

# *City of Iron Mountain*

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Special Joint Meeting of the Common Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan to be held with the Iron Mountain Downtown Development Authority on Monday, October 26, 2010 at 5:31 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Rosen  
Present: Council Members Corombos, Farragh, Villa, *Peterson* & Jacobetti  
Absent: ~~Council Members Rosen & Peterson~~ None  
Also Present: City Manager Stanchina & Main Street Manager Ringel  
DDA Board Members Micheaud, Kramer, Marchetti, Khoury, Alwine & Nicometo

## **Public Comment**

*Tina Peterson - 603 West Fleshiem St.*

She informed the council that Mr. Ron Tomassoni had passed the previous week and that she appreciated the council recognizing his efforts within the community. Peterson expressed the idea that a lot of work went into the survey and that she was hoping the original questions and concerns would be answered. She communicated the opinion that the city would eventually feel the impact within its budget if the DDA millage was not renewed. Peterson relayed the idea that each vote should be given equal consideration, despite the amount of taxes they pay. She urged that the City Council support the DDA.

## **Old Business**

### **Discussion of DDA Survey Results**

Corombos presented the DDA Survey Results. He relayed that the DDA's events are well supported for their community good, while many felt they did not receive adequate benefits for their businesses. Corombos noted that a small amount of firms pay the majority of the DDA Tax Assessment. He conveyed that real property tax payers pay a majority of the DDA Tax Assessment. Corombos noted the amount of people that did and did not receive value from the assessment they are paying. Peterson expressed the opinion that people may like the DDA's programs, but may want to see them adjusted slightly. Corombos detailed his analysis of the DDA's current budget and the sources of their revenue. Kramer voiced the opinion that each vote should count equally, despite the amount of DDA Tax Assessment they paying. Peterson noted the idea that a firm, who pays \$.15 today, may be a large contributor in the future. Peterson, Farragh and Villa agreed that each vote should count equally. Kramer expressed the opinion that the DDA has been improving from what it had been in the past and that further change will take additional time. Rosen suggested that a broader area should be focused on by the DDA. He raised a concern that DDA purchases are not being made within the City of Iron Mountain. Kramer stated the opinion that the current DDA Board Members are on a steep learning curve and need time to figure everything out. Rosen relayed the opinion that Jonathan Ringel should work to the benefit of the whole city. Marchetti expressed a concern for the rate of pay Ringel should receive in order to be a DDA Manager. Nicometo noted that the Downtown Development District is a significant employer for our area. Stanchina conveyed the idea that redistricting may be a challenge due to the increase in current property values.

*Pat Coleman – UP Engineers & Architects*

He relayed that he had been involved in the creation of the city's Tax Incremental Finance Authority. Coleman noted that many people who come to festivals do not go into stores; the festivals are meant to create awareness. He expressed the idea that downtowns are an ideal incubator for small businesses. Coleman detailed the services that would be included in the proposal that was approved by the DDA.

## **Public Comment**

None

### **Adjournment**

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

### **Motion Prevailed Unanimously**

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Isaac Micheau  
Clerk-Treasurer