

Regular Meeting of the Common Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, June 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room:

Presiding: Mayor Pro-Tem Rigoni  
Present: Council Members Burke, Caudell, Tchokreff, VanLaanen and Jacobs  
Excused: Mayor Tousignant  
Also Present: City Atty. Pirkola

The agenda was approved as submitted with the removal and addition of the following: **Agenda**

VI. New Business

- ~~4. Appointment of board member re: Planning Board~~
- 11. Approval of 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks permit

The minutes of the previous meeting of June 4, 2007, approved as submitted. **Minutes**

### Public Comment

Virginia Feleppa – 1136 Crystal Lake Blvd. – asked for an update on testing at Crystal Lake.

Robert Witter – 1116 Williamson St. – representing North Side CATV Corp., felt the 5% franchise fee is excessive. He asked why the maximum of 5% was chosen and no discretion used in setting the fee. He said it was an unfair amount to charge to their customers.

Dale Alessandrini – 1120 Iron Mountain St. – commented on lowering the tax millage 1/10<sup>th</sup> of mill but then implementing a 5% TV franchise fee. Also, he stated that the City Manager did not understand the Bolt decision and the Bolt decision could affect the City.

Carol Schneider – 405 W D St. – agreed with the Resolution of Appreciation for the Northwoods Garden Club but wondered why there was no Resolution of Appreciation for Ted Corombos, who served on the TIFA Board for many years.

Bob Moraska – 224 W D St. – complimented the Northwoods Garden Club but would have also like to see a Resolution of Appreciation for Ted Corombos. Mr. Moraska thanked Mr. Corombos for his time served on the TIFA Board. Mr. Moraska said he was unhappy about the no shows from the City for the Memorial Day ceremony.

William Toedter – 631 East C St. – was thankful for people like Mr. Corombos who come forward and speak their mind. He is going to have the City budget checked out and believes there may be a class action lawsuit from the Bolt decision.

### Old Business

None

## New Business

The Council discussed lowering the fee for submission of plans for a Commercial and Industrial Construction (Site Plan Review Required).

**2007-2008  
Fee Schedule**

It was moved by Tchokreff and supported by VanLaanen to approve the fee schedule as submitted with the addition of a \$20 per day auction fee and Commercial and Industrial Construction (Site Plan Review Required) reduced from \$600 to \$400.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Rigoni thanked Mr. Corombos and Mr. Angeli for their years of service on the TIFA Board and said two new members will be a good thing for the TIFA Board.

**TIFA Board  
Appointments**

It was moved by Jacobs and supported by Burke to appoint Mr. Jon Pryor and Mr. David Brule II to 4 year terms on the Tax Increment Finance Authority Board.

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

It was moved by Tchokreff and supported by VanLaanen to reappoint Mr. Bruce LeBlanc and Mrs. Margaret Johnson to 4 year terms on the Downtown Development Authority Board.

**DDA Board  
Reappointments**

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

It was moved Tchokreff and supported by Burke to reappoint Mr. David Santi and Mr. John Allard to 3 year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**ZBA  
Reappointments**

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

It was moved by Tchokreff and supported by Caudell to reappoint Mr. A.C. Costa to a 3 year term on the Iron Mountain Housing Commission.

**IM Housing Comm.  
Reappointment**

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

City Manager Marquart stated that he recommends approval of Option 3 for the parking lot behind City Hall so that engineering work can begin on the project. Council Member Caudell stated that Option 3 Parking lot is a great plan and the Council listened to the community to get to this point. She feels a design to bridge both parking lots is important. Council Member VanLaanen feels TIFA should approve this first because it is their project and they are paying for it. Council Member Burke asked for a timeline for the project and City Manager Marquart stated that the lot behind City Hall would start the end of July and last approximately a month. The lot across the street would start after that and be finished by this construction season. It was moved by VanLaanen and supported by Burke to approve support of Option 3 for the parking lot behind City Hall.

**Parking Lot  
Option Three**

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

Council Member VanLaanen feels the budget should be amended throughout the year. He would like more time to talk about the budget than this meeting would allow.

