

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN  
Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, March 7, 2024**

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: City Manager James R. McNeil, City Clerk Phil DeMay, Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

City Clerk DeMay led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Flath moved, DuBord seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting minutes from February 15, 2024, as submitted.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Beauchamp moved, DuBord seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to add a discussion on lifting winter parking restrictions and making that new business item number 8.

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

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** – None

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Nikki Linder – discussed NB-1.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** – None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NB-1 First Reading of Ordinance No. 1287, New D – Local Business Zoning District Ordinance of 2024, and Setting the Date of Thursday, April 4, 2024, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption – Planning & Zoning.**

Administration requested the City Council to consider this the first reading of

Ordinance No. 1287, New D – Local Business Zoning District Ordinance of 2024. Administration requested that the City Council set April 4, 2024, for the second reading, public hearing adoption of Ordinance No. 1287.

**NB-1** Flath moved, DuBord seconded, to reject the application and direct administration to bring the zoning map in alignment with the documents.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-2 Approval – Stump Grinding – Public Works.**

Administration requested City Council approval to retain Dombrowski Tree Service for removal, restoration, and seed for 45 stumps with \$31.50 for restoration for stump grinding. This was a budgeted item for the current amount of stumps.

**NB-2** Moore moved, Beauchamp seconded, to approve to retain Dombrowski Tree Service for removal, restoration, and seed for 45 stumps with \$31.50 for restoration for stump grinding.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-3 Approval – Trees Cut Down and Removed from Compost Area Bid – Public Works.**

Administration sought City Council approval to have contractor cut down and remove approximately 4.5 acres of trees at no cost to the city.

**NB-3** DuBord moved, Moore seconded, to approve to have Bugle Contracting cut down and remove approximately 4.5 acres of trees at no cost to the city.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-4 Approval – MPower Mapping Cleanup “Line Tracing” – WTP – Water Department.**

Administration requested City Council approval to retain the services of MPower from Iron Mountain, MI, for water system map cleanup for the City of Escanaba Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$4,800.00. Money was budgeted and available for this type of work.

**NB-4** DuBord moved, Moore seconded, to approve to retain the services of MPower from Iron Mountain, MI, for water system map cleanup for the City of Escanaba Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$4,800.00.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-5 Approval – Automation of Wastewater Plant – Wastewater Department.**

Administration requested City Council approval to retain the services of Master Electric of Escanaba, MI, for the automation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$35,953.00 to include \$5,000.00 in contingencies. \$30,000.00 was budgeted and available within the fiscal year. The remainder of the money was available through the wastewater fund.

**NB-5** DuBord moved, Moore seconded, to approve to retain the services of Master Electric of Escanaba, MI, for the automation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$35,953.00 to include \$5,000.00 in contingencies.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-6 Approval – Distribution Inventory Materials – ARPA 1 – Water Department.**

Administration requested City Council approval to purchase Water Distribution inventory materials from ETNA of Marquette, MI, in the amount of \$160,000.00 and Core and Main of DePere, WI, in the amount of \$190,000.00 for a total not to exceed \$350,000.00. Money was available and budgeted for this purchase in the current fiscal year.

**NB-6** DuBord moved, Beauchamp seconded, to approve to purchase Water

Distribution inventory materials from ETNA of Marquette, MI, in the amount of \$160,000.00 and Core and Main of DePere, WI, in the amount of \$190,000.00 for a total not to exceed \$350,000.00.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-7 Approval – Traffic Control Orders (TCO) No. 1015 – 1025 – Department of Public Safety.**

Administration sought City Council approval of TCO's No. 1015 – 1025. Traffic Control Orders expire 90 days from the filing date unless approved by Council. The Traffic Control Orders call for the following:

- No. 1015 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 4th Ave N and N 18th St.
- No. 1016 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 8th Ave N and N 19th St.
- No. 1017 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 10th Ave N and N 20th St.
- No. 1018 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 11th Ave N and N 20th St.
- No. 1019 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 12th Ave S and S 16th St.
- No. 1020 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 14th Ave S and S 15th St.
- No. 1021 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 17th Ave S and S 16th St.
- No. 1022 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 18th Ave S and S 22nd St.
- No. 1023 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of 24th Ave S and S 22nd St.
- No. 1024 – Yield Sign be installed at the intersection of Park Ave and 16th Ave S.
- No. 1025 – A Caution Autism Child Sign be placed in front of or near 930 S 17<sup>th</sup> St.

**NB-7** DuBord moved, Beauchamp seconded, to approve of TCO's No. 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1021, 1022, 1023, 1024 & 1025.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**NB-8 Discussion – Lifting Winter Parking Restrictions.**

City Council held a discussion on what to do with winter parking restrictions for the remainder of the winter due to the warmer weather.

Council discussed with Chief of police to leave the question of enforcement up to the Escanaba Public Safety Department in the case of snow. Public Safety Director John

Gudwer said “*we will not be enforcing (the) winter parking ordinance at this time, but if the snow does come, we will be enforcing the ordinance, if we get the snowfall*”.

### **APPOINTMENT(S) TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

*Council made the following appointment:*

Rick Curtis appointed to the Board of Equalization and Review, expiring November 1, 2025.

### **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**

- City Clerk Phil DeMay gave an update on the February 27<sup>th</sup> Election. Thanked his election inspectors and Deputy Clerk Tammy Weissert.
- Restaurant Week this week! Support your local restaurants.

Hearing no further public comment, Flath moved, DuBord seconded, the Council adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil DeMay  
City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Ammel, Mayor