, it would be returned to Council.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the revised Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution pending review and approval of the City Manager, DPW Director, and City Attorney and then resubmit the Plan to the State of Michigan Treasury Department.

Councilman Tall reported individuals from the company that constructed the windmill would be up in the area for a meeting at the end of August.

Councilwoman Demarest asked if anything could be done with the sidewalk near the City Hall entrance.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion took place on the letter received from Karen Champion regarding the Ishpeming Cemetery and what she referred to as an invasive weed growing throughout the cemetery. It was the consensus of Council to have the Cemetery Board explore options and confer with Linda Andriacchi.

Mr. Kangas explained an additional request had been received from the Shriner's to have no parking signs along the parade route for Saturday, August 6th.

A motion was made by Councilman Juidici, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to approve the overtime for the DPW to place no parking signs on the parade route for Saturday.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Tall advised he attend the Central Dispatch Policy Board meeting and they were holding off on finding a new location; and also attended the Housing Commission meeting where discussion took place on their smoking ban at the facility.

Councilwoman Demarest attended the DDA meeting and there was no Library Board meeting or Lake Bancroft Area Development Committee meetings in July.

Councilman Juidici attended the Cemetery Board meeting, the Food Truck Ordinance Committee meeting, and also met with Councilman Koski to develop a new form for the Manager's upcoming evaluation.

Councilman Koski reported the roundabout project was proceeding well, reminded everyone not to turn left when at the roundabout and that the vehicles in the roundabout had the right-of-way; he asked everyone to be patient because it would work very well when the project was complete.

Mayor Tonkin attended the Neighborhood Improvement Committee, Planning Commission, and DDA meetings; and, reported the Inspiration Zone sidewalk project was proceeding very well.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Slown reported Tammie Leece ran the election and it went well, Michigan State University Sustainable Built Environment report would be presented on August 31st at 7:00 with a location to be determined; and Michigan Works would be holding a job fair on August 9th at their office in Marquette.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Ms. Hoff explained she had been working with Al Pierce and Mark Stoor on the Water Improvement Project; Jim Lampman and Kaitlyn Feldbauer were doing a wonderful job in their department and should be commended; and she felt any of the three candidates running for Sheriff would have been good in the position.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:40 p.m., a motion was made by Councilwoman Demarest, supported by Councilman Koski and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cathy Smith
Recording Secretary