

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, December 18, 2014**

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, Patricia A. Baribeau, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Ralph B. Blasier, and Michael R. Sattem

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager James V. O'Toole, City Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

Pastor Erik Heskin of Bethany Lutheran Church, gave the invocation and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from December 4, 2014, Special Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2014, and Special Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2014, as submitted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Council Member Beauchamp asked to add an agenda item regarding an Energy Summit.

Beauchamp moved, Blasier seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the City Council Agenda as amended.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PRESENTATION – Certificate of Commendation to Bonnie Wenick-Kutz

Mayor Tall presented Bonnie Wenick-Kutz a certificate of commendation as an expression of appreciation for her outstanding contributions, efforts and involvement with the Escanaba Christmas Parade. Mayor Tall thanked Bonnie for her positive energy and extraordinary efforts for 40 successful years the Christmas Parade that have brought the community together. Mayor Tall wished Bonnie happiness and success on the occasion of her retirement as Escanaba's Christmas Parade Organizer and Facilitator.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval – Resolution – Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) – Certified Local Government Program (CLG).

The Michigan State Historic Preservation Office requested a resolution be adopted by the City Council so that the City was eligible to compete for CLG Grants administered by SHPO. Additionally, the resolution designated the City Manager as the lead contact person and designated the City Manager as the local governmental official for all contract signatories. Administration recommended approval.

City Manager O'Toole stated Escanaba was one of 23 entries in the State of Michigan, and only one other municipality in the Upper Peninsula. Manager O'Toole reviewed the different aspects of the CLG program.

NB-1 “By Council Member Blasier, seconded by Council Member Beauchamp;

**CITY OF ESCANABA
COUNTY OF DELTA**

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
CLG CERTIFICATION
ESCANABA, MICHIGAN**

WHEREAS, The City of Escanaba has been invited to submit an application for certification as a Certified Local Government (CLG) making the City of Escanaba eligible to compete for CLG Grants administered by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and

WHEREAS, A local government official needs to be designated for all contract signatories, and

WHEREAS, James V. O'Toole, City Manager, be named the person serving as the lead contact person, and

WHEREAS, James V. O'Toole, City Manager, be designated as the local government official for all contract signatories.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That James V. O'Toole, City Manager, is authorized and directed to file an application for the City of Escanaba's CLG certification and that upon approval of the final application by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, the City Manager shall be authorized to sign the certification agreement, any necessary amendments to the certification agreement, and any other certification-related documents.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Blasier, Beauchamp, Baribeau, Sattem, Tall
Nays: None
Absent: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

Approval – Traffic Control Order (TCO) No. 988 - Department of Public Safety.

Administration sought Council approval of TCO No. 988. The TCO No. 988 called for a “No Parking Here to Corner”, sign be erected on the west side of Sheridan Road in front of 1629 Sheridan Road.

NB-2 Beauchamp moved, Baribeau seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve of TCO No. 988, a “No Parking Here to Corner”, sign be erected on the west side of Sheridan Road in front of 1629 Sheridan Road.

Approval – Use of Public Space – Ludington Park – 6th Annual Mites to Men Pond Hockey Tournament.

The Escanaba Junior Hockey Association sought Council approval to hold the 6th Annual Mites to Men Pond Hockey Tournament in Ludington Park on January 31, 2015. Additionally the group requested the City provide access to electrical power and provide garbage pick-up services. Administration recommended approval of the request provided acceptable liability insurance was filed with the City and event organizers clean-up at the event.

NB-3 Sattem moved, Blasier seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve a request by the Escanaba Junior Hockey Association, to hold the 6th Annual Mites to Men Pond Hockey Tournament in Ludington Park on January 31, 2015, and provide access to electrical power and provide garbage pickup services, provided an acceptable liability insurance was filed with the City and event organizers clean-up after the event.

Update – Sale of the Power Plant – City Manager’s Office.

Manager O’Toole updated the Council and public on the latest developments related to the sale of the Escanaba generating facility.

UP Energy Summit

Council Member Beauchamp suggest the City of Escanaba host a regional Energy Summit to encourage federal, state, and local officials to discuss upcoming power issues, including shared reimbursements to keep power plants operating. Council Member Beauchamp suggested it would be a follow-up to the summit held in

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Marquette last fall. The major topic of discussion would include the \$97 million Upper Peninsula utility customers would be charged to keep the Marquette Presque Isle Power Plant operating.

In response, Manager O'Toole stated he did send out a request regarding the proposed summit and would be working with Senator Casperson's Office to spearhead the event. He further advised he would also contact new Federal and State legislator once they enter office in January of next year.

Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to request Administration to investigate costs, and schedule invites to the event, and report back to Council with a proposed agenda, and a list of available speakers.

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 – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Council Members wished everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year;
- City New Year Fireworks were scheduled at the Municipal Dock for 9:00 p.m.;
- The Community Christmas Concert was scheduled for 7:30, December 19th at St. Pat's/St. Joseph's Church.

Hearing no further public comment, the Council adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert S. Richards, CMC
City Clerk

Approved: _____

Marc D. Tall, Mayor