

ISHPEMING DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Meeting of May 23, 2011

A meeting of the Ishpeming Downtown Development Authority was held on Monday, May 23, 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, Cheryl Kellow, David Aeh, Rosemarie Strom, and Elaine Racine

Also present were Treasurer Anita Keto, Chamber of Commerce Director Elizabeth Peterson, Carr Baldwin, Dave Lampinen, and Pat Coleman of U. P. Engineers & Architects, and Ernie Johnson of the Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mrs. Gauthier and seconded by Mrs. Strom to accept the minutes of March 28, 2011, as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Treasurer Anita Keto presented the financial report ending April 30, 2011. She indicated the bond payment was made.

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

Request of the Rock and Mineral Club for Financial Assistance

Ernie Johnson stated the Rock and Mineral Club was started in 1953, and this will be their 36th show. Their annual show is held in conjunction with the Renaissance Faire. They are requesting \$500 to help finance their costs for informational material.

A motion was made by Mrs. Racine and seconded by Mr. Aeh to contribute up to \$500 for this year's Rock and Mineral Club show on August 6, 2011, with any payments made to the vendor. Motion carried.

Road Repairs

Mr. Ottenwess said a cut was made across Main Street when the lights were put in. It is on a diagonal across Main Street that creates a bump. The City does not have funds in Major or Local Street Funds for this repair. The cost of repair would be about \$5,000, and Mr. Ottenwess is inquiring if the DDA would pay for the repair. If so, quotes could be requested.

A quote was received from Northern Asphalt Repair, Inc., to do preventive maintenance to North Road in the amount of \$736.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh and seconded by Mrs. Racine to appropriate funds of \$736.00 for road repairs in the Country Village, contingent upon review and approval by DPW Director/Engineer Jon Kangas. Ayes: Six (6). Nays: None (0). Abstained: One (Brad Argall). Motion carried.

Penney Building Demolition

Mr. Ottenwess said he has received two change orders for the Penney Building.

One change order is to waterproof and insulate foundation walls before backfilling in the amount of \$6,950. If this is not authorized, there is concern a situation could arise where water infiltrates Congress Pizza.

The second change order is to remove a portion of the remaining wall that sticks up above the roof line at Congress Pizza. This portion of the wall serves no purpose and could collapse. A change order of \$5,875 to remove that portion of wall, level the roof line, and reinstall clay tile cap was received from T & G United, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Argall and seconded by Ms. Kellow to approve both changes orders, less \$1,050 to not use the existing clay tile cap. Motion carried.

Mr. Ottenwess said a problem has been encountered at the Marquette County Landfill in regards to disposal of the Penney building. The contractor had disposed of at least 90% of the building and was notified the Landfill would not accept the remaining portion. They are now demanding that a compliance form be submitted for accepting hazardous waste.

201 East Division Street

Mr. Ottenwess said the County Land Bank Authority could take possession of the front half of the building. There are two separate buildings on one parcel. Through the Land Bank Authority, the County can buy and sell property. If the Land Bank Authority takes the building, they are not required to use it for a public purpose and have more options available. Mr. Aeh indicated he would like to see the building renovated, if possible, and Mr. Argall stated he would like to see a report on the condition of the building. Mr. Ottenwess will get additional information from County Treasurer Anne Giroux.

Bond Projects

Mr. Ottenwess stated U. P. Engineers & Architects prepared a scope of work and fee proposal for design and implementation services for the DDA bond projects. General consensus was to delay action on the bond project list at this time. Mr. Ottenwess encouraged DDA members to review the proposal and contact him with any questions prior to the next meeting.

Ishpeming Business Association Report

Mr. Aeh said plans for the Festival of Treasures are progressing, including the Texaco Country Music Showdown, chainsaw carving, Croatian chicken, and a chili cook-off. The Thursday night concerts will start on July 7.

Chamber of Commerce Report

Ms. Peterson stated a part-time person has been hired for 10-15 hours per week. She works on the newsletters and invitations. A luncheon was held last month, and over 30 people attended. Ms. Peterson is working with the Marquette Country Convention and Visitors Bureau to list events on their calendar. Business after hours events have been successful. Registration for the Mud Plunge has opened. She met with Les Wong, who expressed his support for the Chamber and indicated NMU would become a member. They are receiving a number of requests for visitor information. She will be attending the U. S. Chamber of Commerce meeting in Madison, Wisconsin.

Old Business

Mr. Ottenwess stated that Cliffs Shaft has raised about \$10,000 for the roof repair. Mr. LaFond informed him they should be able to raise the remaining funds or would dip into their operating funds.

New Business

Mr. Ottenwess said he had an inquiry from a City Council Member about having a joint meeting between the City Council and DDA.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Aeh and seconded by Mrs. Racine to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Carol Holmgren
Recording Secretary