

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

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

1. Mayor Burchell called the Public Hearing and meeting to order as a remote participation meeting as authorized by Executive Order of the Governor at 5:30 P.M.

The following Commissioners were in attendance: Commissioner Cayer, Corcoran, Commissioner Mildren, Commissioner Semo, and Mayor Burchell.

2. Recording of the Roll.

The following members who were in attendance indicated the physical location from which they were remotely participating in the meeting was as follows: Commissioner Cayer (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Corcoran (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Mildren (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Semo (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), and Mayor Burchell (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan).
Absent: None.

3. Public Hearing: To hear comment on Ordinance No. 529, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend Sections 19-5 Smoking Prohibited, Chapter 19, Parks and Recreation of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan.

City Clerk Karen Gullan addressed the City Commission stating this Ordinance was previously adopted by the City Commission prohibiting smoking in many of the parks throughout the City of Ironwood. She further noted that Ordinance No. 529, Book 5 was amending Sections 19-5 Smoking Prohibited, Chapter 19, Parks and Recreation by adding the Downtown City Square to the list of parks where smoking is prohibited and adding it to the map previously adopted. No other comments were received.

4. Mayor Burchell closed Public Hearing 5:27 P.M.
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- A. Mayor Burchell called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 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 November 23rd.

*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of November 2nd.

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

D. Approval of the Agenda

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve the amended agenda removing item M. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

G. UPDATE: COVID-19 Response.

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio addressed the City Commission stating Gogebic County will be receiving the first doses of vaccine, for COVID-19, next week (approximately 975 doses). He further noted the Western U.P. Health Department has already identified who will be getting them.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman noted the State of Michigan, through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, released a new funding program through the CARES Act for small businesses which will be very competitive. He urged businesses to prepare their answers in advance before tomorrow morning when the grant is released.

Finance Director Paul Linn noted there were no new news to report on the financial end other than continuing reporting and compliance of previous grants.

City Manager Scott Erickson added that the CEO Paula Chermiside from Aspirus Grand View Hospital urged everyone during the holidays to continue to wear masks and social distance.

OLD BUSINESS

H. Discuss and consider adopting Ordinance No. 529, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend Sections 19-5 Smoking Prohibited, Chapter 19, Parks and Recreation of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to adopt Ordinance No. 529, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend Sections 19-5 Smoking Prohibited, Chapter 19, Parks and Recreation of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

I. Discuss and consider appointment of a City of Ironwood, City Assessor/Assessor of Record.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to appoint Jason Alonen as the City of Ironwood, City Assessor/Assessor of Record effective January 1, 2021. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

J. Discuss and consider approval of proposal from BS&A for new cemetery software, implementation, and training.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded Corcoran to approve the proposal from BS&A for new cemetery software implementation, and training. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

K. Discuss and consider approving the Interlocal Agreement with Gogebic County to appoint the Gogebic County Equalization Director as the Designated Assessor, as required by the State Tax Commission.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Gogebic County to appoint the Gogebic County Equalization Director as the Designated Assessor, as required by the State Tax Commission. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Discuss and consider approving an Engineering Service Agreement with Coleman Engineering to submit application information for a \$3 million (max. grant amount) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, service line replacement grant.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve an Engineering Service Agreement with Coleman Engineering to submit application information for a \$3 million (max. grant amount) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, service line replacement grant. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and consider approving an Engineering Service Agreement with Coleman Engineering, contingent on grant approval for the project administration of a Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) project to investigate the water service line material type for up to 1,715 service laterals.

This item was removed from the agenda.

N. Discuss USDA Rural Development Water Treatment Plant funding proposal.

No action was taken at this time.

O. Discuss Michigan Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) funding proposal.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to authorize City Staff to discontinue the grant fund request from Michigan Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

P. Discuss and consider approval of a grant application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to approve the grant application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) and authorize a \$1,000 city match. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Q. Discuss and consider authorizing bids for 2019 Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to authorize bids for 2019 Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP). 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:

- *The annual audit is underway.
- *The Board of Review will be conducted tomorrow from 9-11 by zoom and in person.
- *Public Safety has been working with dispatch moving back to the Michigan State Police by the end of December.
- *A winter walking map (identifying sidewalks that are plowed in the winter) was created and will be posted on the City website along with Facebook.

S. Other Matters.

Commissioner Corcoran requested a goal setting work session be scheduled in the very near future to review the goals of the City Commission.

Commissioner Semo indicated a good place for a sledding hill would be on the old, abandoned Bonnie Road near the dog park.

Commissioner Mildren thanked City Staff for mapping out safe walking areas.

Commissioner Cayer questioned City Staff regarding the marihuana permitting process.

Mayor Burchell noted the Downtown City Square Project and the charging station made the Detroit News.

The Mayor and the City Commission wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. Additional comments were received.

T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Cayer, seconded by Corcoran to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 P.M.
Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk