

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 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 March 7, 2024, as submitted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Moore moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the City Council Agenda as submitted.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Council Member Beauchamp has declared New Business item number 10 a conflict of interest due to owning property within the agreement.

AWARD PRESENTATIONS(S)

Officer Lifesaving Awards were presented to Austin Young, Mitch Peterson, and Dalton Deneau.

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH-1 Public Hearing – Citizen Participation – 2024-25 Fiscal Year Budget Preparation.

A public hearing was conducted to facilitate input from citizens for the City's next fiscal year budget. This was the third of five (5) scheduled public hearings.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Ammel asked for public comment.

Hearing no public comment, Mayor Ammel then closed the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

NB-1 Presentation – New Planet Walk on Ludington Street – Manager.

Dan Young with the Delta Astronomical Society gave a brief presentation on the New Planet Walk on Ludington Street.

NB-1 Beauchamp moved, DuBord seconded, to provide Delta Astronomical Society with a donation of \$1,500 towards their fundraising.

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

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-2 Approval – Escanaba Public Safety Department Building Generator Bid - EPSD.

Administration requested City Council approval to purchase an 80KW Generac generator from Master Electric of Escanaba, MI, in the amount of \$120,705.00.

NB-2 DuBord moved, Flath seconded, to approve to purchase an 80KW Generac generator from Master Electric of Escanaba, MI, in the amount of \$125,705.00 contingent on purchasing an appropriate warranty.

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

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-3 Approval - Street Closure Requests for Various Fundraising Events - Manager.

Cat-Man-Do's, 1223 Ludington Street is requesting the City Council approve the closure of the 1200 Block of Ludington Street for (Classic Car & Bike Nights May 8th (9th), June 12th (13th), July 10th (11th), August 14th (15th), and the closure of the

100 block of South 13th Street from Ludington Street to 1st Avenue South for the other Fundraisers (Car Show July 1st, Wheelin' Sportsmen August 24th, and Law Enforcement Torch Run September 11th (12th).

NB-3 Moore moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve a request from Cat-Man-Do's, 1223 Ludington Street for the closure of the 1200 Block of Ludington Street for (Classic Car & Bike Nights May 8th (9th), June 12th (13th), July 10th (11th), August 14th (15th), and the closure of the 100 block of South 13th Street from Ludington Street to 1st Avenue South for the other Fundraisers (Car Show July 1st, Wheelin' Sportsmen August 24th, and Law Enforcement Torch Run September 11th (12th).

NB-4 Approval – State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loan Application - Manager.

City administration requested City Council approval to apply for a 20-year State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan in an amount of \$2,000,000. This funding is necessary and will be used in coordination with the CWSRF project for full-width reconstruction and storm sewer construction on Ludington Street.

NB-4 Beauchamp moved, Moore seconded, to approve to apply for a 20-year State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan in an amount of \$2,000,000, which is necessary and will be used in coordination with the CWSRF project for full-width reconstruction and storm sewer construction on Ludington Street.

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

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-5 Approval – State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loan Application – Manager.

City administration requested City Council approval to apply for a 15-year State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan in an amount of \$2,000,000. This funding is necessary and will be used in coordination with the DWSRF projects for full-width reconstruction following water main replacement and a portion of the LSL replacement areas.

NB-5 DuBord moved, Flath seconded, to approve to apply for a 15-year State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan in an amount of \$2,000,000, which is necessary and will be used in coordination with the DWSRF projects for full-width reconstruction following water main replacement and a portion of the LSL replacement areas.

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

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-6 Approval – Sanitation Services for the 2024-2025 Season – Recreation.

Two bids were mailed on January 22, 2024, with one bid being received from Stenberg Brothers of Bark River, MI. Bids were opened on March 4, 2024. Administration and the Recreation Advisory Board recommended approval of this bid.

NB-6 Moore moved, Beauchamp seconded, to award Stenberg Brother’s, Inc. of Bark River, Michigan, for sanitation services/portable restrooms for City of Escanaba Recreation and Parks Facilities for the 2024-2025 seasons.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-7 Approval – Ludington Park Food/Drink Concessions for the 2024 Season – Recreation.

Twenty-one bids were mailed on January 22, 2024, with one bid being received from Sticky Fingers of Gladstone, MI. Bids were opened on March 4, 2024. Administration and the Recreation Advisory Board recommended approval of this bid.

NB-7 Flath moved, DuBord seconded, to award the concession area in Ludington Park to Sticky Fingers of Gladstone, Michigan.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-8 Approval – MDNRTF Grant Application Submittal and Resolution 24-02 – Recreation.

The Recreation Department sought City Council approval and authorization to apply for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. The City of Escanaba sought \$400,000 in Trust Fund monies to construct eight dedicated pickleball courts at Royce Park. There will be a \$100,000 matching fund commitment (25% required) from the City of Escanaba.

NB-8 (a) DuBord moved to approve and authorize to apply for a Michigan Department

of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to construct 6 dedicated pickleball courts, update basketball courts, and playground equipment at Royce Park with a \$140,000 matching fund commitment (25% required) from the City of Escanaba.

Motion died on the floor due to a lack of a second.

NB-8 (b) Moore moved, Flath seconded, to approve and authorize to apply for a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to construct eight dedicated pickleball courts at Royce Park with a \$140,000 matching fund commitment (25% required) from the City of Escanaba.

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

Ayes: Moore, Flath, Beauchamp

Nays: DuBord, Mayor Ammel

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-9 Approval – DWAM Water Service Material Investigation – Water Treatment Plant.

Administration requested City Council approval to hire Monchilov Sewer Services, LLC of Fairgrove, Michigan, with regard to the DWAM Grant to investigate existing water services throughout the City in an amount not to exceed \$321,077.00.

NB-9 Moore moved, Flath seconded, to approve to hire Monchilov Sewer Services, LLC of Fairgrove, Michigan, with regard to the DWAM Grant to investigate existing water services throughout the City in an amount not to exceed \$321,077.00.

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

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

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-10 Approval – Willow Creek – South 32nd Street Property Agreement – Manager.

Administration sought City Council approval to sell unused property to all property owners located on the west side of South 32nd Street, subject to terms outlined in the attached memorandum.

NB-10 DuBord moved, Flath seconded, to approve to sell unused property to all property owners located on the west side of South 32nd Street, subject to terms outlined in the attached memorandum.

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Council made the following appointment:

Howard Smale appointed to the Housing Commission, expiring June 1, 2026.

BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

- Karen Flynn – discussed street construction.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Snow fall tomorrow should not be significant enough to reinforce winter parking restrictions as long as we do not get more than predicted.
- Happy Easter!

Hearing no further public comment, Flath moved, DuBord seconded, the Council adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil DeMay
City Clerk

Approved: _____
Mark Ammel, Mayor