

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

October 6, 2016

The Municipal Council of the City of Alpena met in special session upon the call of the City Clerk, at Alpena Community College on the above date and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Mayor.

Present: Mayor Waligora, Councilmembers Nowak, and Sexton.

Absent: Johnson, and Nielsen.

The Municipal Council met in a special workshop session with the Alpena County Board of Commissioners and Alpena County Township Supervisors to present updates and exchange information on current activities in the community. The facilitators for the meeting were Tim Kuehnlein and Ann Diamond.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tim Kuehnlein reminded everyone of the Michigan Arts & Culture Northeast's (MACNE) second annual Lake Huron Discovery Tour from October 7 – 10, 2016.

Mayor Waligora reminded everyone of the Red, White, and Blue Review fundraiser on October 15, 2016, hosted by the Chamber Ambassadors and the Military Support Committee to raise funds for welcome receptions for the troops coming into Alpena for training.

Minutes were reviewed and approved for the June 2, 2016, Intergovernmental Council Meeting.

GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY REPORTS

Mayor Waligora gave a report on some of the events and projects in the City of Alpena. The City is redesigning the current website, completing exterior City Hall building maintenance, began a two-year reassessment of residential property, CPR equipment was purchased by the Fire/Ambulance Department, and the Second Avenue Bridge will be undergoing extensive maintenance beginning this fall with a completion date of June 2017. The City also approved the conversion of Second Avenue in a section of the downtown area from a one-way street to a two-way street, and approved converting North Riverfront Park to a dog park.

Alpena County Chairman Habermehl gave an update on current events in the County. He said the jail project is continuing, but very slowly; the Board has received some good candidates for various County boards; and they are still working with Presque

Isle on a 911 contract extension. County Commissioner Adrian reported on the airport terminal project, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) committed \$1 million for design of a new airport terminal, with a total project cost of \$12 to \$16 million funded mainly by the FAA, and a completion date of three to five years. He also noted that flight schedules have improved somewhat. Since the airport may not meet the 10,000 enplanements during the 2016 year, a new federal law will allow us to use the 2012 enplanements to receive the annual \$1 million subsidy. County Clerk Friedrichs reported that a Grant Finder search engine is available if anyone wants to use it, and also presented election information on the upcoming November 8, 2016, General Election.

Sanborn Township Supervisor Gauthier reported that a grass rake was purchased for the Fire Department. He also said that the Township did not pass the Recycling Agreement, but plan on bringing it back for review due to some misinformation.

Alpena Township Trustee Poli reported that there will be five or six new members on the Township Board after the November 8, 2016, election.

Long Rapids Township Supervisor Lumsden reported that they scored low on the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) trust fund grant application for a parking lot, canoe launch, and fishing platform, but they are resubmitting. He also discussed the water trail, and the Thunder Bay River Restoration's work with Thunder Bay Watershed Council and Montmorency County Conservation Club to oversee projects along the river from Atlanta to Alpena. There are grant funds available for a water trail.

Wilson Township Supervisor Domke reported that various road work projects are completed, and the parking lot is blacktopped, and drives graveled at Wolf Creek Park, but there is more work to be completed. They passed the Recycling Agreement. There will be a millage on the November ballot to purchase a new fire truck.

Green Township Supervisor Bates reported that the sidewalks are installed, and the pavilion has been rehabilitated at Manning Hill.

PRIORITY TOPIC PRESENTATION

Information on the website interfacing and the integration potential that was first discussed at the June 2, 2016, Intergovernmental Meeting and, again at a subcommittee meeting held in July was discussed. City Manager Sundin read a report written by Assistant City Engineer Schultz. The report stated that the City is in the process of redesigning the City's website and will conform as closely as possible to the colors, fonts,

and logos as described in the branding guide. The City also agreed to create a webpage where area citizens, as well as prospective visitors, could go to find links to all the partners who promote and offer information about Alpena, such as the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB), Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce, Target Alpena, County of Alpena, and Townships.

PRIORITY TOPIC DISCUSSION AND ACTION PROPOSITIONS

Deputy Director/Chief Planner Cline of Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), and City Director of Planning and Development Poll discussed the Master Plans, Recreation Plans, and Zoning Plans of all of the County's governmental entities. Cline stated that all the plans are in one place at NEMCOG and can be linked to their websites. She suggested that all the entities get on the same schedule to update their plans. By updating all plans at the same time they can be compiled into one document to reduce the cost of individual updates. Each entity would retain their individual plans within a master document and make it very easy to access. Everyone was receptive of investigating the idea, and asked Cline to provide the cost of an update to the Master Plans, Recreation Plans, and Zoning Plans if all the entities participated.

PLANNING SESSION

The topic for the next Intergovernmental Meeting will be a discussion of future development with each entity providing this information for their area. The second portion of the meeting will be on Economic Development. Economic Development Director, Klarich, Sundin, and Poll will be asked to provide information on current events and programs, including tax abatements and grant opportunities.

The Alpena Intergovernmental Council will meet again on February 2, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Alpena Township Hall.

On motion of Councilmember Nowak, seconded by Councilmember Sexton, the Council adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

MATTHEW J. WALIGORA
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Karen Hebert
City Clerk