

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, December 4, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Alessandrini

Present: Council Members Maule, List, Revord, Saldana & Blomquist

Absent: Council Member Zemar

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina

Approval of Agenda

Alessandrini asked that "Consideration of USDA Rural Development Grant Application" be added as item nine under New Business.

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 20, 2017

It was moved by Maule and supported by Revord to approve the minutes of November 20, 2017, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Approval of IM-K Rotary Club Request Re: Car Plunge Contest

Jayna Huotari, 1004 W. A St., Car Plunge Committee Co-Chair, relayed a request to hold the fourth annual Iron Mountain – Kingsford Rotary Club Car Plunge Contest. Alessandrini suggested that the City Council approve this event for a two-year period as to have the Council's approval coincide with the Iron Mountain – Kingsford Rotary Club's current Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) permit. Huotari explained the DEQ's permit renewal process. Revord voiced his support for this event.

It was moved by Revord and supported by Alessandrini to grant the Iron Mountain – Kingsford Rotary Club permission to use the East Chapin Pit to conduct their Chapin Pit Car Plunge Contest through the 2018/2019 winter season.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of General Fund Reserves

Stanchina detailed the General Fund reserves, as prepared by Chief Financial Officer Lieburn, totaling \$632,297.37 in non-spendable/restricted funds and \$2,813,101.10 in unrestricted/spendable funds, effective June 30, 2017

It was moved by List and supported by Blomquist to approve the General Fund Reserves effective June 30, 2017, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Amendment to City Policy 30d Re: Retiree Health Insurance Payment Collection

Stanchina presented an amendment to City Policy 30d addressing the automatic deduction for the payment of retiree health insurance premium contributions. He verified that the City could cover the fees assorted with automatic deduction from MERS pension payments.

It was moved by Blomquist and supported by Maule to approve the amendment to City Policy 30d, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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MERS Retiree Health Insurance Withholding

Stanchina conveyed that the Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS) will streamline the collection of health insurance premium contributions by providing the City with one electronic payment, including detailed remittance information, for all participants.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Maule to approve the Michigan Employees Retirement System Health Insurance Premium Deduction Service Agreement.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Change Meeting Time of Regular Council Meetings to 6:00 P.M.

Stanchina requested that regular City Council meetings be moved from 6:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. beginning at the next regular meeting in order to better accommodate everyone's schedules. He clarified that moving the meeting time would not conflict with the City Charter.

It was moved by Revord and supported by List to move the time of regular City Council meetings to 6:00 P.M.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Street Closure Re: Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting

Stanchina reviewed the street/parking lot closure request from DDA Director Paula Craven for the Christmas tree lighting, a walking parade and Santa appearance on December 15, 2017.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Blomquist to close Ludington Street beginning at the intersection of Stephenson Ave. and Ludington Street, eastward to the alley between the First Nation Bank & Trust and Wood's Sandstone buildings from 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., Ludington St., Iron Mountain St and a portion of Hughitt Street from 6:00 P.M. to 6:15 P.M. and the parking lot in front of the Downtown Stage from 6:15 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. on December 15, 2017

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Discussion of Tax Foreclosed Property Re: Parcel #051-101-536-00

Stanchina noted that a vacant parcel, number 051-101-536-00, did not sell in the tax foreclosure auction and that it will be deeded to the City if action is not taken to not accept the parcel.

No Action Taken

Adoption of Special Assessment Resolution

Stanchina imparted that Single-Lot Assessments for 413 W. Ludington St. in the amount of \$162.46, due to unpaid utility bills, and 119 W. C St. in the amount of \$30.00, due to delinquent rental registration fees, need to be approved. Maule questioned whether or not the ordinance could be amended to allow the Single-Lot Assessments to be approved sans Council review. Revord asserted that the current set up is cleaner.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Blomquist to adopt a special assessment for 413 W. Ludington St. in the amount of \$162.46 and 119 W. C St. in the amount of \$30.00.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Consideration of USDA Rural Development Grant Application

Stanchina recommended that the City submit a USDA Rural Development Grant Application for an emergency utility truck for use at the Fire Department in lieu of purchasing a police car. He communicated that there is not currently a need to purchase a new squad car and that the grant would be applicable to the purchase of the proposed pickup truck. Director of Police and Fire Services, Ed Mattson, indicated that the timing of this purchase is ideal. Stanchina stated that the proposed numbers will need to have delivery fees included and that this purchase is budgeted.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by List to authorize the submission of a UDSA Rural Development Grant for the purchase of an emergency utility truck for the Fire Department.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

None

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City Manager Reports

Deer Management

Stanchina reported that a total of 31 deer have been harvested so far and that the total is down due to weather and logging.

OPEB

Stanchina outlined the Other Post-Employment Benefits actuarial report. He highlighted that the City's unfunded retiree health insurance liability at the time of this report increased to \$34,106,325.

Alessandrini relayed his concern for the decreases in revenue due to tax tribunal decisions.

Stanchina conveyed that a portion of the City's water meters are slated to be replaced as time permits. He noted that replacements are staggered so that all the City's water meters will not be due for replacement at the same time in the future.

Maule, Alessandrini and Revord stated that they will be attending the Kiwanis Ski Club meeting regarding upgrades to the ski jump facility.

Alessandrini made the following committee appointments:

Operations and Management– Juan Saldana
Consolidated Services-Juan Saldana
Solid Waste Authority-Juan Saldana
Mountain View Board Liaison-Zemar

Stanchina imparted that the Finance Committee meetings should be moved to 5:30 P.M. given the new starting time of regular City Council meetings.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Alessandrini indicated that the Labor Relations Committee has been meeting.

Public Comment

None

Council Member Privilege

Blomquist and List welcomed Saldana to the City Council.

Revord asked if a solution has been found regarding the amount of time, expense and scheduling challenges due to mental health issues. Mattson asserted that no solution has been found at this time and that the responsibility to deal with these issues has fallen to the local jurisdictions. He confirmed that the Dickinson County Sheriff's office is willing to do transports on behalf of the City when they have part-time staff available. Mattson informed the City Council that this option could save the City a significant amount of money if the County could fill their part-time officer positions. He verified that the transports must be performed by an agency-sponsored police officer only. Revord questioned if the hospital will have trained security or facilities to deal with mental health issues once Bellin Health takes over. Mattson stressed that mental health issues have long been an issue and that there is no end in sight.

List expressed the need to hire more police officers. Revord asked that Mattson meet with the City Manager to discuss staffing levels

Alessandrini suggested that the City try to establish a meeting with the City of Kingsford to discuss consolidation efforts. Revord and Blomquist support the idea of savings through consolidation.

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Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Isaac P. Micheau". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I'.

Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer