

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, October 3, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Alessandrini

Present: Council Members Tomassoni, Maule, Farragh, Blomquist, Zemar, and Clawson

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Stanchina

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Blomquist and supported by Maule to approve the agenda, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Blomquist and supported by Zemar to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 19, 2022, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Approval of Appraisal Re: Dollar General

Stanchina presented the request from Dollar General to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for a decrease in their Taxable Values and recommend that the city get Miles Anderson to perform a commercial appraisal to confirm the value.

He confirmed that there is little expense on Dollar General's part up to the cost of an appraisal.

It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Clawson to retain Miles Anderson to perform a commercial appraisal on the Dollar General, 1000 N. Stephenson Ave., for a cost not to exceed \$6,000.00.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

New Business

Developer's Agreement Re: Kwik Trip 1010 N. Stephenson Ave.

Stanchina stated that there is a sewer line where the Kwik Trip building would be located and that they are willing to relocate the sewer at their cost and give the City of Iron Mountain an easement through their prop.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Zemar to approve the proposed developer's agreement for the Kwik Trip located at 1010 N. Stephenson Avenue.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Charter Amendment Ballot Proposal Withdrawal Re: Sec. 4.10.-compensation for Councilmen

Stanchina communicated that the charter amendment ballot proposal language for Section 4.10, Compensation for Councilmen, was not processed by the State of Michigan in a timely fashion and that a resolution needs to be passed removing the request.

It was moved by Blomquist and supported by Tomassoni to approve Resolution 2022-18, A RESOLUTION TO WITHDRAW A BALLOT PROPOSAL, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Request for Easement from WE Energies Re: North of Tower Dr.

Stanchina detailed a request by WE Energies for a utility easement through parcel number 051-000-251-01 on Tower Dr. so that power can be ran to a residential parcel.

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It was moved by Alessandrini and supported by Blomquist to approve the Distribution Easement for Underground Electric between the City of Iron Mountain and Upper Michigan Energy Resources Corporation, as submitted.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of FY22 Dues Re: Northern Michigan Public Service Academy (NMPSA)

Stanchina indicated his support for the city renewing their 2023 Northern Michigan Public Service Academy Dues in the amount of \$840.00.

It was moved by Maule and supported by Zemar to pay the 2022-23 annual dues to the 2023 Northern Michigan Public Service Academy in the amount of \$840.00.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Reports

Financial Reports

None

City Manager Reports

The City Manager reported the following:

1. Hydrant Flushing will begin the week of October 9, 2022, and start on Lehman Ave. by the well site.
2. The 2022 Deer Management program has harvested four deer.
3. The demolition of the former Oliva's Market has begun.

Stanchina reviewed the garbage collection plan. Alessandrini raised the issue of garbage collection conflicts on B Street near the school due to parking.

Farragh supported offering recycling. Alessandrini asserted that it would be best to adjust to garbage first and then roll out recycling. Stanchina conveyed that the public will need to be educated about recycling and that cans will only be out the day of pick up. Blomquist stressed the importance of recycling right away. He questioned how many tons of trash would be saved by recycling.

Maule suggested offering a second public hearing to discuss the transition. Stanchina imparted that he would aim to have a contract for the next meeting. Blomquist expressed the opinion that a second hearing would most likely result in more of the same ideas.

It was concluded by the City Council that the City would move forward with the garbage transition.

Alessandrini requested the status of the Recla fence enforcement.

Maule noted that the fence on chain link fence at the top of Park Ave. is still not repaired.

City Attorney Reports

None

Pirkola indicated that a lot of litigation has occurred since the City's marijuana ordinance was put in place. He stated that current litigation could affect the City's wait list if the rubric is found defective. Alessandrini raised the issue of how to amend plans for wait list companies. Pirkola relayed that many cities have won their law suits. Blomquist communicated that the business environment for marijuana has shifted downward since the wait list was established. Pirkola verified that there is no expiration language in the City's ordinance. Blomquist expressed the opinion that marijuana needs to be normalized. He encouraged not having a limit on marijuana licenses and regulating the zoning for facilities instead. Zemar asserted that the City Council doesn't protect company profits. Alessandrini conveyed that he does not support more than one more dispensary license. Blomquist reiterated that the number of licenses doesn't need to be limited. Zemar noted that the people who didn't want marijuana shouldn't be ignored. Stanchina relayed that zoning could limit development area. Zemar imparted that timing is important so that the current wait list companies #3 and #4 can prepare. Blomquist suggested utilizing a sunset clause for opening licenses in order to create a final deadline. Pirkola reiterated the options to utilize zoning as a facility limitation. Alessandrini imparted that he would not support more than one additional license. It was concluded that a public forum to discuss this issue would be discussed at 6:00 P.M. on

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October 24, 2022. Alessandrini noted the odor problem on the north side from the current marijuana facilities. Zemar questioned if an outside company can operate under another person's license. Blomquist highlighted that drug test doesn't test sobriety, just that the substance was used.

Committee Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Council Member Privilege

None

Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.


Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer