

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 17, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Rosen

Present: Council Members Jacobetti, Peterson, Corombos & Farragh

Absent: Council Members Alessandrini & Villa

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina & City Attorney Gerald Pirkola

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2011

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Jacobetti to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2011.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

Kathy Anderson - 711 Hillcrest Drive

She stated that she is a member of the City Tree Board and that the Tree Board would be willing to assist the City during the upcoming tree inventory, for example marking fire hydrants. Anderson asked if the mapping system has been installed at this time. Stanchina relayed that the mapping software is in need of a costly update and that this issue is being considered.

Bob Moraska - West D Street

He expressed his concern for the safety of his neighborhood, as it relates to the new homeless shelter that is slated to open. Moraska stated that he would rather not have this shelter in his neighborhood. Rosen confirmed that no individuals that have been convicted of a sex crime will be staying at that shelter, as it is less than 1,000 feet from a school. Stanchina noted that the property currently meets zoning and will not need to be reviewed unless they apply for a tax exemption. Peterson stated that she is not comfortable with the new homeless shelter.

Public Hearing

Champion Inc. /Trader's Mine Rd. Improvement Grant Closeout

Stanchina stated that a utility easement needed to be procured from Stephenson Avenue to the Champion Inc. Building in order to close out the grant. He relayed that TIFA will receive \$42,000 once the grant is closed out.

Rosen opened the Public Hearing.

Public Comment

None

Council Comment

Farragh stated that he was glad the process was completed.

Rosen closed the Public Hearing.

Old Business

None

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New Business

Discussion of Proposed .5 mill Extra Voted County Wide Ballot Question Re: Dickinson County Road Commission

Stanchina said that the proposed ballot question would take place at the May School Election. He conveyed that the millage would raise \$458,515.25, county wide, if the initiative were to pass. Stanchina relayed that the City would retain \$105,161.83 of the tax, as the City performs its own road maintenance. He stated that the Road Commission also requested that the City pay for a portion of the election. Stanchina recommended that the City not share in the cost of the election.

Peterson expressed the idea that this effort should originate from the County Board of Commissioners. She stated that she does not support this ballot question. Peterson offered the opinion that those who want additional road maintenance funds should raise their own millage. Corombos questioned why Iron Mountain voters should have an opinion on a tax increase in the townships. Farragh and Rosen voiced their support for not paying for the election, but staying neutral towards the ballot question. Jacobetti voiced the opinion that the City should not pay for the election or support the ballot question. He relayed that it would not be optimal to create a tax at this time, even if the City wide millage was made to be kept neutral.

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Peterson to not participate in the cost of the May Election or support a ballot question that would create a county wide millage of .5 mills.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Board of Review Compensation

Stanchina stated that the proposed rate would be twenty dollars per hour with a minimum compensation of sixty dollars per day. He relayed that there is a March, July and December Board of Review.

It was moved by Peterson and supported by Jacobetti to approve the Board of Review compensation to be set at \$20 per hour with a minimum compensation of \$60 per day.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Appointment of Mr. Walt Lakari to the Iron Mountain Housing Commission

Stanchina informed the council that appointments to the Iron Mountain Housing Commission are done by the mayor. He conveyed that Mr. Lakari expressed interest in retaining his position.

Mayor Rosen appointed Mr. Lakari to a 3 year term on the Iron Mountain Housing Commission.

Approval of Lake Antoine Bike Path Agreement

Stanchina stated that the City originally agreed to in-kind work for the bike path only. He relayed that a design change made it so that less in-kind work was available for the City to perform, thus the City decided to contribute cash toward the project. Stanchina informed the City Council that the required \$30,000 would most likely have to come out of the funds that have been set aside for paving. Rosen stated that he would not support spending \$30,000 on the bike path. Jacobetti questioned whether or not the City is obligated to pay the \$30,000, as mentioned in the most recent Lake Antoine Bike Path Agreement. Stanchina stated that the City has already paid \$26,385 for preliminary design services. Rosen requested that the City Council be provided a copy of the original agreement.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Jacobetti to refer this issue to the City Attorney for review.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Farragh to approve the claims in the amount of \$676,546.67 and the payroll in the amount of \$441,119.85.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

City Manager Reports

Stanchina informed the City Council that the healthcare representative will be at City Hall on Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

Stanchina stated that the DPW Supervisor and he have begun reviewing the area that will be improved by the Safe Routes to School and the Infrastructure Capacity Enhancement Grants. He also clarified the process by which the City of Iron Mountain receives and has utilized Small Urban Funds for road improvements.

Stanchina requested that a special meeting take place next Monday to discuss the City budget.

Peterson noted the appreciable drop in website usage since a fee was instituted. She also confirmed that the City would be providing some services for the Kiwanis Ski Jumps.

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City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Rosen relayed that the Parks and Recreation Committee has met and that a bank account has been created for City Park. He conveyed that fund raising ideas are being formulated.

Stanchina reported that the City has decided to not trade in the old plow truck as planned. He noted that it would be optimal to have a spare truck available.

Public Comment

Bob Moraska - West D Street

He suggested that it might be worth checking to see that the old bike path contracts have not expired.

Council Member Privilege

Jacobetti noted the importance of the DDA boundary issue. He conveyed the idea that the City has an obligation to provide safe transportation for its residents, including those who use bicycles.

Farragh stated that he is in support of the bike path. He expressed a desire for the City to provide in-kind services instead of cash.

Adjournment

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Farragh to adjourn.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.



Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer