

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on June 12, 2023, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by a Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

- 1. In the excused absence of Mayor Corcoran and Mayor Pro Tem Andresen, City Clerk Jennifer Jacobson opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M.

Finance Director/Treasurer Paul Linn presented the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget as described in Resolution #023-012. He presented the 2023 City Tax Levy and the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal 2023-24. The proposed changes to City fees were also noted in the City Fee Schedule.

In addition, Paul Linn shared a 2023-2024 Recommended Appropriations Report, which listed a comparison of current 2022-2023 and projected 2023-2024 revenues and expenditures. Fee Schedule increases were discussed, particularly regarding increases in water and sewer rates. Paul Linn noted there was a 6.0% CPI increase this year, which directly reflects the increase in water and sewer rates.

No additional comments were received.

It was noted that the Snow Dump Permit was added to the 2023-2024 Fee Schedule with a recommended cost being \$50.00. The \$50.00 cost is an increase from the \$10.00 fee that has been in place since the Snow Dumping Ordinance was made effective on January 17, 2000.

- 2. Clerk Jacobson closed the Public Hearing at 5:33 P.M.

- A. Clerk Jacobson called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:33 P.M.

- B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioners Korpela, Mildren, and Semo
 ABSENT: Mayor Corcoran and Mayor Pro Tem Andresen (both excused)

- C. Appoint Acting Chairperson to preside over the meeting.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to appoint Commissioner Mildren as Acting Chairperson for the remainder of this meeting.

- D. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

- 1) Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2023.
- 2) Review and Place on File:
 - a. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2023.

- b. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2023.
- c. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2023.
- d. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of May 1, 2023.
- e. Human Relations & Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2023.

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

E. Approval of the Agenda.

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

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

H. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #023-012, authorizing the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and adopt the 2023-2024 Fee Schedule.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Resolution #023-012, authorizing the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and adopt the 2023-2024 Fee Schedule and authorize the Acting Chairperson to sign the Resolution. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

I. Discuss and consider Xcel Energy Good Faith Offer for Permanent Right of Way easement through Miners Memorial Heritage Park property with a payment of \$10,098.72.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to approve the Xcel Energy Good Faith Offer for Permanent Right of Way easement through Miners Memorial Heritage Park property with a payment of \$10,098.72. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

J. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment #13 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$5,473.08 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to authorize Payment #13 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$5,473.08 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

K. Discuss and consider Resolution #023-013, authorizing a claim for the Protecting MI Pension Grant and appointing the City Manager as the authorized representative for the project.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Resolution #023-013, authorizing a claim for the Protecting MI Pension Grant and appointing the City Manager as the authorized representative for the project and authorize the Acting Chairperson to sign the Resolution. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Manager's Report.

Clerk Jacobson verbally provided the following updates from City Manager Paul Anderson who was excused from the meeting.

- 1. We thank the public for their patience last week as the DPW workers performed the spring water main flushing.*
- 2. The water plant project continues to be on hold with USDA Rural Development as we await the waiver for Buy American to be approved. We are in regular talks with the Contractor and USDA RD about the process. Funding application through the State of Michigan for Phase 2 of the Water Plant has been submitted and we should know more about that in August 2023.*
- 3. Hemlock Street construction project from Broadway to US2 has started. Pipe work excavation will continue for the rest of June and July and restoration work after that.*
- 4. Downtown sewer main lining work is underway with lining work to be happening over the next couple of weeks. The Contractor VisuSewer will be working with local businesses on the disruptions.*
- 5. The Margaret Street culvert has been installed and restoration work is being scheduled for after the 4th of July.*
- 6. Angelo Luppino will be beginning work this week on paving patch projects for the City of Ironwood and GCRC through the GCRC contract.*
- 7. Pavement striping work began last week and will be wrapped up very soon.*
- 8. Miners Park Mountain Bike Trail project by Flowtrack started the last week of May. Work is scheduled to be completed in late July or early August. The trails are open for use by the public. Signage is one of the last items that will be completed at the end of the project.*
- 9. Public Safety and Code enforcement have been working together on blight issues over the past two months. 104 grass mowing notices were sent out last week and almost 100 blight notices were sent in the weeks before that.*
- 10. The 100-year celebration of the Memorial Building will be on Friday July 7th at roughly 5 PM. Final details are being worked on and will be announced in the two weeks prior to the event.*

11. A reminder that City offices and DPW are closed on Monday June 19th for the Juneteenth Holiday.

M. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo extended his appreciation to the DPW Crew on their work with the hydrant flushing and asked if the City has been getting many calls on discolored water.

Commissioner Mildren commented on his gratitude to the local photographers who help promote tourism by sharing pictures of Ironwood and the surrounding area on social media. A special mention went out to Gary Jackson for the beautiful photos he shares on social media.

N. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 P.M.

Jim Mildren, Acting Chairperson

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk