

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, October 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor VanLaanen
Present: Council Members Corombos, Alessandrini, Farragh, & Rosen
Absent: Council Member Peterson & Burke
Also Present: City Manager Stanchina, City Attorney Pirkola & CFO Bartolameolli

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Rosen to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion prevailed unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2009

Approved as prepared

Public Comment

None

Public Hearing

Vacation of the alley on the odd side of the 700 Block of East D Street

VanLaanen opened the Public Hearing

VanLaanen stated that Mr. Blagic requested that the platted alley, located behind his residence, be vacated. VanLaanen added that the land would most likely not be used in the future due to its terrain.

No residents came forward to comment.

VanLaanen closed the Public Hearing

Old Business

Approval of alley vacation RE: Odd side of the 700 Block of East D Street

Stanchina conveyed that all the neighbors within 300 feet have been notified and proper advertisement has been completed.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Alessandrini to vacate the alley on the Odd side of the 700 Block of East D Street.

Motion prevailed unanimously

New Business

Approval of Special Use Permit RE: Corner Stone Church expansion

Stanchina conveyed that the Corner Stone Church expansion is being recommended for a special use permit by the planning board. He noted that any church or school activity must go through the special use process. Stanchina relayed that the church will not be making significant changes to the building at this time. However, he conveyed that their exterior restoration efforts will involve the entire building in the future.

Alessandrini conveyed the belief that the Corner Stone Church was originally meant to be temporary. He voiced two concerns: the area is already congested and the church provides no tax base. Alessandrini stated that the church had said it would reside downtown temporarily. Alessandrini reiterated that the church is using prime property and is not generating tax revenue. Pastor Petry, 617 Kennedy RD., conveyed that the church's intention was to stay in their current location until it is no longer functional.

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Alessandrini noted that the church does not have much parking. Petry conveyed that the new space would be used for office and classroom space. He added that the neighbors are happy with what has been going on at the church; noting that it has actually freed up parking during the week. Rosen relayed that he has no issues with parking, despite his original apprehension. VanLaanen agreed that it would be optimal to develop a tax base and wished the church luck.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Rosen to support the Special Use Permit for the Corner Stone Community Church.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Special Use Permit RE: Bishop Baraga School expansion

Stanchina conveyed that the Bishop Baraga School would like to expand their existing building, adding on a common space between the existing building and the adoration chapel. He noted that if the proposed expansion was to take place, the current drop off would have to be modified. Stanchina communicated that this was the reason for the proposed drop off project. He noted that the new drive way would enter and exit on A Street, the entrance would be on the east end of the horse shoe. He added that basket ball hoops and other items would be utilizing the new drive way during the day. VanLaanen relayed his lack of support for the proposed drop off. He expressed his concern for the reduced stacking length and the possibility of overflow into A Street and toward the High School. VanLaanen relayed the opinion that it would be best for the school to be less dependent on city's right of way. Rosen expressed his support for this plan since it is the only workable solution other than what they had originally. Corombos asked how those parked in the angle parking area are going to back out. Joe Sparpana, N4700 birch lane, conveyed that the parking spots would be for parents that need to go into the school for a reason, acting as temporary parking. He conveyed that this plan would seal the play ground from traffic. Corombos asked how much stacking the new plan allowed for. Sparpana stated that 7 or 8 cars would fit. Corombos asked what the standby plan is if this becomes too confusing. Sparpana noted that only half of the alley was usable, so there is really not that much stacking now. Sparpana conveyed that the proposed plan would be the best way to minimize the effects of our school on the neighborhood. Sparpana proceeded to detail the plan. VanLaanen reiterated that he does not like the idea of the school relying on the city's right of way.

It was moved by Rosen and supported by Alessandrini to approve the Special Use Permit as submitted for the Bishop Baraga School.

VanLaanen	Nay
Corombos	Aye
Alessandrini	Aye
Farragh	Aye
Rosen	Aye
Peterson	Absent
Burke	Absent

Motion Passed (1-Nay, 4 Aye, 2 Absent, 0-Abstentions)

Approval of liquor license transfer RE: Garden Room restaurant

Stanchina relayed that the garden room is requesting to transfer its liquor license to Spiro's Cuisine Inc., since they are buying the restaurant.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Alessandrini to approve the transfer of the liquor license from the Garden Room to Spiro's Cuisine.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of vehicle repairs RE: Vactor Truck

Stanchina reported that the tanks on the Vactor Truck are leaking and need to be replaced. It will cost \$19,100 for the project. All but \$3,000 of the cost are for parts from the dealer. Stanchina noted that the fabrication can be done locally. He relayed that a new truck, at a cost of about \$300,000, would not be affordable at this time. Rosen asked how often the Vactor Truck is used. Farragh communicated that the Vactor Truck is used every day and the city could not share with Kingsford.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Farragh to approve up to \$25,000 for Vactor Truck parts.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Approval of grant submission RE: DLEG Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Stanchina communicated that the Department of Labor and Economic Growth received funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for energy upgrades. He noted that a geothermal upgrade for the DPW building would be substantially costly to the city. Stanchina relayed that City Halls HVAC unit is only 80% effective. He outlined a possible project that would replace the existing HVAC unit with a more efficient model and utilize heat pumps to save energy. Stanchina relayed that the projected cost of this project would be \$67,000 with the grant covering up to \$58,448, leaving a small gap that would need to be covered. VanLannen asked if the grant is competitive. Stanchina conveyed that it is. Corombos asked if TIFA could put money into the geo thermal project. Stanchina noted that they would not have the funds at this time either. VanLaanen asked if the HVAC project should be bid out after a grant would be received. Stanchina confirmed the previous. VanLaanen read the resolution into the record. It was moved by Rosen and supported by Farragh to support the resolution supporting the submission of a grant application to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

VanLaanen Aye
Corombos Aye
Alessandrini Aye
Farragh Aye
Rosen Aye
Peterson Absent
Burke Absent

Motion Passed (0-Nay, 5 Aye, 2 Absent, 0-Abstentions)

Approval of Well House repairs

Stanchina noted that it took a while to get a quote for the Well House project. He relayed that MJ Electric was the low bidder with a bid of \$66,000. Stanchina added that MJ Electric also bid \$44,000 for the installation of Variable Frequent Drives (VFD), there use will greatly decreases energy costs for the pumps. He noted that if the VFD's are not paid for by the insurance, they will pay for themselves. VanLaanen asked if Farragh had anything to add. Farragh noted that the project needs to be done as soon as possible. Stanchina conveyed that the insurance will at least cover the base amount of the bid and possible the VFD. VanLaanen asked if there is any information between now and when the drives are put in that would change our decision. Corombos conveyed that the pay back period on the VFD's would be good. Stanchina also noted that installing the VFD's would fix a long standing issue with the clay valves, allowing the city to replace them with standard check valves. Corombos confirmed that the uncovered portion of the expenditures would come out of the Water Fund. It was moved by Farragh and supported by Corombos to approve MJ Electric to do the necessary repairs and install Variable Frequency Drives at the Well House.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

Claims and Payroll

The Council reviewed the Payroll Report for the Month of August with regular wages in the amount of \$290,071.08 and OT in the amount of \$15,842.34. The Council also reviewed Claims in the amount of \$305,913.42. Rosen recommends approval of the claims and payroll based on the finance committee's collaboration. Rosen noted his abstention to item 124 since he owns Standard Printing.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Farragh to approve the Claims and Payroll.

VanLaanen Aye
Corombos Aye
Alessandrini Aye
Farragh Aye
Rosen Abstain
Peterson Absent
Burke Absent

Motion Passed (0-Nay, 4 Aye, 2 Absent, 1-Abstentions)

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Rosen reported that the tower leases are making great progress and that the changes should benefit the city.

City Manager

Stanchina reported that the Millie Hill Bat Trail project was awarded to lowest bidder, T &G, for \$85,316.40.

He recommended that Markell Roofing be awarded the Cemetery Roofing project.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Alessandrini to award the Cemetery Roofing project to Markell Roofing for \$12,988 with the option of installing Aluminum soffit and fascia for an additional \$3,750.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Stanchina noted that the ISO Report for the Fire Department dropped from a 4 to a 5. He relayed that items which do not cost too much will be looked at. He expressed the possibility of improving the rating without much cost.

City Attorney

None

Committee Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Council Member Privilege

Alessandrini relayed that the School Liaison is a good thing for the city and the school. He noted that the School has given back 3.5 mills and the School Liaison officer will be about .15mills. Alessandrini voiced his support for the Liaison Offices performance. He asked Pirkola if the state allows the city to maintain a list of drug offenders.

Farragh asked Stanchina to check on the snow plow safety program that was run at the school before. He expressed interest in keeping it going.

VanLaanen conveyed that Burke is ill. VanLaanen also noted how nice the parking lots look and he recognized how much work Mr. Nicometto put into the project.

Corombos agreed that the parking lot project worked out well.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Rosen to move to Executive Session

VanLaanen	Aye
Corombos	Aye
Alessandrini	Aye
Farragh	Aye
Rosen	Aye
Peterson	Absent
Burke	Absent

Motion Passed (0-Nay, 5 Aye, 2 Absent, 0-Abstentions)

Adjournment

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

Motion prevailed unanimously

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM



Isaac Micheau
Clerk