

Regular Meeting of the Common Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, January 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room:

Presiding: Mayor VanLaanen

Present: Council Members Burke, Peterson, Alessandrini, Corombos, Rosen and Farragh

Also Present: City Attorney Pirkola and CFO Bartolameolli

## Agenda

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Alessandrini to approve the agenda as submitted.

## Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 5, 2009 and Special Meeting of January 10, 2009, were approved as submitted.

## Public Comment

John Nienstadt - 617 East A St. - spoke about the importance of the Planning Board becoming a Planning Commission. He said it is important to keep the Director of Planning and Community Development. He said the Planning Board recently created a list of 21 things to accomplish and felt the Director was important to help complete the list. He felt that recent developments have a better look to them as a result of a better review process by the Director. Mr. Nienstadt stated Ironwood has similar positions as Iron Mountain and he feels that Iron Mountain should be able to afford code enforcement, planning and engineering. He said the City should compare their budget expenditure percentages to others. Member Alessandrini said he was looking at how to best serve the community and combining positions may be a way to reduce costs. Member Rosen would like the City Attorney to research the Public Act pertaining to Planning Commissions and find where it says establishment of a Planning Commission is required.

Member Peterson said she was unaware of all the things the Planning Board was working on. She doesn't think that Mr. Becotte could come over and do Mr. Woolard's job. She would like more economic development from the City.

Joe LaFave -W8025 Millie Hill Estates - said that Mr. Woolard has always been good to work with. He asked about the status of a text amendment that he applied for in March.

## Old Business

None

## New Business

### Discussion of City Soccer Fields

Member Alessandrini requested a discussion about adding more athletic fields in Iron Mountain. Mrs. Sandy Lefebvre representing youth football, said that Iron Mountain has about 100 children involved in the football program. She said the only field they can use is the one field at City Park. She said that the City Park field could be rotated which would allow two full size fields where the one field is now. She would like permission from the City to pursue grants for renovating the fields. An additional field would be helpful for both youth football and soccer programs. Mr. Tom Sullivan representing SAY Soccer Program, said there is two thousand children program wide and there is always a need for fields. He stated Iron Mountain only has two fields and there is a great need for additional fields. Mayor VanLaanen asked if

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

changing City Park should be part of a larger plan for City Park. Member Burke thought that a field could be built on the east side by the Mountain View Ice Arena. Member Rosen said the Park and Recreation Committee could look and will consider an additional field at City Park. Member Alessandrini would like to move this forward and find a solution that will work for the ski club and the football/soccer programs. Member Peterson thought the DNR grant was based on hunting and fishing. Member Rosen said the grant is based on a point system and he said that an archery range would be a possibility.

**No action taken.**

### **Golden “K” No Charge Pavilion Rental**

It was moved by Burke and supported by Peterson to approve the no charge use of the City Park Pavilion on May 26, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. for the Golden “K’s” annual picnic for children with special needs.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **Patrol Car Bid**

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Alessandrini to solicit bids for a Patrol Car. The car will be 25% covered by a grant through the USDA Rural Development program.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **FD Thermal Imager**

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Peterson to authorize the solicitation of bids for a new Thermal Imager for the Fire Department. The thermal imager has an estimated cost of \$8,500 and will be 25% covered by a USDA Rural Development grant program.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **Pet Resuscitation Masks**

It was moved by Peterson and supported by Farragh to accept the \$600.07 raised and donated by Ms. Mary Dulan for the purchase of pet resuscitation masks and other awareness accessories. Also, the Fire Chief is authorized to purchase the equipment and accessories which will be placed on the fire trucks.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **West Lake Antoine Boat Launch**

Acting City Manager Stanchina that additional engineering cost were discussed with MMA Engineers and a 20% refund of the extra work was offered by MMA Engineers. Additionally, he stated that no work was done on Industrial Dr. as had been question in prior conversations.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Burke to accept a 20% refund of Extra Work engineering charges by MMA Engineers on the West Lake Antoine Boat Launch project.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **STS Proposal S2 Project**

Acting City Manager Stanchina stated that this was proposal from STS to complete work on the West B St. Lift Station and East A Street through the S2 program. He said that various amounts of work will be completed on East A St. from the 400 Block to the 800 Block. Mayor VanLaanen stated their will be a public meeting for those affected residents when it gets closer to the project time. Member Alessandrini asked about the total cost of what is being borrowed. Acting City Manger Stanchina believed that the City would be borrowing approximately \$800,000. Member Peterson asked if the 11.91% engineering cost estimate included just East A St. Acting City Manager Stanchina stated that it included engineering for the lift station and East A St. Member Alessandrini said the City went with STS because they were already involved with the project.

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Burke to approve the STS proposal for S2 Program projects.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **Bike Path**

Mr. Woolard informed the Council of a bike path committee map that was included in the packet. He said the Planning Board would like another public hearing to discuss a possible bike path. Member Rosen felt closing down parking for a bike path would be difficult. He thought the street could be designated as a bike path street without removing parking. Mr. Nienstadt said that there may be some streets that will not be affected by a loss of parking. He stated that certain blocks have long driveways and do not park on the street. Mayor VanLaanen would like another hearing to address these concerns. Member Rosen feels that another hearing would be beneficial.

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Alessandrini to approve and additional public hearing for the bike path and the associated costs.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **Millie Hill Estates**

Mr. Lafave said he would like an extension of the final plat approval and presented a developer's agreement to the Council. Mr. Lafave would like a thirty day extension. Member Rosen feels a 90 day extension would be more appropriate to make sure all checklist items can be completed.

It was moved by Burke and supported by Rosen to grant a ninety day extension on final preliminary plat approval for Millie Hill Estates.

**Motion prevailed unanimously.**

### **Financial Reports**

The Council reviewed the Payroll Report for the Month of December with regular wages in the amount of \$375,477.39 and OT in the amount of \$27,236.46. The Council also reviewed Claims in the amount of \$522,661.89. The Finance Committee reviewed the claims and recommends approval as submitted. Member Alessandrini asked if #123 was a monthly charge and CFO Bartolameolli said it was one time technology support.

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

**Ayes:** 6 (Corombos, Burke, VanLaanen, Alessandrini, Farragh and Peterson)

**Nays:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 (Rosen)

**Motion carried.**

Invoice paid through automated clearing, MERS \$33,483.01, 1/16/09.

### **City Manager Report**

Acting City Manager Stanchina reported that the City is currently spending \$25,000 a year for recycling when the cost to put the items in the garbage would be around \$6,000. Paper recycling is generating the most volume and is the cause of the recycling bins needing to be emptied 3 times a week. He recommended closing the gate after hours and through the weekend to help reduce the volume of paper left in the bins. Mayor VanLaanen recommended the infrastructure committee meet and discuss the options with the recycling.

Member Peterson would like to have department heads come to the special budget meeting on Monday.

### **City Attorney Reports**

City Attorney Pirkola stated he reviewed the Fraud Policy as requested and has no issues with the policy.

City Attorney Pirkola stated that he reviewed the recent subject of the Planning Board becoming a Planning Commission. He found that the Planning Board would have to change to a Planning Commission

by 2011 if they want to continue being involved in planning and zoning. Member Rosen said he could not find anywhere that the City would be prohibited from planning and zoning if a Planning Commission is not created. City Attorney Pirkola is concerned that a challenge to the zoning ordinance could be negatively affected if the City stayed involved in zoning but did not have a Planning Commission. Member Peterson would be concerned if the Planning Commission had more authority than the Council. She would like the elected officials to make decisions. Member Rosen would like the text amendment applied for by Mr. Lafave to be introduced at the next meeting. Acting City Manager Stanchina stated that this amendment was to allow duplexes in R-1 Zoning Districts by Special Use Permit.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Technology Committee

Mayor VanLaanen stated there will be a presentation to the TIFA Board tomorrow about the phone system that the technology committee has looked at. The system will create other possibilities for communications between local governments. He would like to include the County for discussion of police communications.

### **Public Comment**

Brad Coe - 144 West Grant St. - representing SAY Soccer, thanked the Council for addressing the athletic fields. He said the old hospital site or City Park would be good places for an additional field.

Sandy Lefebvre - 141 Northview Dr. - she would like things to move forward on the athletic fields. She felt it has moved slowly and would like things to move along.

Kevin Pirlot - 603 W. Fleshiem Ave. - thinks the recycling should be looked at more to help reduce costs. He feels that recycling should be something that is addressed at the County level.

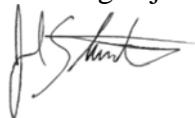
### **Council Member Privilege**

Member Peterson would like things to move quickly on City Park. She was happy with the DDA meeting she attend and the amount of commitment from their board and committee members.

Member Farragh would like to setup an infrastructure committee meeting to discuss the upcoming spring rubbish pickup.

The Council discussed the City Manager's contract.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.



Jordan Stanchina  
Clerk-Treasurer