

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
PUBLIC HEARING/DDA EXPANSION  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2006  
1:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to Order at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Iron River City Hall, with Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present included Councilmen Tom Beber, Roger Zanon, Ed Marcell, Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom, City Attorney Mark Tousignant and City Clerk Peggy Shamion. (Ray Coates absent)

Jan Huizing, Marsha Cornelia, Julie Melchiori, Jim Gibula, Ron Basso, Ralph Commenator, Ron & Lucille Lindahl, and Robert & Linda Hillabrant also attended the meeting.

Ron Basso explained that the intent of the meeting is to receive public comment for the proposed DDA expansion in the city, to encompass the former Stambaugh City (Stambaugh Hill and Washington Ave. up to Kermit's Bar). He said that opportunities are available for improvements that the state offers, but requires a DDA designation.

Manager Archocosky noted that the old DDA area has started a residential rehab program, a façade improvement and street scape program. This is all in conjunction with the city's designation as a Cool Cities. When the application was submitted, the "footprint" included the former Stambaugh area.

Jan Huizing, County Controller was present and had concerns about the expansion and the TIF district for Stambaugh.

Attorney Tousignant informed Huizing that in 2005 there was a change in the DDA Statute. If the area proposed has a business district, it's acceptable.

Jan Huizing stated that the Board of Commissioners voted to opt out of the proposed DDA expansion to the Stambaugh area. He did however, suggest that the DDA attend the County Board meeting to explain their intent. He also explained that the county put in \$12,500 to support an Economic Developer for the rest of this year. The EDC was going to match that, but they didn't have the ability to do it, Huizing commented.

Julie Melchiori, the EDC Director clarified that a County Board member on the EDC wanted to hold off on going to the units (requesting help to fund an Economic Developer) until the Call Center was in operation.

Linda Hillabrant asked if their taxes would go up and how they would benefit from the increase.

Jim Gibula explained again about the street scape, rental rehab and façade programs that are in the Cool Cities designation. The 2 mils also help to maintain the downtown area; it also allows supporting activities in the district.

There was no other public comment.

Beber moved with Zanon supporting to adjourn the Public Hearing at 1:45 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Peggy Shamion, CMC  
City Clerk