

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held by a Zoom Webinar on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30 P.M., along with a Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M.

1. Mayor Burchell called the public hearing to order at 5:25 p.m.
2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Corcoran, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Burchell.

ABSENT: None.

3. Mayor Burchell opened the Public Hearing at 5:26 p.m.
4. Public Hearing: To hear comment on a blight violation of Detroit Denovo, LLC at 143 W. Oak Street (Parcel #52-27-204-260).

Code Enforcement Officer Jason Alonen addressed the City Commission regarding the blight violation of Detroit Denovo, LLC at 143 W. Oak Street (Parcel #52-27-204-260). Mr. Alonen noted several notices had been sent and the homeowner has made some progress. Mr. Alonen recommended to the City Commission to allow the homeowner an additional two (2) weeks from today's meeting to finish cleaning up the property. Additional comments were received.

5. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:32 P.M.

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A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 5:32 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Corcoran, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Burchell.

ABSENT: None.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.\*

\*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of August 24<sup>th</sup>, and Special City Commission Meeting Minutes of August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 7<sup>th</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>, and July 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- b. Park & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 4<sup>th</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, and July 6<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of August 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

D. Approval of the Agenda

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve the agenda as presented.*

*Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

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

Jeff Barker, an attorney from 1146 E. Washington, Suite E, Lansing, Michigan addressed the City Commission and urged them to move the Ordinance forward. The only things he was not in agreement with was the signage restrictions and the number of businesses to be allowed.

F. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda (Three Minute Limit)

There were none.

G. UPDATE: COVID-19 Response.

Finance Director Paul Linn noted there was not a lot to update since the last meeting other than the City of Ironwood receiving some CARES Act Funding. He did note he recently attended a MML webinar on the Hazard Pay Premium and Payroll Reimbursement Program. The payroll reimbursement program funds will be prorated at 50-55%.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman addressed the City Commission stating that the grants through the Restart Program have been distributed to 31 businesses in our area.

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio noted his department continues to work with City Staff and community members to help connect those in need with other agencies that can help. He further noted COVID-19 is trending downwards in our area.

H. AUDIENCE: Amber Hollenbeck, Ironwood Tourism Council and Tim Erickson, Assistant Community Development Director  
(RE: Update on marketing efforts from Ironwood Tourism Council and City of Ironwood)

Amber Hollenbeck, Ironwood Tourism Council (ITC) and Tim Erickson, Assistant Community Development Director updated the City Commission on the marketing efforts done by the Ironwood Tourism Council and the City of Ironwood. Tim Erickson and Amber Hollenbeck presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding their marketing efforts. They noted community branding is a collaborative effort between the City and the ITC. The banners along the highway and downtown are an example of that branding. They also noted that the Travel Ironwood website is approximately 1 ½ years old and has everything you would like to do in our area. Amber explained to the City Commission the Travel Bloggers & Influencers such as Shalee Wanders, Look About Lindsey, and Mi Playground have visited our area thus creating more contacts and likes. The ITC is also planning on creating 21 billboards throughout Wisconsin. Amber also noted the main reach is social media like Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The ITC has done several giveaway's and sweepstakes which help increase their numbers through e-mail posts. Further discussion of this matter took place.

## OLD BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and Consider adopting Resolution #020-015 Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of Detroit Denovo, LLC at 143 W. Oak Street (Parcel #52-27-204-260).

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to adopt Resolution #020-015 Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of Detroit Denovo, LLC at 143 W. Oak Street (Parcel #52-27-204-260) and to allow the homeowner an additional two (2) weeks from tonight's meeting to clean up. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and Consider approving Ordinance No. 523, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend the Code of ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan by adding a new chapter which new chapter shall be designated as Chapter 37 of said Code entitled "Marihuana Establishments".

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to approve Ordinance No. 523, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend the Code of ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan by adding a new chapter which new chapter shall be designated as Chapter 37 of said Code entitled "Marihuana Establishments".*

*Yes (3): Commissioner Semo, Corcoran, and Mayor Burchell.*

*No (2): Commissioner Cayer and Mildren.*

*Motion carried on a 3 to 2 vote.*

- K. Consider approval of Change Order No. 1 for the City of Ironwood – Downtown Square Project to Ruotsala Construction, LLC in the amount of \$65,863.85 and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Cayer to approve Change Order No. 1 for the City of Ironwood – Downtown Square Project to Ruotsala Construction, LLC in the amount of \$65,863.85 and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## NEW BUSINESS

- L. Discuss and Consider request from Rod and Mary Holm to waive late penalty fee for summer taxes.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to waive the late penalty fee for the summer taxes because of their 15+ year history of always paying them in July. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- M. Discuss and Consider entering a five (5) year agreement with Axon for new tasers for the Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD).

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to authorize entering a five (5) year agreement with Axon for new tasers for the Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

N. Discuss and Consider approval to install irrigation system for the Downtown Art Park.

*After a brief discussion this item failed for no support.*

O. Discuss and Consider approving an agreement with Charge point for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station.

**Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to approve an agreement with Charge Point for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station at the Downtown Square.

**ROLL CALL:**

*Yes (4): Commissioner Semo, Corcoran, Mildren, and Mayor Burchell.*

*No (1): Commissioner Cayer.*

**Motion** carried on a 4 to 1 vote.

P. Discuss and Consider approval to purchase historical signage for the Iron Belle Trail in Ironwood.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve the purchase of historical signage for the Iron Belle Trail in Ironwood. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Q. Mayor's Appointment.

*Mayor Burchell re-appointed Scott Erickson and Robert Tervonen to the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Board for a two (2) year term (term expiring June 30, 2021) and re-appointed Rick Semo and Jim Mildren (as an alternate) on the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority for a two (2) year term (term expiring November 30, 2022).*

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to approve the Mayor's re-appointment of Scott Erickson and Robert Tervonen to the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Board for a two (2) year term (term expiring June 30, 2021) and re-appointment of Rick Semo and Jim Mildren (as an alternate) on the Gogebic-Iron Wastewater Authority for a two (2) year term (term expiring November 30, 2022). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

R. Manager's Report.

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

\*Reminded everyone that the water flushing starts on Sunday and bottled water is available.

\*The Pat O'Donnell Civic Center block work and roof will be finished this week and once enclosed will continue to work on the inside.

\*The dasher boards at the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center have been removed and new used boards will be installed.

S. Other Matters.

There were none.

T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 P.M. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk