

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, April 7, 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

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2014

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to approve the minutes of March 17, 2014, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Consideration of Ballot Proposal Re: School Liaison Officer Millage

Stanchina detailed the proposed language for the renewal of the School Liaison Officer millage. He noted that the Iron Mountain Public Schools can no longer afford the position and that they are requesting that the City present the voters with a ballot proposal to increase the maximum levy and fully fund the School Liaison Officer position. Rosen voiced his objection to increasing taxes. Alessandrini, List, Revord and Villa conveyed the opinion that the voters should decide if they want to increase their taxes. Zolner disapproved of the City being asked to propose a millage for the entire cost of the School Liaison Officer. Moraska relayed that he does not support increasing taxes or representing the issue a second time after it has already been presented once. Rosen and Alessandrini debated the City's current level of taxation. Villa, Alessandrini and Zolner stressed that they would not vote to represent the School Liaison Officer Millage if it did not pass the first time. Moraska raised the concern that the proposed ballot language does not adequately convey that the School Liaison Officer only works in the school for an equivalent of six months of the year while the millage is funding a whole year. *Villa expressed the opinion that the school utilizes the liaison officer for nine months of the year.*

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Revord to approve the proposed ballot language for the renewal of the School Liaison Officer Millage.

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

Motion Prevailed (Aye-4, Nay-3, Abstain-0)

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Authorization to Solicit Bids Re: Skate Park

Stanchina imparted that approximately \$35,000 is available for the completion of a skateboard park. He explained that soliciting bids where each piece of equipment is priced individually would allow the City to ensure the project fits within the budget. Stanchina confirmed that a 120 day price guarantee could be included in the bid. The Council discussed the available project budget and ways to reduce the overall cost. Zolner and Moraska questioned the adequacy of the skateboard park that could be built within the available budget. Rosen stressed that additional equipment can be added to the skateboard park in the future.

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Villa to authorize the solicitation of bids for the development of a skateboard park, as presented.

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

Motion Prevailed (Aye-5, Nay-2, Abstain-0)

Consideration of Parade Route and Contribution Re; 4th of July Parade

Stanchina presented a request from the Americans for Constitutional Enforcement (A.C.E.) to authorize the 4th of July Parade route and a donation of \$250 toward the purchase of liability insurance. Alessandrini requested that A.C.E. inform the City of the revenue generated by the 4th of July Parade prior to approval. Revord and Rosen supported the donation toward liability insurance for the 4th of July Parade.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Villa to approve the 4th of July Parade route and a \$250 donation for liability insurance, as submitted.

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

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

Authorization to Purchase Re: Differential for Truck #83

Stanchina asked that the Council approve the purchase of a differential for Truck #83 at a cost of \$6,850.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Revord to authorize the purchase of a differential for Truck #83 in an amount not to exceed \$6,850.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Agreement Re: New Qualified Voter File (QVF) Computer

Stanchina detailed the agreement for a new Qualified Voter File (QVF) computer. He communicated that the computer will be provided to the City, by the State, at no charge.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to approve the grant agreement between the Michigan Department of State and the City of Iron Mountain concerning the procurement of a new QVF computer, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

No Charge Use of City Park Pavilion Re: DIISD Head Start Picnic

Stanchina presented a requested by the Dickinson Iron Intermediate School District (DIISD) to use the City Park Pavilion at no charge for an end of the year Head Start Picnic on May 22, 2014.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by List to approve the no charge use of the City Park Pavilion by the DIISD on May 22, 2014.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Consideration of Resolution Re: Opposition to HB 5097

Stanchina highlighted the potential effects of HB 5097 passing. He objected to House Bill (HB) 5097 due to reduced bargaining leverage and the creation of inequality among bargaining units. He clarified that voting yes on the resolution would be a vote against exempting Police and Firemen from Public Act 54 of 2011. Revord and Alessandrini imparted that they are opposed to the inequality HB 5097 would create. Alessandrini expressed the opinion that employees are not afforded the ability to negotiate on a fair basis due to Public Act 54 of 2011. It was moved by Moraska and supported by Rosen to approve the resolution opposing House Bill 5097 with the inclusion of a clause noting the inequality it would create.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Contribution Re: IM-K Community Schools

Rosen raised the concern that this item should be addressed within the budget process. He asked that this item be tabled due to the need for a policy clarification. List questioned the rationale behind soliciting donations only from Breitung Township, Iron Mountain and Kingsford when residents from other municipalities utilize the program at the same rate. Stanchina communicated that it would be more expensive for the City to offer its own Parks and Recreation Program. Rosen expressed the desire to address organizational donation requests on a more impartial basis. Moraska supported offering activities for children.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Revord to approve a contribution to the Iron Mountain – Kingsford Community Schools for the Summer Recreation Program in the amount of \$3,000.

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

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

Reports

Financial Reports

None

City Manager Reports

Water Service Freeze Ups

Stanchina reported that there have been no additional freeze ups since the last report and that 300 of the 575 water let runs were initiated due to a freeze up.

Additional Winter Maintenance Funding

Stanchina noted that the City received an additional \$41,000 toward winter maintenance from the State.

Stanchina outlined a spreadsheet that was prepared by the City of Kingsford that tracks the weather variations over several of the coldest years.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee

Villa conveyed that the Parks and Recreation Committee met to review playground equipment options. Stanchina reported on a recent meeting between the YMCA, Dickinson County and the City regarding the YMCA's expansion plans.

Public Comment

Dave Irwin – 521 Section Street (Norway, MI)

As a school of choice parent, he voiced his appreciation for the City Council placing the School Liaison question on the ballot. Irwin stressed the importance of having a School Liaison Officer.

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Council Member Privilege

Stanchina clarified that the Dickinson County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee is considering the acceptance of construction waste at the Niagara Development Type III Landfill.

Stanchina relayed that Keweenaw Lands has agreed to allow hunting on their property through the upcoming Deer Management Program.

Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer