

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on July 9, 2012 at 5:30 P.M. in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

*1) Approval of Minutes – June 25th Regular City Commission Meeting.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a) Park & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 7th & June 4th.

*3) Set Public Hearing for Monday, August 13, 2012 at 5:20 P.M. to hear comment on Ordinance No. 494, Book 4 an Ordinance to provide revisions to the Blight Prevention Ordinance.

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

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion was made by Mayor Corcoran, seconded by Semo and carried to amend the agenda to correct item H. changing Grant Street to Granite Street and add item R1. Mayor's Appointments.

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

Steve Frank, addressed the City Commission requesting they look to the future and consider adding two (2) bathrooms instead of just one at the City Centre. Further comments were received.

F. AUDIENCE: Andrew DiGiorgio, Public Safety Director.
(Update on Public Safety Department).

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio addressed the City Commission giving his Quarterly report.

OLD BUSINESS

G. Discuss and Consider request from J.B. Disposal for a potential garbage disposal rate decrease to allow disposal to occur at an alternate location from the Gogebic County Transfer Station.

Jeff Buechner, of J.B. Disposal requested the City Commission allow him to bring the City of Ironwood's garbage to Wisconsin saving the residence \$2.00 per month.

The City Commission questioned Mr. Buechner about the Gogebic County Transfer Station and whether they were willing to work with him. He stated they had lowered their rate increase from 16% to 8%. The City Commission urged Mr. Buechner continue to work with the Gogebic County Transfer Station and felt the Gogebic County Transfer Station was an asset to the area and created jobs.

No action was taken at this time.

- H. Discuss and Consider placing City owned parcel (located off of Grant Street) on the Surplus Property List and authorize advertisement for bids (parcel #2752-23-401-010).

City Assessor/Building Inspector Hewitt addressed the City Commission regarding the City owned parcel located off of Granite Street. Mr. Hewitt stated the parcel was brought before the Planning Commission and Parks & Recreation Committee for approval. He further stated the bid would be contingent upon buyer paying for a survey, deed preparation, title search, and any legal fees incurred.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Tauer and carried to place a City owned parcel (located off of Granite Street) on the Surplus Property List and authorize advertisement for bids (parcel #2752-23-401-010).*

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and Consider authorizing the removal of Frederick Street between Lowell Street and Suffolk Street for the development of the Depot Park.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to authorize vacation of Frederick Street with an easement for utilities between Lowell Street and Suffolk Street for the development of the Depot Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and Consider authorizing advertisement to bid for the construction of a new Restroom at the Downtown City Centre.

Anne Lawrence was present and noted the restroom needed to be handicap accessible and would be constructed with donation money with no City funds to be used. She also mentioned bids would be sought for two (2) bathrooms and depending on the bids might include two (2) bathrooms but for sure would be one (1) unisex bathroom. Further comments were received.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer and carried to authorize advertisement to bid for the construction of a new Restroom at the Downtown City Centre.*

- K. Consider approval of Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$30,940.73 for the City of Ironwood – Phase I Utility Project (Water Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to approve the Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$30,940.73 for the City of Ironwood – Phase I Utility Project (Water Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Consider approval of Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$77,284.03 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 2 Utility Project (Water Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Cayer to approve the Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$77,284.03 for the City of Ironwood – ~~Phase 2 Utility Project (Water Portion)~~ Phase I Utility Project (Sewer Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote. (amended 8/13/12)*

- M. Consider approval of Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$192,940.31 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 1 Utility Project (Sewer Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Semo to approve the Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$192,940.31 for the City of Ironwood – ~~Phase 1 Utility Project (Sewer Portion)~~ Phase II Utility Project (Water Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote. (amended 8/13/12)*

- N. Consider approval of Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$136,671.29 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 2 Utility Project (Sewer Portion)

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Semo to approve the Rural Development Pay Package in the amount of \$136,671.29 for the City of Ironwood-Phase 2 Utility Project (Sewer Portion) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and Consider approving lowest bid to Dome Corporation of North America for the construction of a new Salt Storage Building in the amount of \$180,235.31.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Tauer to approve the lowest bid to Dome Corporation of North America for the construction of a new Salt Storage Building in the amount of \$180,235.31 and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- P. Discuss and Consider approving bid to Julie Sertich for a 1995 Cadillac Deville in the amount of \$1,000 and bid to Larry Oger for a 1996 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$225.00.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Semo to award the highest bid to Julie Sertich for a 1995 Cadillac Deville in the amount of \$1,000 and bid to Larry Oger for a 1996 Ford Explorer in the amount of \$225.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- Q. Discuss and Consider Resolution #012-094 authorizing the change of MERS Benefit for Ironwood Public Safety Department changing employee contribution rate from 9% to 5%.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to adopt Resolution #012-094 authorizing the change of MERS Benefit for Ironwood Public Safety Department changing employee contribution rate from 9% to 5%. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and Consider authorizing advertisement to bid for the Depot Park Restroom/Pavilion (Phase I) Construction.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to authorize advertisement to bid for the Depot Park Restroom/Pavilion (Phase I) Construction.

R1. Mayor's Appointment

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Rick Tippett to a four (4) year term (term expiring June 30, 2016) and Rebecca Schwartz to the expired term of James Albert (term expiring June 30, 2016) on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Rick Tippett (term expiring June 30, 2016) and Rebecca Schwartz (term expiring June 30, 2016) to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority.

S. Manager's Report.

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

- *Festival Ironwood is scheduled for July 18-21, 2012.
- *The U.P. Fireman Tournament will be held in Ironwood July 26th – 28th.
- *Hemlock Street Phase I is moving along with new concrete curb and gutter.
- *MDOT will be removing the traffic signals downtown starting July 10th.
- *The West Ayer Street water and sewer project is underway.

- *The Norrie Park Playground Improvement project is currently out for bids and is scheduled to be opened on Wednesday, July 18th.
- *The City has received notice from Rural Development that the loan funds for the Phase III water and sewer project have been allocated and reserved upon fulfillment of all final conditions.
- *The Gogebic Range Water Authority is working with Ironwood Township on the installation of a new water main along Margaret Street from Lake Road east to Wilson Street.
- *The EPA have meet with City Staff to review the clean up project of the old Gas Plant site along the Montreal River.
- *Nathan Nusckiewicz would like to donate a chainsaw wood carving for the depot park from some of the large trees that had fallen during the windstorm last week. City Manager Erickson urged the City Commission to view some of his work on his website at www.potlickeronline.com.

T. Other Matters (Five Minute Limit).

Commissioner Semo and Mayor Corcoran noted they will not be in attendance at the next regular meeting.

Mayor Corcoran thanked the Department of Public Works employees and the Public Safety Department for coming out to work during the recent storm. The City Commission concurred and stated they did an excellent job.

Mayor Corcoran and the City Commission congratulated Sam Fontecchio and Ricky Alonen on their recent retirement.

Commissioner Tauer had a few questions for City Staff regarding cleaning of sidewalks and the safety of Iron King Road near Rigoni's Bar.

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

Steve Frank, of 212 E. Oak Street expressed his dismay with the Mayor's appointment to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority and several blight issues that he felt never received any type of notices. Mr. Frank had several pictures for the City Commission to review. Further comments were received.

Larry Rovelsky, from Ironwood Township addressed the City Commission reaffirmed the damage to his property and stated he would be back in two (2) weeks to address the issue again if not corrected.

City Manager Erickson noted the City of Ironwood had dug several holes to locate a leak on the 16" watermain. He further noted the City of Ironwood had requested access to those areas from Mr. Rovelsky and as of today they had not received permission to access those areas. Further comments were received.

V. Consider Closed Session to discuss City Manager's Quarterly Review.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford to enter into Closed Session at 6:46 P.M. to discuss City Manager's Quarterly Review. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

W. Return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Cayer to return to Open Session at 7:10 P.M.

X. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Shackelford and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk