

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN  
Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, December 17, 2015**

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.

Beauchamp moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2015, as submitted.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

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

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** – None

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vicki Schwab, Executive Director of the Economic Development Alliance (EDA), and Tom Butch, EDA Chairman, thanked the Council for their past support and briefly reviewed EDA's Year in Review to the City of Escanaba and Delta County. On behalf of the EDA, they encouraged Council to approve their EDA proposed annual allocation to support the EDA Mission.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval – Purchase & Sale Agreement - Sale of the Escanaba Power Plant and Property.**

Administration sought Council approval of a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Escanaba and Dun Yet Enterprises, LLC (a.k.a. Mr. Jon Liss), of Escanaba, Michigan in the amount of \$500,000.

- City Attorney Ralph B. K. Peterson reviewed the terms of the proposed Purchase Agreement with Council, items which needed to be completed, and answered Council questions. After discussion, the following resolution was made:

**NB-1** By Council Member Blasier, seconded by Council Member Baribeau;

### **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the administration is hereby authorized to sell the power plant property to Jon Liss, Dun Yet Enterprises, LLC upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Purchase Price Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000.00) Dollars;
2. The sale includes approximately 19.6 acres;
3. The sale includes all personal property presently located on said property;
4. In the event the City abandons the old substation, CT unit and fuel storage tank, the City will convey the abandoned real and personal property for one Dollar (\$1.00);
5. The City will also grant the Buyer a 5-year option to purchase surrounding parcels of property. The price to be determined by appraisal at the time the option is exercised.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the administration and mayor are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to complete said sale.

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

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

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

### **Approval – Service Agreement – Delta County Economic Development Alliance.**

The Delta County Economic Development Alliance (EDA) sought Council approval of their annual appropriation in the amount of \$20,000. With the funding, the EDA will continue to promote economic development in the City of Escanaba and Delta County. Administration recommended Council approval of the budgeted request.

**NB-2** Sattem moved, Beauchamp seconded, to approve an annual appropriation with the Delta County EDA in amount of \$20,000, to promote economic development in the City of Escanaba and Delta County.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Scheduling of Public Hearings - Citizen Participation - 2016/17 Fiscal Year Budget Preparation.**

Each year, the City Council holds public hearings to facilitate input from citizens for the upcoming fiscal year budget. Administration sought Council approval to schedule the first of five (5) scheduled public hearings for January 21, 2016. Additionally, Administration sought City Council approval to schedule additional public hearings for public input for February 18, 2016, and March 17, 2016.

**NB-3** Baribeau moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to schedule public hearings for January 21, 2016, February 18, 2016, and March 17, 2016, for citizen input on the 2016/17 Fiscal Year Budget.

**Approval – Use of Public Space – 3rd Annual Downtown New Year’s Eve Pasty Drop.**

The Escanaba Downtown Development Authority sought Council approval to close off South 11th Street from Ludington Street to 1st Avenue South on December 31, 2015, from 10:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. for the 3rd Annual Downtown New Year’s Eve Pasty Drop at midnight.

**NB-4** Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve a request to close off South 11th Street from Ludington Street to 1st Avenue South on December 31, 2015, from 10:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. for the 3rd Annual Downtown New Year’s Eve Pasty Drop at midnight.

**Approval – County Planning Commission Appointment – City Representative.**

The Delta County Planning Commission requested the City Council appoint a sitting Escanaba Planning Commissioner to be the City of Escanaba representative to the Delta County Planning Commission. On December 10, 2015 the Escanaba Planning Commission met and recommended that Christine Williams be appointed as the primary member and Patrick Connor be appointed as the alternate member as the Escanaba Planning Commission representative on the Delta County Planning Commission through December 31, 2018. Administration recommended approval.

**NB-5** By Council Member Baribeau, seconded by Council Member Blasier;

**Resolved,** to recommend to the Delta County Board of Commissioners that Escanaba Planning Member Christine Williams be appointed as the primary member and Escanaba Planning Member Patrick Connor be appointed as the alternate member as the Escanaba Planning Commission representative on the Delta County Planning

Commission through December 31, 2018.

The vote was as follows:

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

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**Approval - Energy Optimization Administrative Services Agreement.**

Administration sought Council approval of a four (4) year Energy Optimization Administrative Services Agreement with the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association (MECA) for them to act as the Energy Optimization Administrator for the City of Escanaba. Electric Superintendent Mike Furmanski briefly reviewed the agreement.

**NB-6** Blasier moved, Sattem seconded, to approve of a four (4) year Energy Optimization Administrative Services Agreement with the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association (MECA) for them to act as the Energy Optimization Administrator for the City of Escanaba.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval – Professional Services – MEDC Façade Improvement Program Grant Administration.**

Administration sought Council approval to retain the Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Agency (CUPPAD) as the MEDC Façade Improvement Program Grant Administrator as part of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation funded Façade Improvement Program.

Zoning Administration Blaine DeGrave and Downtown Development Authority Director Edward Legault briefly reviewed the program and the requirement to hire the program Grant Administrator.

**NB-7** Beauchamp moved, Sattem seconded, to approve to retain the Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Agency (CUPPAD) as the MEDC Façade Improvement Program Grant Administrator as part of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation funded Façade Improvement Program in the amount of \$29,880.

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval – Obsolete Property Rehabilitation (OPRA) District No. 6 Transfer - 1223 Ludington Street.**

Administration sought Council approval to transfer OPRA Exemption Certificate No. 3-05-0037 from DeGrand Enterprises, LLC to Spaulding Enterprises, LLC as a result of the sale of the property.

**NB-8** By Council Member Baribeau, seconded by Council Member Blasier;

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF  
OBSOLETE PROPERTY REHABILITATION EXEMPTION  
CERTIFICATE NO. 03-05-0037 IN  
DISTRICT NO. 6**

**Whereas,** The City of Escanaba granted an exemption for OPRA District 6 to Judith DeGrand pursuant to a public hearing held on October 6, 2005, for a period of twelve (12) years ending December 30, 2017; and

**Whereas,** Judith DeGrand has transferred the property to Spaulding Real Estate LLC on September 22, 2015, by warranty deed; and

**Whereas,** The current owner desires to continue the OPRA District 6 exemption in the name of Spaulding Real Estate LLC; and

**Whereas,** The exemption, if transferred, will end December 30, 2017;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** by the City Council of the City of Escanaba that Spaulding Real Estate LLC

Be and hereby is granted the transfer of OPRA Cert. No. 03-05-0037 for the real property located in Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District No. 6 at 1223 Ludington Street, for the remaining term of the exemption, ending December 30, 2017, pursuant to the provisions of PA 146 of 2000, as amended.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

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

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**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**

- Civic Center Children's Christmas Party/Dance – December 18th, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.;
- Lighthouse Open House – December 26th & 27th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.;
- New Year's Eve Civic Center Activities (5-8:30 p.m.) & Rock the Dock Fireworks (9:00 p.m.);
- New Year's Eve Pasty Drop – 10:00 p.m. until Midnight;
- Winter Aerobics – January 6th to March 24<sup>th</sup>;
- Upcoming Library Events;
- Winter Parking Regulations;
- Holiday Hours & Garbage Pick-Up Schedule;
- Council Members wished everyone a Joyous Christmas and Holiday Season.

Hearing no further public comment, the Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert S. Richards, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marc D. Tall, Mayor