

City of Iron Mountain

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Regular Meeting of the City Council, City of Iron Mountain, County of Dickinson, Michigan held on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Alessandrini

Present: Council Members Maule, List, Revord, Saldana, Zemar & Blomquist

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina & City Attorney Pirkola

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by List and supported by Revord to approve the agenda, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Maule and supported by Saldana to approve the minutes of July 16, 2018, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

None

Special Presentation

Resolution of Recognition Re: Police Department Lieutenant David Irwin

Alessandrini read the Resolution of Recognition for Police Department Lieutenant David Irwin into the record.

It was moved by Revord and supported by List to approve the Resolution of Recognition for Police Department Lieutenant David Irwin, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Old Business

Bid Opening Re: Seal, Crack Fill and Line Stripe City-Owned Parking Lots

The Asphalt Doctor – Iron Mountain, MI

Seal, crack fill and stripe 100 Block of E A St. and Hughitt St. lot	\$18,679
Pavement marking for Library and City Hall lots	\$3,105

Dun-Rite Asphalt Maintenance– Marinette, WI

Seal, crack fill and stripe 100 Block of E A St. and Hughitt St. lot	\$17,200
Pavement marking for Library and City Hall lots	\$5,216

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Revord to refer the bids to staff.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

City Park Bathroom Roof and Soffit

Lake State Roofing, Inc.	\$17,630
Petschar Construction	\$14,475

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Maule to refer the bids to staff.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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New Business

Public Input Meeting Re: Carpenter Ave. Road Diet

David Aronson - 205 w. Brown St.

Aronson stated that the road diet would increase travel times during rush hour. He suggested placing a stop sign at the top of the hill on Fleshiem St. going north and extend Kimberly Ave. to Fleshiem St. to reduce traffic on Carpenter Ave.

Bruce Rosen - 1307 S. Hemlock St.

Rosen conveyed the opinion that placing bikes on the City's second busiest street would create additional liability and that the current roadway is okay as is.

Barb Kramer - 135 Bradley St.

Kramer relayed that having four lanes is encouraging drivers to speed and creates more accidents.

Dennis Wilcott - 812 E. Main St.

Wilcott imparted that riding in the City is the safest with a bike route and that it creates additional value for the City.

Laura Branz - 110 Lehman Ave.

Branz indicated that the type and amount of traffic on Carpenter Ave. make a road diet not ideal.

Rob Langsford - 619 Wells St.

Langsford asserted that there is too much congestion and that there are better locations for bikes.

Doug Rigoni - 411 Tall Pines Dr.

Rigoni communicated that Carpenter Ave. is not the place for a bike path and that the path would go to nowhere. He highlighted the cost of converting a road from a three-lane to a four-lane in the event the road diet does not work.

Jeff DeRidder - N4073 Pine Mountain Rd., Breitung Township

DeRidder noted that no other UP City, except Bessemer, asked to undo a road diet and that it would be better to add parking over bike paths. He suggested increasing the speed limit.

Jonathan Ringel - 814 W. Fleshiem St.

Ringel imparted that other forms of transportation need to be encouraged and that a lane reduction will strengthen the business corridor.

Declan Craven - 215 E. Hughitt St.

Craven indicated that he would like to see foot and bicycle traffic increase on Carpenter Ave.

David Summerfield - 624 E. I St.

Summerfield conveyed the opinion that it would not be a good idea to put in bike lanes on Carpenter Ave. due to school traffic.

John Roberts - 500 E. D St.

Roberts relayed that a lane reduction would not be ideal and that the bike path would go to nowhere.

John Leach - 404 Cass Ave., Kingsford, MI

Leach supported the idea of encouraging pedestrian traffic and slowing vehicle traffic,

Beau LaFave - 1021 E. C St.

LaFave expressed his lack of support for a lane reduction.

Walter Theeck - 1116 Prospect Ave.

Theeck communicated that he is not in support of this transition due to his past experience with Carpenter Ave. being a two-lane road and his concern that a lane reduction could make side street crossing more difficult.

Katherine Dziewicki - 303 W. D St.

Dziewicki supported increased pedestrian safety and a left turn lane.

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William Bond – 801 W. Hughitt St.

Bond communicated that he is not in support of the proposed lane change due to the current traffic flow.

Kyle Peterson – 704 Hamilton Ave, Kingsford, MI

Peterson highlighted his support for slowing traffic and increasing safety.

Phylis Ewig – 524 E. Stanton St.

Ewig stated that she is not in support of a lane reduction and that bikes should be on the sidewalks.

Melissa Wentarmini – 315 E. Ludington St.

Wentarmini asserted that it would be preferable to calm traffic, increase safety and increase economic activity.

Emma Gagne - 124 Dorland St., Kingsford, MI

Gagne offered her support for the road diet due to increased pedestrian amenities and safety.

Paula Craven – 215 E. Hughitt St.

Craven explained that a lane reduction would encourage other modes of transportation and revitalize Carpenter Ave.

Megan Blomquist – 632 Woodward Ave.

Blomquist encouraged the lane reduction due to increased safety.

Mark Klossner – 1001 Apollo Dr.

Klossner voiced his support for this project due to increased safety.

Martha Wiederrecht - 524 7th St.

Wiederrecht imparted her support for this type of project but not on Carpenter Ave.

Kevin Wendine – 105 N. Stephenson Ave.

Wendine stated his objection to the proposed lane change due to traffic volumes. He voiced his supported for the suggestion of an additional stop sign at Fleshiem St.

Bruce Rosen - 1307 W. Hemlock St.

Rosen recommended that this issue be a ballot initiative.

Gene Corollo – Iron Mountain Resident

Corollo conveyed that he is not in support of the road diet due to all modes of transportation being put together.

Mike Groeneveld-W8186 Collins Road, Breitung Township

Groeneveld voiced his support based on the advancement of the community.

Alessandrini noted that comments were received from Vance Jones, W7949 Herzog Rd., Rodger Rocconi , 504 W D St., Dennis Baldinelli, 205 Garfield St., Perry Jacobs , 1025 Carpenter Ave., and Anonymous in opposition of the lane reduction.

Maule supported the road diet due to its potential safety and community enhancements.

Blomquist highlighted that the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) endorses the proposed lane reduction.

Police Chief Ed Mattson confirmed that there are very few significant accidents on Carpenter Ave., a left turn lane would reduce rear end collisions and lane reductions could cause some delays.

Revord indicated that the proposed resolution the City would be approving for the lane reductions states that the shoulder area is useable for bikes but not allowable as a designated bike lane, thus offering no protections for bikers. He asserted that he would not vote yes on this issue unless protections were in place. Blomquist suggested that the City could approve the road diet and work with MDOT on the bike lane designation issue. Stanchina stated that the resolution can't be changed.

List offered the opinion that mopeds may be a problem if all that protects them is a solid white line.

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Alessandrini relayed that he is voting no due to the high volume of traffic on Carpenter Ave., bike path language in the resolution and the fact that bike routes are already in place.

Blomquist imparted the increased value to traffic safety, traffic calming, increased pedestrian activity and increased property values. Alessandrini conveyed that parking will be a constraint on property values. He reiterated the importance of maintaining traffic flow.

Saldana and Blomquist expressed the opinion that we need to plan for the future.

Stanchina outlined the process MDOT followed when studying traffic.

It was moved by Blomquist and supported by Maule to adopt the resolution in support of a lane reduction on Carpenter Ave. from four travel lanes to two travel lanes with a center turning lane and wide shoulders.

Maule	Aye
Alessandrini	Nay
Zemar	Nay
List	Nay
Revord	Nay
Blomquist	Aye
Saldana	Aye

Motion Failed (Aye-3, Nay-4, Abstain-0)

2018/2019 Economic Development Alliance Contribution

Alessandrini requested that he receive copies of their minutes.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Revord to approve the 2018/2019 Economic Development Alliance contribution in the amount of \$5,000.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals Re: Dr. Kim Recla

Stanchina indicated that Dr. Kim Recla has submitted a letter of interest to fill the long vacant Zoning Board of Appeals position.

It was moved by List and supported by Maule to appoint Dr. Kim Recla to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire on June 20, 2020.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Appointment to the City Civil Service Commission Re: Joint Employee/Council Appointment

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Zemar to appoint Dave Farragh to the City Civil Service Commission for a term to expire on August 1, 2021.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

None

City Manager Reports

Stanchina reported that line striping on the major streets have been completed, the Labor Relations Committee has come to a tentative agreement and that the First Annual First Responder Charity Softball Game will take place at Ranger Field on August 11, 2018, at 10:00 A.M.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

Stanchina reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee met to discuss park improvements adjacent to the pickleball courts. He notified the City Council that the next meeting will be on August 20, 2018, at 10:00 A.M.

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Alessandrini invited volunteers to help install the new playground equipment on August 9, 2018.

The City Council discussed the enforcement of aggressive dogs at the City Park Dog Park.

Public Comment

David Aronson – 106 Prospect Ave.

Aronson asked why the City paints stripes on residential streets. Stanchina verified that stripes have to be painted on major streets in order for the City to receive funding.

Emma Gagne - 124 Dorland St., Kingsford, MI

Gagne thanked the City Council for considering the road diet.

Ryan Spencer – 534 Woodward Ave.

Spencer indicated that he would like to see more discussion regarding road diets.

Council Member Privilege

Maule encouraged people to get out and vote.

Revord reported that branches need to be trimmed at Washington St. and E. Hughitt St.

Saldana voiced his disappointment for the outcome of the road diet issue and his desire to continue looking for ways to fix issues.

Blomquist thanked the public and City Council for considering a road diet. He noted how nice it was to have people attend the meeting.

Alessandrini asked about placing a stop sign at Ludington Street and Carpenter Avenue and a “no trucks” sign at Fleshiem Street and Carpenter Avenue.

Adjournment

It was moved by Revord and supported by Saldana to adjourn.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M.



Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer