

March 23, 1993

DOWNTOWN IRONWOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

A regular meeting of the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority was held on the above date, 7:30 A.M., First of America Bank Boardroom, 200 S. Suffolk Street, Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Call to Order.

Chairperson Bergquist called the meeting to order at 7:33 A.M.

2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Burchell, Murphy, Kinnunen, Newman, Lorensen and
Chairperson Bergquist.

ABSENT: Forslund, Johnson, Butler (arrived at 7:55 A.M.)

OTHERS

PRESENT: City Manager Edward Bailey.

3. Consider approval of the February 23, 1993, regular meeting minutes and special meeting minutes of March 8, 1993.

Motion by Burchell, supported by Kinnunen. CARRIED. To approve the above noted minutes as presented.

4. Discussion on Downtown Development Director position.

Chairperson Bergquist informed the members of an interested applicant for the DIDA Director position. A resume from Russell D. S. Dawson was handed out for review. It was noted that he would be highly qualified for the position and would be moving to Ironwood this June.

Chairperson Bergquist and Member Burchell advised of their discussion with Glen Joe Carlson who deals with computers and is now in-between jobs. He would be an excellent person to hire for computer consulting projects.

Mayor Lorensen indicated the Planning Commission's desire for staff support and the filling of the vacancy (Community Development Director) left when Mr. Bailey became City Manager. However, due to financial problems, the City is unable to finance this position in its entirety. Mayor Lorensen suggested the possibility of entering into a partnership with the City and the DIDA to staff a position to handle both needs. He also informed the members that April Ruppe, Chamber Director, resigned due to health and possibly a partnership could also be established with the Chamber. The City, Chamber, and DIDA could all benefit from a partnership and hire one person full-time to fulfill all required job descriptions.

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It was suggested that a letter be sent to the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce suggesting a possible partnership with the DIDA to fund a Director position. The letter to the Chamber should also include recognition to April Ruppe of her length of time as Chamber Director.

Motion by Kinnunen, supported by Newman. CARRIED. To write a letter to the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce indicating support for a partnership in order to fund a position for Chamber Director, DIDA Director and Planning Commission Staff support.

It was requested that a letter be written to Russell Dawson thanking him for his resume and to explain the possibility of funding a position in the Ironwood area to include work for the DIDA, Ironwood Chamber and City.

Chairperson Bergquist requested volunteers for a committee to look into this possible partnership with the City and Chamber. Along with her, member Newman agreed to sit on this committee (Member Butler also agreed to sit on this committee). A report will be given at April's regular meeting.

5. Discussion on 1993 Goals & Objectives.

This item will be tabled until which time the possibility of a partnership between the City and Chamber is determined.

6. Discussion on 1993 Budget.

This coincides with the goals and objectives and will be discussed at the proper time.

7. Consider resolution for continuation of 2 mil levy.

City Manager Bailey reminded the members that the DIDA can receive up to a 2 mil levy but that it can vary. The 2 mil levy generates approximately \$10,291 per year. The millage levy is justified by budget adoption.

Member Butler arrived at 7:55 A.M.

Chairperson Bergquist and Member Kinnunen agreed to review the budget information and will present it at the next regular meeting.

A brief discussion was held on expanding the C-2 District. Also discussed was the potential Pamida store expansion.

8. Consider resolution on up-dating DIDA Operating Account signature card.

Motion by Lorenson, supported by Newman. CARRIED. To add JoAnn Bergquist to the signature card.

9. Other Business.

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Chairperson Bergquist requested an up-date on the downtown apartment issue from Mayor Lorenson. He noted that a Public Hearing (to be held by the City Commission) has been scheduled for April 12th on the proposed Map and Language for the C-2 Commercial/Residential District. He indicated that conditions for approval is the exclusion of ground floor apartments in the business corridor, the requirement of one parking space per family unit and Site Plan Review by the Planning Commission. He added that the City will be looking into how to better manage the City-owned parking lots.

On the topic of Use Variances, Mayor Lorenson reviewed the reasoning behind why the City Commission acts as the Board of Zoning Appeals. The City Commission had no choice because of the lack of volunteers to sit on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Chairperson Bergquist and Member Burchell reviewed a request from WUPPDR on Economic Development Projects. Consideration was given to the Depot and Theatre projects, however, it was determined that these projects are not appropriate because of the requirement of job creation.

Chairperson Bergquist asked the status of demolition for the church on the corner of Norfolk Street. City Manager Bailey indicated that it will be removed shortly.

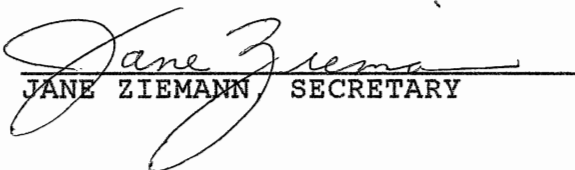
An update was requested on the demolition of the S&L Building. No update was given only that it is slated for demolition.

A brief mention was made to the Sears Store closing the end of May. Owner is looking into alternatives in keeping it open.

10. Adjournment.

Being no further business to discuss, Motion by Lorenson, supported by Newman. CARRIED. That is meeting be adjourned at 8:10 A.M.

Minutes Taken By:


JANE ZIEMANN SECRETARY