

City of Iron Mountain

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Regular Meeting of the City Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 6:33 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Rosen

Present: Council Members List, Moraska, Alessandrini, Revord, Villa & Zolner

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina & City Attorney Pirkola

Approval of Agenda

Rosen requested that "Approval of Purchase Re: Vactor Rodder Pump Purchase" be added as item number six under New Business.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Villa to approve the agenda, as amended.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2014

Rosen conveyed the opinion that his comments regarding the procedure of amending meeting minutes was omitted. He suggested that meeting minutes, which require alterations, not be approved until an amended copy of the minutes is resubmitted to the City Council.

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Moraska to amend the City Council's policy to require that amended meeting minutes be presented to the City Council prior to approval.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Pirkola confirmed that he had relayed that appointing Blomquist to the Planning Commission was not a conflict of interest.

It was moved by Villa and supported by Alessandrini to amend the minutes of February 17, 2014, to include Mayor Rosen's comments regarding the approval of amended minutes and the resubmission of the minutes of February 3, 2014, at the next regular City Council meeting.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

Dean Lefebvre – 141 Northview Drive

He expressed his concern about the City's increased liability due to the construction, maintenance and management of a skateboard park. Lefebvre questioned the fairness of providing a high risk venue to an organization that is in its infancy, at no additional cost. Stanchina indicated that the City purchases an insurance policy that insures every City facility. Pirkola noted that a defect in a facility is the primary liability concern for the City. Villa stressed that the construction of a skateboard park was included in the initial City Park Improvement Project plans.

Virginia Feleppa – 1136 Crystal Lake Boulevard

She thanked the Department of Public Works for their efforts. Feleppa highlighted the importance of emergency preparedness. Stanchina imparted that the Fire Department is made aware of frozen water mains and that this year's frost levels were extraordinarily deep.

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Tracy Ries – 1616 South Park Avenue

She voiced the opinion that it would be preferable to not invest in the construction of a skateboard park due to the narrow range of users, increased liability and altered park ambiance. Rosen asserted his support for the construction of a skateboard park.

Old Business

Introduce and Establish a Public Hearing Re: Trailer Ordinance

Stanchina presented the proposed Trailer Ordinance. Pirkola added the following language: "utility and construction trailers may be parked for a longer period when used in conjunction with a valid building permit at that premises".

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Rosen to establish a public hearing for the proposed trailer ordinance on March 17, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Audit Services Re: FYE 2014 and 2015

Stanchina recommended that Schenck be award the FYE 2014 and 2015 City audits at a total cost of \$30,350. He explained that Schenck was not the low bidder, but that their proposal offered additional services that the low bidder did not.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Villa to award the FYE 2014 and FYE 2015 audit services to Schenck at a cost of \$30,350.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

New Business

Approval of Cost Sharing Agreement Re: Hydraulic Falls Rd. / Powder Lake Rd.

Stanchina detailed the cost sharing agreement between the City of Iron Mountain and Dickinson County to repave Hydraulic Falls Road from the railroad tracks to the Breitung Cutoff Road at a cost to the City of \$29,743.30. He reported that the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$225,438 and that Small Urban Program funds would be utilized on an 80/20 split basis between Small Urban and local funds.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by List to approve the cost sharing agreement regarding Hydraulic Falls Road and Powder Lake Road, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Contribution Toward Flowers Re: Northwoods Garden Club

Stanchina informed the City Council that the Northwoods Garden Club did not request reimbursement for the maximum donation of \$500 last year.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Villa to contribute up to \$500 to the Northwoods Garden Club to purchase supplies from vendors within the City Limits.

Rosen	Aye
List	Aye
Moraska	Aye
Alessandrini	Abstain
Revord	Aye
Villa	Aye
Zolner	Aye

Motion Prevailed (Aye-6, Nay-0, Abstain-1)

Board of Review Appointment Re: Ms. Theresa Guiliani

Stanchina relayed that Guiliani had expressed an interest in renewing her position on the Board of Review.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to reappoint Ms. Theresa Guiliani to the Board of Review for a three year term to expire on January 1, 2017.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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IM Housing Commission Appointment Re: Mr. Walter Lakari

Stanchina conveyed that Lakari expressed an interest in renewing his position on the Iron Mountain Housing Commission.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to appoint Mr. Walter Lakari to the Iron Mountain Housing Commission for a four year term to expire on January 9, 2018.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Purchase Re: Vactor Rodder Pump Purchase

Stanchina noted that a rodder pump had to be replaced on the vactor truck. He indicated that despite the new vactor truck arriving in several weeks, the repair was necessary given the current weather conditions.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Alessandrini to approve the purchase of a vactor rodder pump from Jack Doheny Supplies in the amount of \$9,564.38.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Discussion of Skateboard Park in City Park

Rosen communicated the opinion that area youth that wish to participate in skateboarding do not have a facility available. He stated that each aspect of the City Park Improvement Project was given points within the grant submission process and that there is significant community interest in this project. Alessandrini imparted the opinion that it is not appropriate to stereotype all skateboarders based on the actions of a few that choose to act maliciously. He suggested that some of the damage they cause is due to the lack of an appropriate facility to practice their hobby. Alessandrini commended Lefebvre for his organizations efficiency.

Dean Lefebvre – 141 Northview Drive

He stressed the importance of establishing a skateboard park correctly.

Moraska asserted that many citizens who utilize the deer pen and walking trails donated their time toward the completion of the City Park Improvement Project. Alessandrini clarified that he intended to refer to organizations who donated their time corporately when he was speaking of those who donated their resources, not those who donated their time on an individual basis. Moraska relayed that walkers and deer observers do not tend to have an organizational structure.

List communicated her concern that skateboarders have been known to cause more property damage than other sports enthusiast while engaging in activities. She highlighted the importance of regulating skateboard parks. Rosen questioned the effectiveness of the Kingsford skateboard park and whether or not the vandalizing of the facility was skateboarder related. List and Moraska explained their concern for the skateboarders' propensity to engage in malicious activity. Zolner voiced the opinion that signage at a potential skateboard park is inadequate and that supervision would be optimal. Villa noted that the overall concept of the City Park Improvement Project was to provide an activity for everyone. Zolner imparted that an alternate location for the skate park would be preferable. Rosen reiterated that funds are not available for an alternate location. Revord conveyed that education, supervision and a proper facility are important factors in creating a successful skateboard park.

Jackie Rosen – 1307 South Hemlock Street

She agreed with Revord that supervision is an important facet to establishing a successful skateboard park. Ms. Rosen indicated that maintenance will always be required, regardless of the amenity that is developed.

Rosen echoed the need for supervision and education. Stanchina explained that the skateboard park was deferred to the end of list of improvements in the hope that extra funding would be available. He stated that the skateboard park was revisited due to an unexpected decrease in funding to complete the project.

Gene Cudnohufsky – N4955 Bass Lake Road

He communicated the opinion that with organization and supervision a skateboard park could be successful.

Rosen relayed that it is critical for those who utilize the skateboard park to take part in its creation and police themselves.

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Lefebvre asserted that the skateboarders should provide the required matching funds in order to receive the grant money. Rosen confirmed that the Friends of City Park's primary mission is to provide for the maintenance of City Park, not to build at City Park. Lefebvre rejected the notion that the skateboard park should be completed just because it was in the original plan as there were several other items from the original plan that will not be able to be completed.

William Toedter – 631 East C Street

He urged the City Council to consider the importance of supervising a skateboard park. Toedter questioned how much the City's insurance would be increased due to the creation of a skateboard park.

Reports

Financial Reports

None

City Manager Reports

Water Service Freeze Ups

Stanchina reported on the status of water service freeze ups throughout the City. He informed the City Council that the DPW Supervisor is preparing for the possible challenges that could be associated with the upcoming thaw. Stanchina detailed the process of calculating the water usage and cost of a water let run.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Council Member Privilege

Alessandrini suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Department of Public Works for their efforts. Moraska echoed Alessandrini's sentiments. The City Council discussed sending a letter of appreciation to the City Hall and Department of Public Works staff for their efforts during the recent freeze ups.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Rosen to send a letter of appreciation from the City Council and the citizens of the City of Iron Mountain to the City staff who worked on water thawing and the Department of Public Works.


Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Adjournment

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to adjourn.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.


Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer