

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on June 25, 2012 at 5:30 P.M. along with Board of Zoning Appeals Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M. in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

- 1. Mayor Corcoran called the Board of Zoning Appeals to Order at 5:15 P.M.
- 2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Shackleford, Tauer, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran.

ABSENT: None.

- 3. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M.
- 4. Public Hearing: To hear comment on a dimensional variance request from Ryan Ferguson, 312 W. Ayer Street for the purpose of allowing an accessory building greater than 900 square feet (section 34-53(2)(a)(ii).

Assessor/Building Inspector Dennis Hewitt addressed the City Commission regarding a dimensional variance request from Ryan Ferguson at 312 W. Ayer Street to build a garage greater than 900 square feet. Mr. Hewitt stated notices were sent out to property owners within a 300 foot radius and there were no comments received.

Mr. Kuula, a neighbor addressed the City Commission stating Mr. Ferguson has improved the neighborhood by fixing his home and he has no problem with him building a 30' x 40' garage.

No other comments were received.

- 5. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:23 P.M.
- 6. Consider Action on the Ferguson Dimensional Request.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Shackleford to approve the dimensional variance request from Ryan Ferguson to build a 30' x 40' garage at 312 W. Ayer Street. A voice vote was taken with Commissioner Semo voting no. Motion carried.

- 7. Mayor Corcoran adjourned the Board of Zoning Appeals at 5:23 P.M.

- A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.
- B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Shackleford, Tauer, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran.

ABSENT: None.

- C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.*

- *1) Approval of Minutes – June 11th Regular City Commission Meeting.
- *2) Review and Place on File:
 - a) Park & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 7th.
 - b) Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2012.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Tauer to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- D. Receive and Place on File from the Finance Director.
 - 1. Statement of Revenue & Expenditures.
 - 2. Monthly Cash Reports.
 - 3. Monthly Check Register Report.

Mayor Corcoran noted items D1. and D2. would be placed on the next agenda.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for the month of May. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- E. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to amend the agenda to include P1. Discuss and Consider request to use City Centre space for Art Display during the Ironwood Festival.

- F. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).

Steve Frank, of 212 E. Oak Street addressed the City Commission regarding the cost of developing a Public Participation Policy along with several other items.

- G. AUDIENCE: Gail Ploe & Ray Sharpe, Michigan Department of Health.
(RE: Development of Ordinance for Tobacco Free Parks and grant for pedestrian wayfinders signs.)

Ray Sharpe from the Michigan Department of Health addressed the City Commission regarding Smoke Free Parks.

- H. AUDIENCE: Update on MDOT study of Downtown Traffic Signals.

Ben Feldhousen, Traffic Engineer with Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) addressed the City Commission regarding the recent study on the Downtown Traffic Signals. Mr. Feldhousen gave a power point presentation and stated the Downtown Traffic Signals do not meet warrants and would be removed as part of the MDOT Downtown Enhancement Project. Further comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and Consider action on Tobacco Free Park Ordinance.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to request the Park and Recreation Committee to revisit the ordinance to consider a blanket Tobacco Free Policy versus an Individual Park Policy.

- J. Discuss and Consider action on Downtown Traffic Signals.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Tauer and carried to authorize the City of Ironwood to move forward with the removal of the Downtown Traffic Signals as recommended by MDOT.

- K. Discuss and Consider request from J.B. Disposal to consider additional garbage collection rate increase or allow disposal to occur at an alternate location from the Gogebic County Transfer Station.

City Manager Erickson reviewed with the City Commission the chain of events that took place between the Gogebic County Transfer Station and JB Disposal.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo and carried to table until the next regular City Commission Meeting.

- L. Discuss and Consider approval of Public Participation Policy for City Commission Meetings.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo and carried to table the Public Participation Policy for City Commission Meetings until Mayor Corcoran and Commissioner Shackelford have time to work together to establish a new policy and bring it back to the City Commission for their review.

- M. Discuss and consider recent legislation that provides an additional opportunity to qualify for the third category to Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP).

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Cayer to opt out of the Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP).

Finance Director Linn noted the City of Ironwood has complied with EVIP and no matter what is done the City will still receive the third portion of the revenue sharing payment this year.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Cayer and carried to rescind the previous motion.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Cayer to withdraw our previously submitted Employee Compensation Plan regarding the third component of EVIP, and send to the Michigan Department of Treasury our certification of EVIP Employee Compensation-Public Act 152 of 2011 option.

ROLL CALL:

- Yes (3): Commissioner Tauer, Cayer, and Mayor Corcoran.
- No (2): Commissioner Shackelford and Semo.

Motion carried on a 3 to 2 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- N. Discuss and Consider potential donation of building to Carnegie Library.

Motion was made by Shackelford, seconded by Semo to approve one third (1/3) of the demolition cost of the building being donated to the Carnegie Library.

ROLL CALL:

- Yes (4): Commissioner Semo, Shackelford, Tauer, and Mayor Corcoran.
- No (1): Commissioner Cayer.

Motion carried on a 4 to 1 vote.

- O. Discuss and Consider Resolution #012-092 amending the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2011-2012.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Shackelford to approve Resolution #012-092 amending the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2011-2012. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- P. Discuss and Consider Resolution #012-093 changing MERS Benefits (other than DB component of Hybrid Program). The purpose of this resolution is to create a new division for eligible library employees within Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to approve Resolution #012-093 changing MERS Benefits creating a new division for eligible library employees within

Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Q. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran appointed to the Planning Commission Sam Davey to the unexpired term of Margaret Rayner (term expiring December 31, 2014), and Joseph Lemke to the unexpired term of Eric Lytwyniuk (term expiring December 31, 2013).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to approve the Mayor's appointments to the Planning Commission of Sam Davey (term expiring December 31, 2014) and Joseph Lemke (term expiring December 31, 2013).

Mayor Corcoran requested no appointments be made to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority (DIDA) until after the terms expire.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo and carried to approve Mayor Corcoran's request of no appointments to the DIDA until after the terms expire.

R. Manager's Appointments.

City Manager Erickson reappointed Kathryn Probelske (term expiring June 30, 2017) and Lisa Ursini to the unexpired term of Clifford Koivisto (term ending June 30, 2016) on the Ironwood Housing Commission.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer and carried to approve the City Manager's reappointment of Kathryn Probelske (term expiring June 30, 2017) and Lisa Ursini (term expiring June 30, 2016) to the Ironwood Housing Commission.

S. Manager's Report.

City Manager Scott B. Erickson verbally gave the manager's report noting the following items:

- *Festival Ironwood will be held on July 18-21, 2012.
- *The Hemlock Street Phase I project continues and is scheduled to be completed by the end of July.
- *Wagner Construction is continuing to work on the Norrie and Jessieville neighborhoods and restoration is occurring in the Jessieville area.
- *The Norrie Park Playground Improvement Project was approved and the City of Ironwood will be bidding it out.
- *Michigan Department of Transportation bids for the salt storage building will be opened on Thursday, June 28th.
- *Mayor Corcoran, Commissioner Semo, and City Manager Erickson attended the MI Natural Resources Trust Fund Board meeting in Munising to provide an overview of the MI Western Gateway Trail (Phase I) grant application.
- *The Gogebic Range Water Authority is working with Ironwood Township in the installation of a new water main along Margaret Street from Lake east to Wilson.
- *City Contractor Infratech has completed relining of 23 sanitary/storm manholes.
- *The EPA met with City staff last week to review their clean up project of the Gas Plant site along the Montreal River. The City of Ironwood will be providing in kind services.
- *There is an Orvana Copper Mine project public hearing at 5:00 p.m. at the Gogebic Community College.
- *A work session is scheduled with the City Commission, DIDA, City Centre Working Group, and the Historic Ironwood Theatre Board to discuss the City Centre at the City Centre on Monday, July 2nd at 5:00 p.m.

T. Other Matters (Five Minute Limit)

Mayor Corcoran noted the City of Ironwood is shown on the Steiner Turf website. She also thanked Public Safety for their efforts in the recent shooting in Hurley and commended the Friend's of the Miners' Memorial Park for a great tour. Mayor Corcoran

also sent kudos to David Hill, Jr., Alisia Hill, Terry Hoag, and Lynn Sweeney for painting the garage with the graffiti over by Kuitunen Park.

- U. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda (Five Minute Limit).

Larry Rovelsky, from Ironwood Township addressed the City Commission and expressed his view of the damage to his property during the construction of the 16" water main project and questioned the City Commission as to when it would be restored. Further comments were received.

- V. Consider Closed Session to discuss Ironwood Public Safety Department litigation, update on contract negotiations with the Ironwood/Wisconsin Professional Police Association and AFSCME, Local 1538 Unions, and City Manager's Quarterly Review.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to enter into Closed Session at 7:38 P.M. to discuss Ironwood Public Safety Department litigation, update on contract negotiations with the Ironwood/Wisconsin Professional Police Association and AFSCME, Local 1538 Unions, and City Manager's Review.

- W. Return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo and carried to return to open session at 8:16 P.M.

- X. Consider action on AFSCME, Local 1538 Union Bargaining Agreement.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Shackelford to table this item and schedule a special meeting for Friday, June 29th at 3:00 P.M.

- Y. Consider action on Ironwood Professional Police Association Union Bargaining Agreement.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Tauer to ratify the tentative contract between the Ironwood Professionals Police Unions and the City of Ironwood subject to City Attorney approval of the language. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- Z. Consider action on Non-Union salary and benefit package.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to ratify the Non-Union salary and benefit package as presented in the handout. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- AA. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 P.M.

Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk