

# 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, January 4, 2010 at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding:

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

Absent: Member Farragh

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina & City Attorney Pirkola

## Oaths of Office

Mayor Peterson called the meeting to order and City Clerk Micheau gave the Oath of Office to Members Corombos, Alessandrini & Jacobetti.

## Nominations/Elections of Mayor

Mayor Peterson asked for nominations for the position of Mayor. Member Jacobetti nominated Member Rosen for Mayor.

Mayor Peterson closed nominations.

**Nomination carried**

## Nomination/Election of Mayor Pro-Tem

Mayor Rosen asked for nominations for Mayor Pro-Tem. Member Villa nominated Member Alessandrini for Mayor Pro-Tem and Member Peterson nominated Member Corombos for Mayor Pro-Tem. Member Corombos respectfully declined the nomination.

Mayor Rosen closed nominations.

Mayor Rosen called for a vote for the nomination of Member Alessandrini as Mayor Pro-Tem.

**Nomination carried**

## Approval of Agenda

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

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

## Approval of Minutes

*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2009*

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

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

## Public Comment

### Michael Uren – 805 E. B Street

Uren conveyed the details of his and his brother's attack on September 2, 2009. He noted that he was attacked on the 800 block of east B Street. Uren then expressed his frustration with the way in which this particular crime has been handled by the Iron Mountain Police Department. He relayed that a couple of homes on his block had been causing chronic disruptions within his neighborhood throughout the summer. Uren expressed his disapproval of the manner in which these events were handled by the Iron Mountain Police Department. He added several suggestions on how to remedy the above situations. Uren reiterated his frustrations over the above situations. Uren expressed disapproval over the way in which the above noted disruptions have impacted his neighborhood. He offered several suggestions on how to improve the Iron Mountain Police Department and where resource allocation could be optimized. Uren expressed the opinion that his son was targeted due to his age and that he should have not been required to pay his winter parking ban fine, due to the fact it did not snow on the evening in which his son left his car parked on the street. He proceeded to express his disappointment over the way in which this event was handled by the Iron Mountain Police Department. Uren detailed several other issues in which he believes age discrimination has occurred. Rosen conveyed his sympathy and support for Uren's situation.

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**John Nienstaedt- 717 E A Street**

Nienstaedt communicated that his comments are his and not representative of the Planning Board as a whole. He expressed the need for Planning Board and the City Council to work together. Nienstaedt presented the idea that at least one of the additional members for the upcoming Planning Commission should be from the City Council, as to increase combination and align goals. He communicated the basis of his beliefs as Chairperson of the Planning Board. Nienstaedt communicated the Planning Boards logic when deciding on the Main Street Pizza project. He detailed several successful projects throughout the city. A discussion pertaining to the Planning Boards Main Street Pizza recommendation ensued. Rosen suggested that the City Council and the Planning Board should align their goals for the City of Iron Mountain.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**Approval of Discussion of Letter Re: Breitung Township Wastewater**

Stanchina communicated that he had received a communication from the CUPPAD Regional Commission relating to a proposed development of sewer utilities by Breitung Township. He noted that CUPPAD was looking for a letter pertaining to the city's position on the plan that is being projected. Stanchina outlined several points of concern that could be noted in a letter to CUPPAD.

Peterson communicated the opinion that there is a lot of work to be done on this issue.

Stanchina relayed that this letter would only note possible concerns and formal plans would have to be finalized if the project took place.

Rosen conveyed the opinion that CUPPAD will realize the need to improve the Breitung Township plan.

Stanchina noted that the current agreement with Breitung Township is for 125,000 gallons.

Alessandrini expressed the opinion that the city needs to make sure we have enough capacity for ourselves.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Peterson to approve that the proposed letter is sent to the CUPPAD Federal Review Coordinator.

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

**Approval and Reaffirmation Re: Agreement to Purchase Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Services**

Stanchina conveyed that Rural Development requested that the current agreement with Breitung Township be made freely transferable. He explained that if this was to take place only written notice from the party holding the contract would be required. Rosen confirmed that the Township could then sell this agreement to a private enterprise.

Stanchina relayed that the City Commission needs to affirm a decision on this contract change. Pirkola suggested that the city pass a motion rejecting the contract modification. Jacobetti inquired about how this agreement can be changed after it has been enacted. Stanchina clarified the situation. Pirkola noted that Stanchina does not have the power to amend city contracts, only the City Council does. Peterson asked why the city needs to make a motion to reject this amendment. Stanchina clarified this issue and noted that the council's motion would support his current position on the contract.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to reject the amendment to section H, making the contract freely assignable.

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

**Approval of Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Exemption Re: Applicant #5, 415 Vulcan St.**

Stanchina noted that a new home is being built on this lot. He added that this program offers an incentive to improve the north side neighborhood.

It was moved by Peterson and supported by Jacobetti to support the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone applicant #5

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

**Approval of Tax Collections Re: Breitung Township Schools**

Stanchina communicated the opinion that he would like to get this tax collection re-approved due to the fact that all 18 mills of school tax would be moved to the Summer Tax Bill for all Breitung annexed areas. Stanchina noted that the city collects an admin fee for collecting this tax. Peterson confirmed how this would affect our budget.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Peterson to approve the Breitung Township Schools tax collection.

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

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## **Reports**

### **Financial Reports**

None

### **City Manager Report**

Stanchina noted that the Aragon and Main Street stop sign issue is being considered by Police Chief Flaminio at this time.

Stanchina conveyed that the reassessment should be completed by March 1, 2010. He noted that this time shift is due to unanticipated data issues. Stanching added that it is likely the assessment changes will be on the 2011 tax roll.

Stanchina relayed that next year's grant workshop for the DNR Trust Fund will be held in Iron Mountain.

Peterson expressed some concerns for the Harvey study results at this time. She conveyed that Mr. Harvey did not deliver what he had promised and that he did not record an appropriate amount of input for the second draft. Stanchina communicated that he was attempting to limit the number of draft copies due to future confusion. Peterson reiterated her previous concerns. Stanchina noted that Harvey is working on the issue in concern. Peterson reiterated her original concern and suggested that this issue needs further discussion. Rosen supported the idea that the Harvey report needs to be looked at further and added that the report will be looked at by the Consolidated Services Committee.

Alessandrini asked about the Safe Routes to School funding. Stanchina noted that the December funding round was canceled due to a lack of funds. Stanchina confirmed that the only hold up is funding.

Jacobetti offered his support for the letter Rogina presented concerning the City Assessors Office. Rosen confirmed that Breitung Township and the City of Iron Mountain need a level 3 assessor while the City of Kingsford only needs to have a level 2. Stanchina noted that a level 3 would oversee all three jurisdictions while part time help fills in any gaps.

### **City Attorney Reports**

Pirkola noted that the tower leases are on task and that the council will have to approve any contracts on this issue. Alessandrini asked who is negotiating. Pirkola stated that he is. Peterson asked what happens if another company is bought out. Stanchina conveyed that the contract is freely assignable.

### **Committee Reports**

Stanchina communicated that he would like to update the Council Committee list at the next meeting.

Rosen communicated that the Police and Fire Pension Fund is being brought in house, saving the fund 1% annually. Peterson confirmed that the pension board will be taking any outside investment advice.

### **Public Comment**

#### **Virginia Feleppa - 1136 Crystal Lake Blvd.**

She expressed her disapproval for the meeting starting after 6:30. Members Rosen and Peterson extended an apology and communicated several reasons why the meeting started late.

### **Council Member Privilege**

Corombos communicated the opinion that he did not mean to disregard his nomination for Mayor Pro-Tem. He noted that he was Mayor Pro-Tem several years ago and would prefer to leave that job for a more junior member of the council.

Peterson conveyed her sympathy and support for Mr. Uren's situation. Uren detailed his above accusations in further detail. He noted several suggestions to the above accusations. Peterson and Uren discussed the idea of a neighborhood watch.

Peterson conveyed her congratulations to Member Rosen and Alessandrini. She also conveyed her appreciation for Stanchina's efforts.

Rosen thanked his supporters and the Planning Board for their efforts.

Alessandrini echoed Rosen's comments.

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**Adjournment**

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

**Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 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