

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

December 16, 2013

The Municipal Council of the City of Alpena met in regular session in the City Hall on the above date and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Mayor.

Present: Mayor Waligora, Councilmembers Eiler, Sexton, Nielsen and Nowak.

Absent: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

The minutes of the regular session of December 2, 2013, were approved as printed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilwoman Nielsen, that the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

1. Bills Allowed – in the amount of \$509,045.98 be allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk authorized to sign warrants in payment of same.
2. Approval of parades to be held within the City limits for 2014; Memorial Day, Fourth of July Parade, Christmas Parade, and Shriner Parade.
3. Approval of budget amendment to transfer \$4,120 from the Local Street Fund to the Major Street Fund to cover the cost of street construction expenses.
4. Approval of budget amendment to transfer \$10,000 from the DPW's storm sewer capital line item to the sidewalk replacement line item to cover the cost of additional sidewalk work.
5. Approval of budget amendment to transfer \$3,080 from sewer and \$2,585 from water fund balances to cover the cost of a refund of tap-in fees from 2012-2013.
6. Collection of property taxes for the Alpena Public School District and the Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District.

Carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

OPTION TO OPT-OUT OF ODD-YEAR NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

Mayor Waligora announced a Public Hearing on the option to opt-out of odd-year November elections.

SAM EILER ABSTAINING FROM DISCUSSIONS AND VOTING

Moved by Councilwoman Nielsen, seconded by Councilman Sexton, that due to a conflict of interest, Sam Eiler be allowed to abstain from discussion and voting on the opt-out of odd-year elections.

Carried by vote as follows:

Ayes: Nowak, Sexton, Waligora, and Nielsen.

Nays: None.

Abstain: Eiler.

The public comment period was opened.

Cindy Johnson spoke against opting out of odd-year elections. She stated that the odd-year elections are important because they are non-partisan and focus on local issues.

John Yake, 119 State Street, spoke in favor of opting out of odd-year elections. He stated that the even-year elections have a much higher voter turn-out.

Karen Hebert, City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director, summarized the new election law.

The City Clerk indicated that no written comments had been received. The public comment period was closed. The Mayor declared the Public Hearing closed. The Council discussed the pro's and con's of opting out of the odd-year November elections.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-15

Moved by Councilman Nowak, seconded by Councilman Sexton, to table and request public comment on Resolution No. 2013-15, a resolution to opt-out of odd-year November elections.

Carried by vote as follows:

Ayes: Sexton, Waligora, Nielsen, and Nowak.

Nays: None.

Abstain: Eiler.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councilwoman Nielsen, seconded by Councilman Eiler, that the recommendations of the Compensation Committee be adopted; the Mayor be compensated at a rate of \$6,000 per year beginning January 1, 2014, and \$6,500 per year beginning January 1, 2015; and the Councilmembers be compensated at a rate of \$4,000 per year beginning with January 1, 2014, and \$4,500 per year beginning with January 1, 2015. Compensation is to include all council and other meetings throughout the year except Board of Review which is paid based on time in attendance:

Attendance less than 1 hour: \$5

Attendance in excess of 1 hour, but less than 3 hours: \$30

Attendance in excess of 3 hours, but less than 6 hours: \$60

Attendance in excess of 6 hours: \$90.

Carried by unanimous vote.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Moved by Councilman Nowak, seconded by Councilman Eiler, to receive and file the Treasurer's Financial Report of July 1, 2013, through November 30, 2013.

Carried by unanimous vote.

BEACH DEBRIS INVESTIGATION

Moved by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Eiler, that the requirement to solicit request for services as outlined in Council Policy No. 18, Purchasing Policy, be waived; and allow the City to enter into an agreement with Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc. for a beach assessment study with the project cost of \$13,300 transferred from fund balance.

Carried by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-17

Moved by Councilman Sexton, seconded by Councilman Eiler, that Resolution No. 2013-17, a resolution adopting the City of Alpena Comprehensive Plan, be adopted.

Carried by unanimous vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councilman Eiler, seconded by Councilman Sexton, that the Municipal Council adjourn to a closed session at 8:35 p.m., to discuss attorney client privilege opinion.

Carried by unanimous vote.

RECESS

The Municipal Council recessed at 8:35 p.m.

RECONVENE – CLOSED SESSION

The Municipal Council reconvened in closed session at 8:50 p.m.

RECONVENE – OPEN SESSION

The Municipal Council reconvened in open session at 9:58 p.m.

On motion of Councilman Nowak, seconded by Councilman Eiler, the Council

adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

MATTHEW J. WALIGORA
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Karen Hebert
City Clerk