

City of Iron Mountain

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Regular Meeting of the Common Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan to be held on Monday, December 21, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Peterson

Present: Council Members Corombos, Farragh, Rosen Villa, Jacobetti & Alessandrini

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina, CFO Bartolameolli & Attorney Robert Pirkola

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2009

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Villa to approve the minutes as prepared.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

John Nienstaedt- 717 E A Street-

He noted that the article he wrote for the paper was intended to convey that the DNR Trust Fund Grant would benefit more than just skating and skiing. He noted that the articles he wrote in the paper were primarily to promote the ski trails. Nienstaedt conveyed that The Ski club has raised around \$11,000 so far and that the trail groomer needs to be replaced. He communicated that many people use City Park till 10pm and that he would hope any gates would not close till 10 pm. Nienstaedt voiced the Ski Clubs support of installing a gate at the egress of City Park.

Special Presentation

Mr. Shane Ellison – FYE June 30, 2009 Audit

Shane Ellison conveyed that the June 30, 2009 audit went smoothly and that there were no significant issues. He then proceeded to provide a brief overview of the audit. A discussion pertaining to the audits details pursued.

No action was taken

Peterson asked if the city's decrease in net assets was due to an economic factor. Ellison relayed that it would difficult to pinpoint a specific cause.

Rosen asked if the \$258,000 decrease in the Khoury property's market value was a factor in the calculation of the city's net assets. Ellison conveyed that the decrease in market value was a factor and was footnoted on page 51. He added that the property must be shown at market value if it is meant for future resale.

Rosen ask Ellison to confirm that the city is fairing well overall. Ellison conveyed that the city almost broke even this year, despite the rough circumstances.

Alessandrini asked why the Khoury property's market value dropped so significantly. Stanchina communicated that the City Assessor calculated the stated market value based on property comparables. Ellison conveyed the notion that the Khoury property's market value dropping is not a reflection of gain or loss, since the property is being retained by the city.

A discussion pertaining to the governmental funds balance ensued.

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Ellison conveyed that the city's General Fund had a final balance of \$1,455,073 as of June 30, 2009. He continued to detail the general fund's balance sheet.

Ellison reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure Report for the City Council, a discussion relating to the topic ensued.

No action was taken

Old Business

Discussion of Deer Management

Stanchina communicated that the City of Ironwood has been operating an independent deer culling program for several years. He proceeded to introduce Grant Emery, the conservation officer from Gogebic County, who operates the Ironwood Program. Emery presented the details of how Ironwood developed their program. A discussion on this topic ensued.

No action was taken

Discussion of City Park Gate

Stanchina communicated that Police Chief Flaminio had outlined the after hours events that have taken place at City Park over the last several years. Stanchina noted that a new sign has been ordered for the park. He added that the sign will be more effectively designed and reflective, as to better present when City Park will close.

Alessandrini noted that there has only one complaint had been logged at City Park in 2009 for after hours activity.

Jacobetti supported the idea that after the new sign is installed; the city should enforce it and see what kind of activity's are happening. Alessandrini communicated the idea that if the sign was enforced, after hours activities would most likely decrease. Rosen asked if the police regularly patrol City Park.

Stanchina relayed that they do at least 80 - 85% of the time. Peterson conveyed that the new sign is a good starting point, despite the fact that she also agrees with installing a gate. Don Nelson communicated that he does not think a sign is going to make a significant difference. However, he did relay that installing a new sign is a good place to start. A discussion pertaining to ticketing after hours violators ensued.

No action was taken

New Business

Approval of Special Use Permit: Pick Up Window Main Street Pizza

Stanchina communicated that the proposed plan had completed and passed the special use permitting process. Alessandrini relayed the idea that the special use permitting process should be made easier for business and that they should not pay for unnecessary items. He asked if a business is required to develop a green space and/or buffer. Stanchina referred Alessandrini to Steve Mulka's memo. A discussion pertaining to the validity and necessity of the proposed buffer ensued.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Rosen to approve the plan dated 12/21/2009 with the removal of the three planters and the proposed tree, as well as reducing the height of the dumpster enclosure from 6' to a 5', if city ordinance does not prohibit it.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Grant Agreement Re: North side CDBG Road and Water Infrastructure Improvement Project

Stanchina communicated that he has received confirmation that the proposed community development block grant agreement meets all necessary requirements for the infrastructure improvement project. It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Farragh to approve the agreement for the economic development grant on the north side.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Jacobetti to approve the issuance of the RFP for the project related to the CDBG Road and Water Infrastructure Improvement Project.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Approval of Street Light Cost Share Agreement Re: West B and A Street

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Farragh to approve the cost sharing agreement for the traffic signals located at M-95 at A and B Street.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of increase RE: Christmas Cards

Alessandrini and Peterson noted that they would rather see the Christmas Gift Cards increased by \$10. It was moved by Rosen and supported by Jacobetti to approve an additional \$5 for each Christmas gift card.

Rosen	Aye
Corombos	Aye
Peterson	Nay
Alessandrini	Nay
Farragh	Aye
Jacobetti	Aye
Villa	Aye

Motion Prevailed (Aye-5, Nay-2, Abstain-0)

Approval of Advertisement Re: 2010 Pine Mountain Ski Jumps Program

It was moved by Villa and supported by Alessandrini to approve a \$55 advertisement for the Ski Jumps Program.

Motion prevailed unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

Claims and Payroll

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Jacobetti to approve the November Claims and Payroll. Rosen communicated that he must abstain from item number 126 since he owns Standard Printing.

Rosen	Abstained
Corombos	Aye
Peterson	Aye
Alessandrini	Aye
Farragh	Aye
Jacobetti	Aye
Villa	Aye

Motion Prevailed (Aye-6, Nay-0, Abstain-1)

City Manager Report

Stanchina communicated the city's position on the DNR Trust Fund Grant for City Park.

Alessandrini noted that the stop sign at Aragon and Main Street, heading east, should have its location re-evaluated. He suggested that the stop sign on the west side of Aragon Street, heading east on Main Street, be removed.

Stanchina updated the council on the We Energies rate increase.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

The Infrastructure committee updated the council.

Public Comment

Barb Kramer- 135 Bradley Street

Kramer noted that she was present at one of the planning board meetings and that she did not perceive any forcefulness from the Planning Board. She relayed the aesthetic value of green space. Kramer also conveyed the opinion that the City Council should follow the Planning Boards recommendations.

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Jonathan Ringel - 814 W. Fleshiem

Ringel, Main Street Manager, introduced himself to the newly appointed council members, Jacobetti and Villa. He also wished the council a Happy Holiday.

Council Member Privilege

Alessandrini wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Stanchina communicated that the first water test, since chlorination has ended, was negative.

Peterson conveyed that she has enjoyed her time as mayor. She also wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Peterson conveyed her optimism for the New Year. Lastly, she expressed her satisfaction with the level of resident participation.

Adjournment

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Alessandrini to adjourn.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.


Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer