

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, December 15, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Mark Ammel at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 410 Ludington Street.

Present: Mayor Mark Ammel, Council Members, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Tyler DuBord, Todd Flath, and Karen Moore

Absent: None

Also Present: Interim City Manager Jim McNeil, City Clerk Phil DeMay, Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

City Clerk DeMay led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moore moved, Flath seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting minutes from December 1, 2022, as submitted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

DuBord moved, Flath seconded, to add grant writing assistance for Public Safety for body worn cameras to New Business Item #6.

Flath moved, DuBord seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the City Council Agenda as amended.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ed Legault – Discussed the City of Escanaba City Manager position.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

NB-1 Approval – 2023 Employee Assistance Program Contract – HR Director/Treasurer.

Administration requested City Council approval of the 2023 EAP services contract, and that it can automatically renew unless there is a price increase for services.

NB-1 DuBord moved, Moore seconded, to approve of the 2023 EAP services contract, and that it can automatically renew unless there is a price increase for services.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: DuBord, Moore, Beauchamp, Flath, Mayor Ammel

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-2 Approval – Resolution 22-12 – Resolution of Authorization City of Escanaba Match with Donated Funds – Recreation.

Administration sought City Council approval of a Resolution authorizing submission of a Spark Grant for Dedicated Outdoor Pickleball and Surrounding Play Area at Royce Park.

NB-2 By Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Beauchamp:

RESOLUTION 22-12

**RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION
CITY OF ESCANABA MATCH WITH DONATED FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the City of Escanaba and the Escanaba City Council supports the submission of an application titled, “Dedicated Outdoor Pickleball and Surrounding Play Areas” to the Spark Grant Program for Construction of Eight Dedicated Pickleball Courts, Updating Playground Equipment, Resurfaced Basketball Court and Resurfaced Two Tennis Courts at Royce Park”; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Escanaba is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$40,000 matching funds, in cash and/or force account; and,

WHEREAS, if the grant is awarded the applicant commits its local match and donated amounts from the following sources:

City of Escanaba	\$40,000
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Total	\$40,000
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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Escanaba City Council hereby authorizes submission of a Spark Grant Application for \$600,000 and further resolves to make available a local match through financial commitment and donation(s) of \$40,000 (15%) of a total \$640,000 project cost, during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Moore, Beauchamp, DuBord, Flath, Mayor Ammel
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

NB-3 Approval – Resolution 22-13 – Resolution of Authorization City of Escanaba Match Without Donated Funds – Recreation.

Administration sought City Council approval of a Resolution authorizing submission of a Spark Grant for Rose Park Updated Playground Equipment.

NB-3 By Council Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Flath:

RESOLUTION 22-13

**RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION
CITY OF ESCANABA MATCH WITHOUT DONATED FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the City of Escanaba and the Escanaba City Council supports the submission of an application titled, “Rose Park Updated Playground Equipment” to the Spark Grant Program for updated playground equipment at Rose Park; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Escanaba City Council hereby authorizes submission of a Spark Application for \$400,000.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Moore, Flath, Beauchamp, DuBord, Mayor Ammel
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

NB-4 Approval – Set a Public Hearing Date for Condemnation Located at 1620 9th Avenue South – Public Safety.

Administration sought City Council approval to set a Public Hearing date for the possible condemnation of the home at 1620 9th Avenue South due to lack of maintenance and repair and is unfit for human habitation. If the City Council decides to proceed with the condemnation, it must set a date and time for a public hearing on the matter NOT LESS than four (4) weeks after the date of the meeting which it decides to proceed.

NB-4 DuBord moved, Moore seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set a Public Hearing date for January 19, 2023, to review the information for the possible condemnation of the home located at 1620 9th Avenue South.

NB-5 Discussion – City Manager Position – Council/Manager.

City Council discussed how they would like to proceed with the search for a permanent City Manager.

NB-6 Approval – Grant Writing Assistance – Public Safety.

Escanaba Public Safety requested the approval of \$2,500 to hire Lexipol to write a grant for the Small Rural Tribal Body Worn Camera Program.

NB-6 DuBord moved, Moore seconded, to approve of \$2,500 to hire Lexipol to write a grant for the Small Rural Tribal Body Worn Camera Program.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: DuBord, Moore, Beauchamp, Flath, Mayor Ammel

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES – None

BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Members reviewed City Board and Commission meetings each attended since the last City Council Meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All purchase agreements of the Jail property and Chamber property have been signed.
- Mayor Ammel wished the community a Merry Christmas!

Hearing no further public comment Flath moved, the Council adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Phil DeMay
City Clerk

Approved: _____
Mark Ammel, Mayor