

City of Iron Mountain

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Regular Meeting of the City Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Alessandrini

Present: Council Members Coe, List, Moraska, Revord & Zolner

Absent: Council Member Villa

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina and City Attorney Pirkola.

Approval of Agenda

Alessandrini requested that "Discussion of Tax Penalty" and "Approval of Street Closure Re: East Hughitt Street" be added as items three and four under New Business, respectively.

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2014

It was moved by Moraska and supported by List to approve the minutes of August 18, 2014, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

None

Public Hearing

Public Hearing for Sale of City-Owned Real Estate Re: Bill Neuens Enterprises

Alessandrini opened the Public Hearing.

No comments were received.

Alessandrini closed the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing for Sale of City-Owned Real Estate Re: Krist Oil

Alessandrini opened the Public Hearing.

No comments were received.

Alessandrini closed the Public Hearing.

Old Business

Authorization to Sell City-Owned Property Re: Bill Neuens Enterprises

Stanchina highlighted the proposed purchase agreement between Bill Neuens Enterprises and the City of Iron Mountain regarding the purchase of the former Zephyr Station located at 1212 S. Stephenson Avenue.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Revord to authorize the City Manager to sell the City-owned property at 1212 S. Stephenson Avenue to Bill Neuens Enterprises.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Authorization to Sell City-Owned Property Re: Krist Oil

Stanchina detailed the proposed purchased agreement between Krist Oil and the City of Iron Mountain regarding the purchase of property located between the Department of Public Works Facility, 125 N. Stephenson Avenue, and the Krist Station, 205 N. Stephenson Ave.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Alessandrini to authorize the City Manager to sell the City-owned property located adjacent to 205 N. Stephenson Avenue to Krist Oil, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Special Use Permit Re: Mount Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church

Stanchina informed the Council that approving a variance does not eliminate the applicable site development standards. He clarified that an extension of the Special Use Permit would be addressed by the board making recommendations to the City Council.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Revord to approve the Special Use Permit regarding Mount Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

New Business

Authorization to Purchase Pumps and Controls Re: Crystal Lake Blvd. Lift Station

Stanchina requested approval to purchase two replacement pumps for the Crystal Lake Boulevard Lift Station at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. Stanchina advised that he would contact the applicable local firms regarding this purchase.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by List to approve the purchase of two replacement pumps for the Crystal Lake Boulevard Lift Station at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Discussion of Provisional Centers

Stanchina highlighted the proposed State of Michigan legislation regarding the regulation of medical marijuana provisional centers. Alessandrini supported allowing provisional centers to be located within industrial areas. Pirkola expressed the opinion that distribution centers could not be restricted within residential districts. Revord conveyed that it would be ideal to restrict distribution centers from being established within residential neighborhoods. Stanchina asserted that zoning should be addressed while the State determines licensing regulations. Moraska relayed that provisional centers should be required to be a certain distance from all residential areas. Coe suggested regulating the number of provisional centers through licensing.

Discussion of Tax Penalty

Alessandrini imparted that the penalty for the late payment of taxes may be severe given the level of tardiness. He advocated for a graduated penalty system. Stanchina stressed the importance of the City receiving Summer Tax revenue promptly due to cash flow requirements. Pirkola and Stanchina relayed that the distribution of interest and penalty differ. Alessandrini noted that the current one-time penalty of 4% does not incentivize the payment of taxes once a fee is assessed. Stanchina conveyed the opinion that assessing monthly interest could cause greater harm to the individual requiring additional time to pay their tax bill. Moraska indicated his support for the current penalty structure.

Approval of Street Closure Re: East Hughitt Street

Stanchina detailed the street closure request by the Iron Mountain DDA/Main Street to close E. Hughitt Street from Stephenson Avenue to Iron Mountain Street between 6:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on September 27, 2014, for Harvest on Hughitt. He informed the Council that an Oktoberfest celebration is also being considered.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by List to close E. Hughitt Street from Stephenson Avenue to Iron Mountain Street between 6:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on September 27, 2014, for Harvest on Hughitt.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

None

City Manager Reports

Skate Park

Stanchina updated the City Council on the status of the skate park project. He imparted that an ordinance and trespassing regulations must be established. Alessandrini asserted the importance of including local youth in the skate park's construction.

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SAW Grant Update

Stanchina announced that the City will be receiving funds through the Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW) grant program to clean, televise and map the sewer system beginning this fall. He clarified that grant funds are not available to clean, televise and map the water system.

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Actuarial Report

Stanchina outlined the December 31, 2014, Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Actuarial Report. He noted that the City's OPEB liability has increased to \$28,584,934. Stanchina advised that the City is in good standing with its pay-as-you-go system and beginning next year will be required to report the OPEB liability annually.

MML Convention

Stanchina invited the City Council Members to attend the upcoming convention in Marquette, MI. Alessandrini, Zolner and Coe expressed an interest in attending the event.

It was moved by Revord and supported by List to approve the cost of food, lodging and registration for Council Members Alessandrini, Zolner and Coe to attend the 2014 MML Convention in Marquette, MI.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

2014 Paving Program

Stanchina announced that preparations are being made for the 2014 Paving Program and that the compost area will be included. He indicated that the compost area will be closed for several days while maintenance takes place.

Stanchina relayed that the franchise agreement between the City and Charter Cable needs to be renewed. He imparted that he would be researching the renewal process.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Stanchina noted the upcoming Labor Relations Committee Meeting.

Public Comment

Krist Atanasoff – Owner of Krist Oil

Atanasoff requested additional information concerning the next phase of the land purchase process. Stanchina conveyed that he would contact him with further details.

Council Member Privilege

Alessandrini thanked the high school students for attending the City Council Meeting.

Coe outlined the progress that has been made concerning the fencing off of the soccer fields at City Park.


Moraska highlighted that security cameras are being installed at City Park.

Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.


Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer