

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, March 19, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room.

Presiding: Mayor Pro Tem Alessandrini

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

Absent: Council Member Rosen

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Meeting of March 5, 2012

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Jacobetti to approve the Minutes of March 5, 2012, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting of March 13, 2012

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Villa to approve the Minutes of March 13, 2012, as presented.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Public Comment

Barb Kramer - 135 Bradley Street

She detailed the upcoming Friends of the Braumart fundraiser.

Public Hearing

Amendment to the Code of Ordinances Re: Chapter 70, Article III. Trees

Stanchina outlined the proposed amendments to Chapter 70, Article III.

Alessandrini opened the public hearing.

Virginia Feleppa - 1136 Crystal Lake Boulevard

She expressed the Tree Board's desire to initiate a tree planning program throughout the City, as to maintain an adequate level of trees within the community.

Alessandrini closed the public hearing.

Old Business

Amendment to the Code of Ordinances Re: Chapter 70, Article III. Trees

Stanchina explained how a typical tree planning program is funded and managed. Moraska and Alessandrini conveyed the opinion that a \$50 fine is too expensive for a first offence. Stanchina relayed the opinion that an ordinance must be enforceable, if necessary, and that it has been uncommon for residents to be cited for infractions of the City Code of Ordinances. Pirkola suggested that the following be included in the penalty provision of the proposed ordinance amendment: Provided, however, that he may first issue a written warning prior to issuing any formal civil infraction.

It was moved by Farragh and supported by Jacobetti to approve the proposed amendments to Chapter 70, Article III, of the Code of Ordinances, including the amendments as proposed by the City Attorney.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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Opening of Consultants Proposals Re: Pine, Houghteling, Tamarack and Kent Street Utility Upgrade

Stanchina opened the following consulting proposals for water system improvements in the 25 location.

Mountain Engineering	\$14,910
G.E.I. Consulting	\$29,678
U.P. Engineers & Architects	\$35,000
Coleman Engineering	\$24,735

Stanchina recommended that the bids be referred to the Infrastructure Committee for review.

Opening of Audit Proposals Re: City Financial Audit Services

Stanchina noted that the City paid \$17,000 for last year's financial audit and that audit services are required to be re-bid every two years. He opened the following audit proposals:

	1 st Year	2 nd Year
Gambridge & Company	\$12,740	\$13,100
Anderson Tackman & Company	\$24,000	\$26,000
Campbell Kusterer & Company	\$18,700	\$18,700

Stanchina recommended that the proposals be referred to staff for review.

New Business

Discussion of 2 Hour Parking Re: 200 Block of East Hughitt Street

Linnea Marchetti, DDA Representative - 614 W. Ludington Street

She requested that the City Council consider placing two hour parking signs on the 200 Block of East Hughitt Street, as increased parking rotation would aid customer flow and positively impact the surrounding businesses. Marchetti expressed the opinion that most people would respect the two hour parking signs, without regular enforcement.

Moraska conveyed the opinion that posting two hour parking would cause the City to expend additional resources unnecessarily. Alessandrini, Farragh and Corombos supported the idea of posting two hour parking signs, pending the creation of an enforcement method.

Lori Mellon, Mellon Chiropractic Clinic - 208 E. Hughitt Street

She explained the difficulties that their business has incurred due to long term parking on the 200 Block of East Hughitt.

It was concluded that a committee will be created to discuss this issue further.

No Action Taken

Rescission of Developer's Agreement Re: Millie Hill Subdivision

Stanchina stated that R.L.S. Investments is no longer pursuing the approval of a state approved plat, in lieu of a condominium development, on Millie Hill and that the current developer's agreement with the City should be rescinded. He noted that a new developer's agreement must be drafted to reflect the new development method.

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Farragh to rescind the developer's agreement between the City of Iron Mountain and R.L.S. Investments Inc., in regards to the Millie Hill Subdivision.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Discussion of Real Estate Policy Amendment

Stanchina suggested that the Real Estate Policy be amended to allow the City to take proposals for site development, in the event the City desires to sell a piece of property proactively. Moraska communicated his support for an amendment of this type.

No Action Taken

Reports

Financial Reports

February Claims and Payroll

Corombos reported on the Finance Committee's review of the Claims and Payroll.

It was moved by Corombos and supported by Moraska to approve the Claims in the amount of \$898,840.61 and the Payroll in the amount of \$277,846.12.

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

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City Manager Reports

Stanchina informed the City Council that the spring rubbish drop off is currently being planned.

Stanchina noted that the Variable Frequency Drive for Well #1 has failed and that M.J. Electric was able to get a replacement part at no cost, while only incurring minimal labor charges.

Stanchina relayed that there is a dedicated phone line at Well #4, located in Breitung Township, which is costing the City \$564 a month. He stated that the situation will be reviewed when the water telemetry technicians are on site next week.

City Attorney Reports

None

Committee Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Council Member Privilege

Moraska commended the Tree Board for their efforts on the amending of the Tree Ordinance and the Finance Committee on their efforts toward reducing the City's monthly expenses.

Stanchina updated the City Council on the payment status of the Dickinson Area Partnership Dues. Corombos raised the question of who owns the property on which the Dickinson Area Partnership is located and whether or not the property should be generating tax or lease revenue.

Corombos explained the process that a possible refinancing of the waters bonds would entail.

Executive Session Re: Pending Litigation

It was moved by Moraska and supported by Farragh to move into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m.

Alessandrini	Aye
Corombos	Aye
Villa	Aye
Jacobetti	Aye
Moraska	Aye
Farragh	Aye

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


Executive Session ended at 8:01 p.m.

Adjournment

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

Motion Prevailed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.


Isaac Micheau
Clerk-Treasurer