

## **COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**December 18, 2023**

The Municipal Council of the City of Alpena met in regular session on the above date and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Mayor.

Present: Mayor Waligora, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, Councilmember Mitchell, Councilmember Nowak and Councilmember Walchak.

Absent: None.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Nowak, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular session of December 04, 2023, were approved as printed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Councilmember Nowak, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, that the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

- A. Bills to be allowed, in the amount of \$642,094.62 and authorize Mayor Waligora and Clerk Soik to sign the warrant.
- B. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-17 for 2024 Poverty Exemption.
- C. Council appointment of Amber Hubbard to the Wildlife Sanctuary Board for a three-year term to expire on December 01, 2026.
- D. Mayoral appointment of Loren Jackson, Brian Peterson, Melissa Tolan-Halleck, and Benjamin Young to the Downtown Development Authority for a four-year term to expire on December 18, 2027.
- E. Approve to opt out of PA 152 – Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act for calendar year 2024.

F. Transfer \$65,347 from the General Fund and commit the funds in the Cemetery Trust Fund to cover the investment shortfall for fiscal year 2022/23.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **CITY SHOUT OUT PROGRAM**

The City redeveloped the City Wide Pride Program, and it is now called the City Shout Out Program. For 2023, the Shout Out awards were presented to nine City employees as follows: DPW Technician, Rob Wheelock; Fire Command Officers, Andy Marceau and Chris Morrison; Firefighter/Paramedic, Cain Makowski; Police Patrol, Terri Curtis; Police Command, Don Leaym and Andrew Smith; Clerical Staff, Jennifer Berant; and Administration, Leilan Bruning.

### **RECOGNITION OF MR. EDWARD GRZELAK**

The City of Alpena was named as a beneficiary of Mr. Edward Grzelak's trust. City Manager, Rachel Smolinski, recognized Mr. Edward Grzelak for his monetary gift to the City, which will be designated for the restoration and improvement of City Hall in his memory. A friend of Mr. Grzelak, Penny Boldrey, also spoke on behalf of his other friends. She shared some wonderful tributes and recognized Mr. Grzelak for all his contributions to the community.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE**

City Engineer, Stephen Shultz, introduced Kevin Fisher to the Council as the new Harbormaster/Parks Coordinator.

### **COUNCIL COMPENSATION RECOMMENDATION**

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Walchak, to approve the salary recommendation of the City Compensation Committee for 2024 and 2025.

Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Nowak, to refer this matter [to City Attorney Bill Pfeifer about forming a subcommittee of two Councilmembers and to bring back this matter to City Council for further consideration].

Motion carried 5-0.

### **DPW EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL**

Moved by Councilmember Nowak, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, to enter into the lease agreements for the acquisition of two mini-excavators and one skid steer and authorize the City Clerk to sign the agreements on our behalf.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **CITY SHOUT OUT PROGRAM**

The certificates for Firefighter/Paramedic, Cain Makowski, and Fire Command Officer, Chris Morrison, were presented as they were not present earlier in the meeting due to work duties.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mayor Waligora, seconded by Councilmember Walchak, the Municipal Council adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Matthew Waligora  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Leilan Bruning  
Deputy City Clerk