**Budget  
Amendment**

It was moved by VanLaanen and supported by Tchokreff to table the Budget Amendment item and discuss further at a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2007.

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

Council Member Tchokreff asked about right of way liability to the City due to the collection of the video franchise fee. City Attorney Pirkola responded that City's have governmental immunity. Council Member Jacobs asked about allocating the revenue from the fee to specific projects. City Manager Marquart said it is difficult to allocate

**Video Franchise  
Agreement**

### **New Business(cont.)**

General Fund revenue but the City can attempt to do this for things such as technology or streets. Council Member Rigoni stated that the fee was looked at thoroughly and during the budget process this was the fee agreed on.

It was moved by VanLaanen and supported by Tchokreff to approve the Uniform Video Franchise Agreement with a 5% fee between the City of Iron Mountain and the North Side Television Corporation.

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

City Manager Marquart read a Resolution of Appreciation for the flower planting around the City by the Northwood's Garden Club.

It was moved by Tchokreff and supported by Caudell to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for the Northwood's Garden Club.

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

**Northwood's  
Garden Club**

It was moved by Jacobs and supported by Burke to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks permit for fireworks on Friday, July 6, 2007.

**Motion prevailed unanimously**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July  
Fireworks**

### **Financial Reports**

The Council reviewed the Payroll Report for the Month of May with regular wages in the amount of \$261,357.84 and OT in the amount of \$31,035.99. The Council also reviewed Claims in the amount of \$492,414.72.

It was moved by Burke and supported by Jacobs to approve claims and payroll in the amounts noted above.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

**Claims and  
Payroll**

MERS invoice paid through automated clearing for \$22,835.83 on 5/15/07 was placed on file.

### **City Manager Report**

City Manager Marquart responded to the Crystal Lake testing inquiry during public comment. He stated the City is looking at doing one sample at Mud Lake and more testing on Crystal Lake. Information on the plans for testing should be available next week.

Council Member Caudell asked to be refreshed on the Vicious Dog Ordinance after receiving a phone call from a resident. She also received a call to thank her for the City mowing a vacant lot on North Milwaukee.

Council Member VanLaanen asked for an update on the new sign ordinance and the DDA bylaws. City Manager Marquart responded that the ordinance is in the drafting phase and will be sent out shortly. The DDA bylaws will be undertaken by the City Manager this week, with his goal for the first meeting in July.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rigoni asked if there was an ordinance against boating or fishing on Crystal Lake. The City Manager said there are no ordinances preventing it.

### **City Attorney Reports**

None

## **Committee Reports**

None

## **Public Comment**

Virginia Feleppa – 1136 Crystal Lake Blvd. – is disappointed that action for testing Crystal Lake has been slow. She is concerned that testing won't be completed this summer. She would recommend putting up no fishing signs around the lake.

Bob Moraska – 224 W D St. – confused by the actions of the Council for not having a Resolution of Appreciation for Ted Corombos. He also questioned why there was no representation from the City at the Memorial Day services.

Dale Alessandrini - 1120 Iron Mountain St. – commended the garden club for the job done. He said TIFA passed \$225,000 only for asphalt paving for both of the City parking lots. He stated that he had asked the City to mow the B St. property but the City said no because the lot was not owned by the City. He said the grass by the pump house was getting shaggy and expects the grass to be cut.

## **Council Member Privilege**

Council Member Burke asked if No Fishing signs could be placed on the piers.

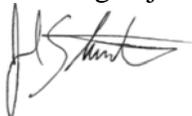
Council Member VanLaanen stated he was at the Memorial Day program and was unaware that no one else from the City was present. He said that there will be a Resolution for Ted at the proper time. He said the City owes him a debt of gratitude.

Council Member Tchokreff said Steve Hudson from Veteran's Affairs Office never asked anybody from the City to attend.

Council Member Caudell read an e-mail from John Curran, who is a downtown business owner, thanking the City Council for their work.

Mayor Pro-Tem Rigoni said no one was dropping the ball with Crystal Lake and the testing is moving forward. He also stated his displeasure with people speaking at meetings and not having the courtesy to stay for the entire meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.



Jordan Stanchina  
Clerk-Treasurer