

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, March 7, 2019**

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

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Council Members, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Ralph B. Blasier, Michael R. Sattem, and Peggy O'Connell Schumann

Absent: None

Also Present: City Controller Melissa Becotte, City Clerk Phil DeMay, Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

City Clerk DeMay led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting minutes from February 21, 2019, as submitted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Tall requested to add to the agenda **NB-6** to discuss pot holes within the City of Escanaba.

Beauchamp moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the Agenda as amended.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT

William Gasman, Escanaba resident, discussed many different articles written about recreational marihuana and pot shops in local papers.

Rayno Tulppo - discussed his qualifications and interest in all available Boards, Commissions, or Committee positions.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PH-1 Second Reading, Public Hearing of Ordinance No. 1200 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances.

Administration recommended the Council amend Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances to Temporarily Prohibit Marihuana Establishments within the City Limits of the City of Escanaba.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Tall asked if there was any public comment.

Rayno Tulppo – feels the biggest issue we are facing is our children’s safety in regard to the sale of recreational marihuana. Mr. Tulppo discussed many of the medical benefits of the marihuana use.

William Gasman, Escanaba resident, said “upon reading the ordinance (1200) it is too one sided, perhaps it doesn’t cover the whole choices enough.” Mr. Gasman expressed his support of opting out of the sale of recreational marihuana.

Hearing no further public comment, Mayor Tall closed the public hearing.

PH-1 “By Council Member Blasier, seconded by Council Member Sattem;

Resolved, That Ordinance No. 1200, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances to Temporarily Prohibit Marihuana Establishments within the City Limits of the City of Escanaba, given its public hearing at this meeting, be and is hereby adopted and that it be published in accordance with the requirements of the City Charter."

Herewith Ordinance No. 1200 adopted by title:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO TEMPORARILY PROHIBIT MARIHUANA ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ESCANABA”

Full text in Ordinance Record “K”.

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

Ayes: Blasier, Sattem, Beauchamp, Schumann, Tall
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

PH-2 Second Reading, Public Hearing of Ordinance No. 1201 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Zoning Ordinance of the City Code of Ordinances.

Administration recommended the Council amend Chapter 18 (Site Plan and Sketch Plan Standards), Zoning Ordinance of the City Code of Ordinances.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Tall asked if there was any public comment.

Hearing no public comment, Mayor Tall closed the public hearing.

PH-2 “By Council Member Beauchamp, seconded by Council Member Blasier;

Resolved, That Ordinance No. 1201, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, Zoning Ordinance, as Codified Under the Code of Ordinances, given its public hearing at this meeting, be and is hereby adopted and that it be published in accordance with the requirements of the City Charter.”

Herewith Ordinance No. 1201 adopted by title:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18, ZONING ORDINANCE, AS CODIFIED UNDER THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.”

Full text in Ordinance Record “K”.

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

Ayes: Beauchamp, Blasier, Schumann, Sattem, Tall
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

PH-3 Second Reading, Public Hearing of Ordinance No. 1202 - Ordinance to Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance of the City Code of Ordinances.

Administration recommended the Council amend Chapter 19 (Development Standards), Zoning Ordinance of the City Code of Ordinances.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Tall asked if there was any public comment.

Hearing no public comment, Mayor Tall closed the public hearing.

PH-3 “By Council Member Schumann, seconded by Council Member Sattem;

Resolved, That Ordinance No. 1202, An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 19, Zoning Ordinance, as Codified Under the Code of Ordinances, given its public hearing at this meeting, be and is hereby adopted and that it be published in accordance with the requirements of the City Charter.”

Herewith Ordinance No. 1202 adopted by title:

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, ZONING ORDINANCE, AS CODIFIED UNDER THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.”

Full text in Ordinance Record “K”.

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

Ayes: Schumann, Sattem, Beauchamp, Blasier, Tall
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

NB-1 Presentation – Rick Ballard of Home Renewal Systems.

Rick Ballard from Home Renewal Systems gave a presentation on the House of Ludington Senior Apartment project to City Council.

NB-2 First Reading of Payment In Lieu of Taxes Ordinance No. 1203 & Municipal Services Agreement for the House of Ludington Rehabilitation Project – Home Renewal Systems.

Home Renewal Systems requested the City Council authorize a payment in lieu of taxes Ordinance No. 1203 and Municipal Services Agreement which would allow them to seek funding from the State of Michigan Tax Credit Program for the renovation of the property. Administration further requested Ordinance 1203 and the Municipal Services Agreement be set for a second reading, public hearing and adoption at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting scheduled for March 21, 2019.

Blasier moved, Schumann seconded, to postpone the First Reading of Ordinance No.1203 until the City Manager returns from vacation.

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

Ayes: Blasier
Nays: Schumann, Beauchamp, Sattem, Tall

MOTION FAILED.

NB-2(a) Beauchamp moved, Schumann seconded, to consider this the first reading of Ordinance 1203, and to set March 21, 2019, for the second reading, public hearing and adoption of Ordinance No. 1203.

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

Ayes: Beauchamp, Schumann, Blasier, Sattem, Tall
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-2(b) Schumann moved, Sattem seconded, to approve the Municipal Services Agreement for the House of Ludington Rehabilitation Project – Home Renewal Systems.

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

Ayes: Schumann, Sattem, Beauchamp, Tall
Nays: None
Abstain: Blasier

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-3 Setting Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Public Hearing – March 21, 2019 – 1601 Ludington Street – District No. 26.

Matthew Sviland, owner of 1601 Ludington Street, requested to be enrolled in the Obsolete Properties Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) (PA 146, 2000) which allows for partial exemption of property taxes for a specified period of time so that certain types of property improvements can be made. The intent of the legislation is to encourage rehabilitation of underutilized or decaying commercial or commercial/residential properties in certain designated communities. Administration recommended Council set a public hearing date for March 21, 2019, so there is public understanding of the project.

NB-3 Sattem moved, Blasier seconded, to set a public hearing date for March 21, 2019, for the OPRA District No. 26 – 1601 Ludington Street exemption so there is public understanding of the project.

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

Ayes: Sattem, Blasier, Beauchamp, Schumann, Tall
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-4 Approval - Pole Replacement Bid - Electric.

Administration sought Council approval to accept the bid from SPE Utility Contractors, LLC of Port Huron, MI to replace 40 poles for the cost of \$95,000. Funds for this request were included in the current year operating budget.

NB-4 Schumann moved, Blasier seconded, to approve to accept the bid from SPE Utility Contractors, LLC of Port Huron, MI to replace 40 poles for the cost of \$95,000.

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

Ayes: Schumann, Blasier, Beauchamp, Sattem, Tall

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

NB-5 Informative Discussion - RFQ - Old Jail Site

Blaine DeGrave provided a verbal update on the plans for the developer showcase.

NB-6 Discussion – Pot Holes In The City Limits.

Council Member Beauchamp encouraged City of Escanaba residents to report pot holes to the city officials, so they can address them in a timely matter.

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

William Gasman, Escanaba resident, suggested that we address our public address system. Mr. Gasman said it's very difficult to hear the discussions taking place by council members while sitting in the audience. Gasman felt we should address these issues and update our technology.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Time change this Saturday
- Budget hearing scheduled April 8th, 9th, and 10th

Hearing no further public comment, the Council adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Phil DeMay
City Clerk

Approved: _____
Marc D. Tall, Mayor