

## ISHPEMING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting of August 22, 2011

A meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, August 22, 2011, at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room. Chairman Brad Argall called the meeting to order.

Present: Brad Argall, Jered Ottenwess, Diane Gauthier, Elaine Racine, Charlie Anderson, David Aeh, and Rosemarie Strom

Also present were Treasurer Anita Keto, Chamber of Commerce Director Elizabeth Peterson, and Carr Baldwin, Dave Lampinen, and Pat Coleman of U. P. Engineers and Architects.

### Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Gauthier to approve the minutes of July 25, 2011, as presented. Motion carried.

### Financial Report

A motion was made by Mrs. Gauthier and seconded by Mr. Anderson to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

### Appoint Representatives to the Entrance Improvement Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Ottenwess and seconded by Mrs. Racine to appoint Sandy Sundquist, Cheryl Kellow, and Diane Gauthier as the DDA representatives to the Entrance Improvement Committee. Motion carried.

### Hematite Heights Committee

Mr. Ottenwess said two projects being considered are the Malton Road Extension and recreation improvements in Hematite Heights.

A motion was made by Mr. Argall and seconded by Mr. Aeh to appoint Brad Argall and Diane Gauthier to the Hematite Heights Committee. Motion carried.

### Amendment to Bylaws

As the City Charter was amended to require that the City budget be completed by October 15 rather than August 15, a motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Aeh to approve an amendment to the DDA Bylaws, Article VIII, Section V, Budget, which states: The DDA Board of Directors shall set goals and objectives annually in September to develop and approve a budget for the fiscal year beginning the first day of January. The DDA Board of Directors shall submit an annual budget to the Ishpeming City Council by the end of September for inclusion in the annual budget presentation to City Council for City approval. Motion carried.

Mr. Ottenwess stated that the City Council made a policy that groups requesting financial assistance for events must submit their requests for consideration at the December meeting. It was noted that this policy could be considered by the DDA when preparing next year's budget.

### Ishpeming Business Association

Mr. Anderson stated the Renaissance Faire was successful. The Red Hats Society has 190 members coming to the Country Village on September 15-16. The event is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the IBA. The Thursday night concerts are extremely successful this year. Funding is provided by the DDA, and Kurt Gronvall has done a great job in obtaining the performers. It is hoped next year there will be vendors each Thursday.

### Chamber of Commerce Report

Mrs. Peterson said the Fourth of July events were a success. For the first time, a golf tournament was held. So far, the Mud Plunge has 550 participants. The site is dry, and they have to find a way to make mud. There will be a band and vendors. Mrs. Peterson noted the Chamber is moving to the building in front of Jubilee, and they will be sharing space with Yooper Shirts. There is a Chamber 101 event coming up with representatives of the Small Business Association of Michigan. She is starting to plan the annual dinner for the end of October. The Fox Motors Business After Hours was postponed as their construction work is not completed. There will not be a Business After Hours this month. The Chamber now has 165 members.

### New Business

Mr. Ottenwess said an anonymous donor will be donating money to the City that can only be used for a skate board park.

Mr. Ottenwess stated there may be need for Fire Department or Department of Public Works support on resolving the mud issue for the Mud Plunge and suggested the DDA could offset City cost for labor and equipment. The issue of reimbursement will be considered at the next meeting once it is determined how much City involvement is required.

Mr. Ottenwess indicated the scope of work for UPEA needs to be expanded. The CDBG DIG grant program is for downtown infrastructure programs, and using the bond proceeds as a local match is a good way to maximize funding. Sidewalk replacement and visual enhancements are eligible under the DIG program. Specifics for sidewalk replacement and entrance improvements must be established. The Partridge Creek project will have some impact on what is planned in the downtown. The Iron Ore Heritage Trail grant has some remaining funds that could be utilized for enhancements possibly at Hematite and Third. Mr. Coleman proposes that UPEA works on a time and material basis to package the project and help to prepare the grant application. The grant application is due by October 21.

### Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Argall and seconded by Mrs. Racine to adjourn at 5:10 p.m.

Carol Holmgren  
Recording Secretary