

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on September 11, 2023 at 5:30 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioners Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: There were none

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2023.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Regular Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2023.

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

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.

OLD BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment #17 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC, in the amount of \$5,330.81 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to authorize Payment #17 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC, in the amount of \$5,330.81 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

H. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1 for Ruotsala Construction, LLC, which is a reduction of \$8,226.00 for the Margaret Street Culvert Project.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpela, to approve Change Order #1 for Ruotsala Construction, LLC, which is a reduction of \$8,226.00 for the Margaret Street Culvert Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment #2 to Ruotsala Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$19,689 for the Margaret Street Culvert Project.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to authorize Payment #2 to Ruotsala Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$19,689 for the Margaret Street Culvert Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- J. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to purchase a replacement Sewer Truck from Red's Auto for \$65,974.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to authorize the Department of Public Works to purchase a replacement Sewer Truck from Red's Auto for \$65,974. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- K. Discuss and consider the amount of a Sewer Funding Application for USDA Rural Development Phase 5.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to authorize staff to pursue a \$5 million dollar sewer project funding application with the USDA Rural Development to supplement the EGLE Water Funded Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- L. Discuss and consider authorizing expenditures to Snow Country Contracting for repairing the access road to the Water Pump Station project.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided an update that the City will have a future Change Order to the Water Pump Station Project for approximately \$64,000 to complete necessary road improvements on the access road prior to the Water Pump Station project commencing. No action was taken.

- M. Discuss and consider approving Coleman Engineering's \$25,800.00 proposal and Work Order to survey the Phase 5 Project areas.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to approve Coleman Engineering's \$25,800.00 proposal and Work Order to survey the Phase 5 Project areas. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #023-031, State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant and authorize the City Manager to execute the application for financial assistance.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Resolution #023-031, State Disaster Contingency Fund Grant and authorize the City Manager to execute the application for financial assistance. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #023-032 governing the 2023 Comprehensive Deer Management Program.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to adopt Resolution #023-032 governing the 2023 Comprehensive Deer Management Program, with the Miner's Park area removed from the Resolution. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

P. City Manager's Appointment.

City Manager Paul Anderson appointed John Lupino to the Ironwood Housing Commission to fill an unexpired five-year term (term expiring June 30, 2024).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the City Manager's appointment of John Lupino to the Ironwood Housing Commission to fill an unexpired five-year term (term expiring June 30, 2024).

Q. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Eric Moran to fill an unexpired four-year term (term expiring June 30, 2025) and Lynne Wiercinski to fill a four-year term (term expiring June 30, 2027) on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointments of Eric Moran to fill an unexpired four-year term (term expiring June 30, 2025) and Lynne Wiercinski to fill a four-year term (term expiring June 30, 2027) on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Elizabeth Sweeney to the Board of Review to fill a three-year term (term expiring December 31, 2026).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Elizabeth Sweeney to the Board of Review to fill a three-year term (term expiring December 31, 2026).

Mayor Corcoran appointed Richard Jenkins to the Parks & Recreation Committee to fill a three-year term (term expiring July 1, 2025).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Richard Jenkins to the Parks & Recreation Committee to fill a three-year term (term expiring July 1, 2025).

R. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Updates

- 1. Phase I water plant project has started with site work by Snow Country Contracting. Concrete foundations will be beginning in the next two weeks.*
- 2. The Theatre sidewalk project continues to make progress. Ruotsala Construction is working on forming up the concrete pour this week.*
- 3. Hemlock Street construction is wrapped up except for the final walk through to address a few last items. I would like to thank Ruotsala Construction for executing an excellent project and thank the citizens for being patient during this project.*
- 4. Angelo Luppino is still working on asphalt and concrete patches around town.*
- 5. Miners Park Mountain Bike Trail project by Flow Track is continuing and scheduled to be completed by late September. The trails are open for use by the public. Signage will be installed in the coming days. The last trail building work that Joe has is the skills area by the dog park trailhead parking lot.*

6. *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project will be beginning soon. Jakes will have fall 2023, 2024 and 2025 to complete approximately 225 water service line replacements.*
7. *Funding for the Phase 5 Utility project and Phase 2 water plant projects through the EGLE DWSRF program have had preliminary scores and grant / loan amounts announced. Things are looking very optimistic, but the final funding list will be a little bit yet, so we aren't making any official announcements.*
8. *We are beginning to work on pulling together the bidding documents for more electrical improvements at Curry Park. It appears that the service line and panel will need to be upgraded to upgrade more campsites.*

Managers Updates

1. *DPW Staffing update:*
 - a. *DPW Supervisor job posting is currently out for advertisement. We welcome applications from qualified candidates.*
 - b. *We are working on filling two open positions still. Equipment Repair and Equipment Operator II, we are working through the interview and application process. I encourage anyone who is interested in joining our team to fill out a general employment application at any time.*
2. *American Red Cross/Ironwood High School Blood drive on September 13 and 14. The drive is scheduled from 11:00 – 5:00pm on Wednesday and 9:00 – 2:00pm on Thursday. There are several openings available on Thursday for the Ironwood High School/ National Honor Society sponsored drive and critical blood shortages across the UP, so any donors interested in giving blood on Wednesday or Thursday, are appreciated.*
3. *Wakefield motorized trail will be closed this winter as there is not a route through that all parties can agree upon. This will have a significant impact on snowmobiling in our region winter if a solution is not worked out.*
4. *We had a successful City Fall Cleanup Day this past weekend. Thanks to all the residents who participated by bringing refuse to the collection point. We had 112 this fall which was down slightly from 128 this past spring.*
5. *The Hiawatha Park fundraising campaign through Patronicity is wrapping up on Wednesday. Through the generous donation of \$50,000 from Renee Semo, we needed to raise \$50,000 of additional funds in order to get another \$50,000 of funds from the State of Michigan. It looks like we are going to be successful in this effort once the last funds are collected over the next couple of days. I'd like to THANK Renee Semo for her donation, Tim Erickson for all his work organizing this, and all the people and entities who have donated to this effort! We look forward to implementing this great project next year.*
6. *I'd like to take a final quick moment to recognize all the people that were lost 22 years ago in the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks on New York City and express thankfulness to the first responders that were heroes on that horrific day.*

S. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo suggested that the Commission have a Work Session in October to discuss the ongoing housing shortage within the City.

Commissioner Mildren positively commented on how busy the downtown area has been all summer. He also requested to be excused from the September 25, 2023 Commission meeting.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Mildren from the September 25, 2023 meeting.*

Commissioner Andresen asked how close the City is to raising the \$50,000 required commitment for the Hiawatha Patronicity Grant. He was informed we only have a few thousand more to meet the \$50,000.

T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk