

City of Iron Mountain

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Regular Meeting of the Common Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Rosen

Present: Council Members Alessandrini, Jacobetti, Corombos, Villa & Moraska

Absent: Council Member Farragh

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina, Chief Financial Officer Bartolameolli & City Attorney Pirkola

Approval of Agenda

Rosen noted that "Fire Works Permit Re: Spielbauer Fireworks" and "Liquor License Approval Re: Italian Fest and City Park Fundraiser" should be added as numbers seventeen and eighteen, respectively, under New Business. He conveyed that "Executive Session Re: Collective Bargaining Strategy" and "Claims and Payroll" should be added to the agenda. Rosen suggested that the current number thirteen under New Business, "Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals", be replaced with "Parking Lot Closure Re: Italian Fest".

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Jacobetti to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting of June 6, 2011

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Villa to approve the Minutes of June 6, 2011, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

Barb Kramer - 135 Bradley Street

She relayed that the trees adjacent to the Downtown Performance Stage have not been replaced as of yet. Kramer requested that the City increase their efforts toward protecting the parking lot landscaping. Alessandrini communicated that he is working with the DDA to determine a variety of tree that is more optimal for the area surrounding the Downtown Performance Stage.

Richard Abraham - Founder of Americans for Constitutional Enforcement (ACE)

He provided the City Council with information regarding Agenda 21.

Raymond Valerio - 831 East Grant

He invited everyone to an ACE meeting on June 21, 2011 to see a video presentation on Agenda 21.

Old Business

None

New Business

Zoning Map Change Re: 440 Woodward Avenue

Stanchina stated that 440 Woodward Avenue, commonly known as the old hospital site, must be rezoned from Residential -3 to Office Services District in order to allow the construction of the proposed Belin Healthcare facility. He proceeded to detail the uses by right for a property that is located in an Office Services District. Stanchina relayed that the development of the proposed health clinic would not unduly disturb the current neighborhood.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to set a public hearing for the rezoning of the parcel located at 440 Woodward Avenue from Residential -3 to Office Services District on July 7, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Zoning Map Change Re: 1600 East Grand Boulevard

Stanchina relayed that it is unlikely a commercial development would take place on the proposed site and that amending the parcel's zoning would make this parcel congruent with the adjoining properties. He stated that once the zoning for this parcel has been changed, the current house would be raised and a new one constructed in its place.

It was moved by Villa and supported by Alessandrini to set a public hearing for the rezoning of the parcel located at 1600 Grand Boulevard from Business-2 to Residential-2 on July 7, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Amendments to Chapter 70 of the Code of Ordinances Re: Vegetation

Stanchina detailed the current vegetation ordinance and the proposed amendments. He communicated the idea that a more enforceable ordinance would better allow the City to gain compliance toward this rule from those who have frequently violated it in the past.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Jacobetti to set a public hearing for the amending of Chapter 70 of the Code of Ordinances on July 5, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Change Order to Add a Stainless Steel Dump Body on the New Plow Truck

Stanchina stated that the new plow truck will also be used as a salt truck. He relayed that a stainless steel dump box would increase the cost of the plow truck by \$3,550.00, but increases the useful life of the equipment and reduces maintenance costs. Stanchina confirmed that the dump body is an interchangeable component. He communicated that the plow truck has been completed, with the exception of the dump body.

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Alessandrini to approve the purchase of a stainless steel dump body for an additional cost of \$3,550.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Liaison and Committee Appointments

Stanchina recommended that the Healthcare, Technology, Operations & Management and Economic Development Committee be discontinued. Rosen supported Stanchina's recommendation to discontinue the above committees. Rosen conveyed that he would review the current committee assignments and vacancies and provide a recommendation at the next Regular City Council meeting.

No Action Taken

Approval of Change Order for the MEDC ICE Project

Stanchina relayed that the water main at the intersection of Main and Aragon must have a live tap installed, instead of an EZ2 Valve, due to the shallow depth of the water main. He clarified that the first change order was to reduce the total cost of the project.

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Corombos to approve change order number two in the amount of \$2,885.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Road Closure Request Re: Menominee Range Historical Foundation

Stanchina conveyed that the Menominee Range Historical Foundation is requesting a partial closure of Kent Street, from the east side of the Dry to the intersection of Kent and North Kimberly Avenue, for a museum Dedication, on July 17, 2011, from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. He stated that the reason for the request is to increase pedestrian safety. Stanchina recommended the closure.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to approve the proposed closure of Kent Street on July 17, 2011, from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Authorization to Submit a Grant Application through the VFA Program

Stanchina informed the City Council that the City is eligible to receive up to \$4,999 in grant funds from the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Program. He suggested that the city could expend grant funds on the development of a tornado siren, among other purchases. Stanchina assured the City Council that the City is not obligated to spend the funds that it is awarded through this program.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Corombos to authorize the submission of a grant application to the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Approval of Northern Michigan Public Service Academy

Stanchina recommended the approval of dues to the Northern Michigan Public Service Academy (NMPSA). Stanchina detailed the City's past usage of this organization. He noted that they have decreased their membership fee by 50% in light of the current economic circumstances, lowering their membership fee to \$10 per employee per year. Jacobetti stressed the importance of utilizing this resource, as long as the City is a member of the organization. Rosen voiced his support for the approval of the proposed membership dues to the NMPSA.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Moraska to approve the proposed membership dues to the Northern Michigan Public Service Academy.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Appointment of Members to the Community Garden Ad-Hoc Committee

Stanchina communicated that the purpose of the Community Garden Ad-Hoc Committee would be to oversee the operations of the Community Garden on the behalf of the City of Iron Mountain. Rosen noted that the following people were interested in serving on the proposed committee:

Sara Chandler
Jaclyn Vedin
Deborah Simons
Lisa Forsberg
Sharon Chick
Sherry Smith-Labrash

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to appoint the above people to the Community Garden Ad-Hoc Committee.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Authorization to Bid Paving and Other Infrastructure Repairs

Stanchina detailed the scheduled infrastructure improvements. He noted that the approximate cost of all the proposed improvements would be around \$180,000. Jacobetti voiced his support for the proposed infrastructure improvements. Stanchina relayed that crack sealing and line striping are part of the scheduled improvements. Alessandrini conveyed his concern for the washing out of the downhill portion of Grant Street. He communicated the idea that some preventative maintenance now could reduce future costs. Corombos requested that the alley between H Street and J Street be evaluated.

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Alessandrini to approve the bituminous paving projects as proposed.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

It was moved by Jacobetti and supported by Alessandrini to approve the proposed sewer repairs as proposed.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Year End Budget Amendment

Stanchina stated that the budget amendment would result in a net affect to the General Fund of zero dollars. He proceeded to detail the proposed budget amendment.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Moraska to approve the proposed budget amendment.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Parking Lot Closure Re: Italian Fest

Stanchina relayed that the Main Street Program has requested that the parking lot adjacent to East A Street and Iron Mountain Street be closed from 7:00 am on August 19, 2011, until 10 am on August 21, 2011 for the fifth annual Italian Fest. He conveyed that they would also like to have the noise ordinance waived on August 20, 2011, until 12:00 am.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Corombos to approve the requested parking lot close and noise ordinance variance.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Appointments to the Tax Incremental Finance Authority

Stanchina communicated that the Tax Incremental Finance Authority (TIFA) has several projects that they are completing prior to dispensing.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to appoint Jon Pryor to a four year term on the TIFA board to expire on June 17, 2015.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Corombos to appoint Jim Brinker to a four year term on the TIFA board to expire on June 17, 2015.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

It was moved by Villa and supported by Jacobetti to appoint Bob Haglund to a four year term on the TIFA board to expire on June 17, 2015.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Fire Works Permit Re: Spielbauer Fireworks

Stanchina stated that all the necessary criteria have been met for the issuance of a fire works permit to Spielbauer Fireworks for the July 4, 2011 fire works display.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to approve Spielbauer Fireworks to perform the July 4, 2011, fireworks display.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Liquor License Approval Re: Italian Fest and City Park Fundraiser

Stanchina relayed that the City Council must approve the one day liquor license transfer for the DDA's Italian Fest and the City Park fundraiser. He detailed the liquor license approval process. Stanchina confirmed that the City will purchase additional liability coverage for the day of the City Park fundraiser.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Villa to approve the one day liquor license for the City Park Fundraiser.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to approve the one day liquor license for the DDA's Italian Fest.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports Financial Reports

Claims and Payroll

Corombos explained the process that the City must follow, per State of Michigan policy, when checks are not cashed for a certain period of time. He stated that only \$738 worth of checks did not clear in the required time.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Jacobetti to approve the Claims in the amount of \$526,456.54 and the Payroll in the amount of \$279,461.01.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

City Manager Reports

Tree Ordinance

Stanchina stated that a tree ordinance has been proposed and he recommended that it be reviewed at the committee level.

Early Retiree Reimbursement Program

Stanchina conveyed that the City has been accepted by the Early Retiree Reimbursement Program (ERRP). He said that ERRP will pay 80% of the medical costs, which exceed 15,000 per employee annually, for retirees that are provided health coverage through their employer. Stanchina estimated that the City would receive \$70,000 from this program.

PA 54 of 2011

Stanchina explained PA 54 of 2011 to the City Council. He noted that the employee would be responsible for any increase in health insurance premiums and would not receive retroactive pay while bargaining is taking place.

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Belin Healthcare Facility

Alessandrini updated the City Council on the current status of the proposed Belin Healthcare facility at 440 Woodward Avenue. Stanchina stated that he would compose a letter of support for the project and provide a copy of it to the Dickinson County Board of Commissioners.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Villa to authorize the composing of a letter of support for the removal of the restrictive covenant on the property located at 440 Woodward Avenue, allowing the constructing of the proposed Belin Healthcare facility.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Villa noted that the Parks and Recreation Committee have been working diligently on the "Saturday in the Park" fundraiser. She updated the City Council on its current status.

Public Comment

Barb Kramer - 135 Bradley Street

She requested that Ripley Street be considered for repair. Stanchina noted that it is scheduled for repairs next year.

Virginia Feleppa - 1136 Crystal Lake Boulevard

She clarified that the proposed Tree Ordinance was meant to be a replacement for the current Tree Ordinance.

Larry Haag - 1139 Westwood Avenue, Kingsford, MI

He thanked the City Council for their efforts and expediency on the rezoning of the property located at 440 Woodward Avenue. Haag suggested that a new covenant could possibly be placed over the existing one, if the current covenant is not removed.

Council Member Privilege

Pirkola conveyed the idea that the thought of another covenant over the existing covenant on the 440 Woodward Avenue property is probably already being considered at the county level.

Executive Session Re: Collective Bargaining Strategy

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Moraska to move into executive session at 8:09 pm.

Rosen Aye
Alessandrini Aye
Jacobetti Aye
Corombos Aye
Moraska Aye
Villa Aye

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

Executive Session adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.



Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer