

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on May 22, 2023, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by a public hearing at 5:20 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:20 P.M.
2. Jeff Sjoquist, Coleman Engineering, reviewed the Water Treatment Plant Phase II Project Plan outline, proposed costs and possible funding options. Jeff confirmed that approving a Resolution accepting the Project Plan does not commit the City to any funding source at this time. It is anticipated to know more about funding by October 2023.

Pete Sturgul asked if the operating costs would be going up and how that might affect rates. Jeff Sjoquist confirmed it's too early to tell if there will be rate increases not knowing the funding sources yet.

Larry Holcombe asked if any new wells would be part of the Water Treatment Plant project? Jeff Sjoquist confirmed that new well exploration is not a part of the Project Plan.

Randall Kashich asked about the City's General Fund and asked if Iron County is getting any water from the City of Ironwood. Jeff Sjoquist confirmed that Hurley does get some of its water from the City of Ironwood.

3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:41 P.M.
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A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioners Korpela, Mildren, Semo, Andresen and Mayor Corcoran  
ABSENT: None

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

- 1) Approval of Minutes:
  - a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2023.
- 2) Review and Place on File:
  - a. Ironwood Housing Commission Board Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023.
- 3) Approve Sale of:
  - a. Ironwood American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #5-Flag Day Sale Fundraiser on June 14th, 2023.

***Motion** was made by Semo, 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 Korpela, seconded by Andresen, and carried to approve the Agenda as presented.*

E. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.
2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending April 30, 2023, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for April 2023.*

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve the Check Register Report for April 2023. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

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

There was none.

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

Nancy Sturgul commented on the property next to them where Fahrner Excavating dumps snow. Nancy asked what changes would be taking place with the snow dumping Ordinance, when the changes will take place, and when can they expect the debris from this past winter to be cleaned up.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

I. Discuss and consider adopting Ordinance No. 540, an Ordinance to amend Section 2.1-2, Zoning Map, Article 2, Division 1, Zoning Districts and Map, of Ordinance Number 537, to rezone 335-337 W. Northland Avenue from R-1 Residential to R-2 Multi-Family Residential.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Ordinance No. 540, an Ordinance to amend Section 2.1-2, Zoning Map, Article 2, Division 1, Zoning Districts and Map, of Ordinance Number 537, to rezone 335-337 W. Northland Avenue from R-1 Residential to R-2 Multi-Family Residential. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

J. Discuss and consider Resolution #023-011 for adopting the Water Treatment Plant Phase II Project Plan (DWSRF) and appointing the City Manager as the authorized representative for the project.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #023-011 for adopting the Water Treatment Plant Phase II Project Plan (DWSRF) and appointing the City Manager as the authorized representative for the project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider approving an hourly wage increase for paid on-call firefighters to \$17.50/hr.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to approve an hourly wage increase for paid on-call firefighters to \$17.50/hr. from \$12.50/hr. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

L. Discuss and consider approving an \$817.00 change order for the Roof Top Unit Project from Mukavitz Heating, Inc.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve an \$817.00 change order for the Roof Top Unit Project from Mukavitz Heating, Inc. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Discuss and consider authorizing the Gogebic Range Suicide Prevention Council to display their memorial quilts in the Memorial Building from Thursday, May 25, 2023 through Tuesday, May 30, 2023 over the Memorial Day Holiday.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried to authorize the Gogebic Range Suicide Prevention Council to display their memorial quilts in the Memorial Building from Thursday, May 25, 2023 through Tuesday, May 30, 2023 over the Memorial Day Holiday.

N. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

1. We ask for the citizens patience while we work on patching potholes and repairing plow damage from this last winter and spring thaw. The crews are moving as fast as they can, but it will take some time to get through all the items there are to work on.
2. Spring water main flushing will begin June 4th. DPW will be sending out notices through multiple lines of communication.
3. The Compost site has been open for a couple of weeks now. They have been seeing around 60 vehicles per day there. Hours are Thursday & Friday from 10-4 and Saturday from 9-2.
4. Curry Park opening will be the end of this week on May 26th.
5. Norrie Park will be opened for June 1st.
6. The water plant subsequent funding discussions continue with USDA Rural Development. Still waiting on more definite answers on how we will be moving forward. But we remain optimistic on the project moving forward.
7. Hemlock Street construction project from Broadway to US2 has started. Pipe work excavation will likely be starting later this week. The City had contemplated not putting a stop sign in at the Hemlock/Broadway/Ridge intersection since it will be reconfigured differently. However, after further consideration, there will be a 4 way stop reinstalled at the Hemlock and Ridge.

8. *Downtown sewer main lining work is underway. The excavation work is complete next to Stems and Ben Franklin. Those patches should be getting repaved very soon. The Contractor VisuSewer will be working with local businesses on the disruptions.*
9. *The Margaret Street culvert project is set to start later this week or next week. This is ¼ mile east of Trinity Lutheran Church. Preconstruction meeting will be held tomorrow morning to finalize details.*
10. *Public Safety and Code enforcement have been working together on blight issues over the past month. Public Safety is going out this week for the second round of inspections to see if people have made progress on blight elimination.*
11. *Memorial Day parade will be put on by the American Legion on Monday May 29th at 10AM. Parade will go from the Memorial Building to the Riverside Cemetery.*
12. *The new Owners of the old Bell Chalet building in Hurley, donated the original 1890's bell to the Michigan's Western Gateway Trail Authority. We will be working on coming up with a vandal proof way of mounting it near the Montreal River on the Iron-Bell Trail.*
13. *The 100-year celebration of the Memorial Building will be on Friday July 7th at roughly 5 PM. Final details will be released in June.*
14. *A reminder that City offices and DPW are closed on Monday May 29th for the Memorial Day Holiday.*
15. *A Public Hearing for the FY 2023-2024 Budget will be held prior to the June 12, 2023 Commission meeting.*
16. *I will not be present at the June 12th City Commission meeting as I will be with my father on an annual trip. Staff will be handling the meeting issues in my absence.*

O. Other Matters.

*Commissioner Semo asked about the process for proceeding with blight notices for the property next to the Sturgul property. Tom Bergman, Community Development Director, briefly outlined the process and informed the public that currently, it is required to clean up property after dumping snow.*

*Mayor Corcoran commented on the brand new Vactor Truck added to the City's Fleet and expressed her appreciation for the Department of Public Works workers for pitching in their own funds to have a custom flag decal placed on the hood of the Vactor.*

*Commissioner Mildren shared his appreciation on the donated bell for the Iron-Belle Trail and reminded the public again about the Memorial Building 100 Year Celebration coming up.*

P. Adjournment.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 P.M.