

Special Meeting of the Common Council and TIFA Board, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, April 6, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Room:

Presiding: Mayor VanLaanen and Chairman Brinker
Present: Council Members Rosen, *Burke*, Alessandrini and Corombos
Present: Board Members Elmer, Pryor, Haglund, Barnes and O'Donnell
Absent: Council Members Peterson and ~~Burke~~
Absent: Board Member Brule II

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Budget Discussion

City Manager Stanchina distributed the City Council's five year forecast to the TIFA Board. He said that there are four schedules with different assumptions but all schedules show a structural deficit in the continued operations of the City. He stated that the Council will need a significant pass-through in the upcoming budget. Chairman Brinker said the TIFA Board is still interested in purchasing the former rail yard property. He felt the construction of a road on that property will help develop the area and allow for better access to Pine Mountain. Mayor VanLaanen discussed the possibility of bringing sewer lines from Pine Mountain through the rail yard property. Member Rosen felt there was a lot to be considered prior to any of the Pine Mountain or rail yard property being developed. Member Elmer believed a road through the rail yard property would encourage its development. He believes this would also help develop the former Khoury Property that is owned by TIFA. Member Rosen stated that everyone wants economic development but at what cost. He felt that are other things in the City that need to be addressed. Member Brinker believes that taking care of the City's infrastructure will attract economic development. Mayor VanLaanen stated that a road through the rail yard property would be beneficial to Pine Mountain.

Mayor VanLaanen would like a pass through arrangement that keeps the money that would go to the State. Member Corombos feels the State has contributed enough by paying back \$12 million in TIFA bonds. Member Barnes said the forecast helped to show the problems the City is facing and would like the TIFA Board to have copies of the City's budget when it becomes available.

Downtown Parking Lots

DDA Member Nicometto discussed the latest design of the downtown parking lots. He said that according to the engineers, a simple repave would cost approximately \$600,000 and reconstructing the lots as proposed is estimated at \$730,000. Mr. Nicometto expressed some concern with the engineering estimates and is reworking the numbers based on the engineer's unit costs. Member Rosen thanked Mr. Nicometto for his work on this project. Mr. Urbany suggested request for proposals and an agreement coordinating construction of the two lots. He said this will help keep the engineers accountable for the project.

Public Comment

Barb Kramer – asked if roads through the Industrial Park could be utilized as a more direct road to Pine Mountain.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.



Jordan Stanchina
Clerk-Treasurer