

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on July 24, 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. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M.
2. Public Hearing: Community Development Director, Tom Bergman reviewed the proposed Ordinance #541, an Ordinance to amend Section 17-71 of Chapter 17, Article V. Snow Dumping, of the Code of Ordinances. Mr. Bergman indicated that the only change would be section 17-71 and the change would no longer permit dumping snow in the R-1 through R-4 Residential Districts within the City.

City Manager, Paul Anderson, informed the Commission and the public that the City is exploring alternative sites for snow dumping to help the local contractors who may be impacted with this change. One suggested idea is within the compost site.

Commissioner Semo asked if this would prohibit a person from putting snow onto a neighbor's property and if the Commission will be involved in the selection of a snow dumping site on City property?

Commissioner Mildren asked if the proposed compost site will be impacted during other seasons?

Ken Fahrner, 117 May Street, wished to thank the City for looking into alternative sites for Contractors to dump snow within the City.

Rick Templer, 506 W. Sutherland, has vacant lots within a residential district and personally feels that a residential district is no place for this activity.

Levi Kolesar, 635 Sutherland, stated he saw what dumps and empty lots did in Wakefield and doesn't want to see that happen in their neighborhood.

Alex Zak, 1120 N. Hemlock St., expressed concern stating that he's lived in his home since 2015 and the water in his yard each spring has increased substantially. He is concerned that it will start impacting his foundation.

Nancy Sturgul, 225 W. Midland Avenue, stated she was present to support the Ordinance change asking why the neighbors should have to spend extra money and efforts between sump pumps in basements and cleaning up the garbage left.

Ben O'Neill, 1313 Lawrence, stated he was woken up from the slamming dump truck boxes just this morning.

Kelli Stanczak, on behalf of son, Mike Stanczak who lives at 1100 N. Hemlock, stated the garbage and water issues have to stop.

Greg Zalewsky, 1214 N. Lawrence St., spoke in favor of changing the Ordinance as he would like to keep the neighborhood quiet and clean.

3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:30 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 July 10, 2023.

b. Special City Commission Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2023.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2023.

b. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of June 13, 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. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to approve the Check Register Report for June 2023 as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

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 adoption of Ordinance Number 541, an Ordinance to amend Section 17-71 of Chapter 17, Article V. Snow Dumping, of the Code of Ordinances.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adopt of Ordinance Number 541, an Ordinance to amend Section 17-71 of Chapter 17, Article V. Snow Dumping, of the Code of Ordinances and include C-1 Neighborhood Commercial. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- I. Discuss and consider authorizing Change Order 2 for Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,280.99 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to approve Change Order 2 for Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,280.99 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment #15 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,466.08 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 #15 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,466.08 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Discuss and consider adjustment to Demolition Incentive Program.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adjust the Demolition Incentive Program to be retroactive to May 8, 2023. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## NEW BUSINESS

- L. Discuss and consider authorizing bids for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Lead Service Line Replacement project.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to authorizing the City to seek bids for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Lead Service Line Replacement project.*

- M. Discuss and consider approving a Franchise Agreement between the City of Ironwood and Xcel Energy.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve a Franchise Agreement between the City of Ironwood and Xcel Energy. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- N. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution Number 023-021 authorizing the submission of a Rural Readiness Grant application to Rural Development for \$50,000 and allocate \$20,000 cash match for a total project cost of \$70,000 to complete a Strategic Housing Study.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Resolution Number 023-021 authorizing the submission of a Rural Readiness Grant application to Rural Development for \$50,000 and allocate \$20,000 cash match for a total project cost of \$70,000 to complete a Strategic Housing Study. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

O. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal update:

*Engineering Updates*

- 1. The water plant continues to move towards an August 3<sup>rd</sup> USDA Rural Development loan closing. Thank you for the special meeting last week which was critical for this process.*
- 2. Hemlock Street construction project has all the utility line work complete and are now currently working on the road reconstruction process with digging out subgrade and rebuilding the roadbed with breaker run rock and sand.*
- 3. Downtown sewer main lining work is wrapped up and working through final paperwork to close out the project.*
- 4. The Margaret Street culvert has been installed and waiting to be paved.*
- 5. Angelo Luppino will be starting to perform mill and overlay work starting approximately 8/2/23 for portions of Lowell Street, Luxemore Street, and a couple other small areas around Town.*
- 6. Crack sealing contractor, Scodeller Construction from downstate Michigan, will be in town this week to crack seal the Norrie and Jessieville neighborhoods.*
- 7. Miners Park Mountain Bike Trail project by Flow Track is continuing and scheduled to be completed in late 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.*
- 8. The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project will be going out to bid for a 8/21/23 bid date with construction through 2024 and 2025.*
- 9. 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. We are going to be filling numerous DPW positions in the weeks to come. We are currently interviewing for an equipment repair person and will be working through the Union process for DPW Lead Person and 2 Equipment Operator II positions.*
- 2. Code enforcement and Public Safety have worked together to send out 240 blight notices in 2023. The vast majority of the notices have been cleaned up, but we are continuing the State mandated process on the remaining properties out of compliance. Three non-compliant properties will be going through the Public Hearing process for blight at the next meeting in August. We are in the second round of grass notices. The first round of grass notices were remedied by either the homeowner or the DPW department.*

3. *Continue to check out the Emberlight Festival schedule of events. They are hosting the Art in the Park event, along with many other local art exhibits, musical shows, plays, films and other performances right here in Ironwood over the next month.*
4. *The Gogebic County Fair will be taking place August 10-13<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to come out to enjoy all the wonderful games, animals and activities that the Fair brings to Town!*

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Andresen requested to be excused from the August 14, 2023 meeting.

***Motion*** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Andresen from the August 14, 2023 meeting.

*Mayor Corcoran commented on the Mountain Bike Trails stating she's heard many good things about the trails. Wished to thank the City Staff for working on an alternative snow dumping site. Encouraged the Community to visit the Art in the Park exhibits, and thanked Jason Alonen and Andrew DiGiorgio for the continued Blight efforts.*

Commissioner Semo commented on how wonderful Festival Ironwood was and requested that the City send a Thank You card to the Committee thanking them for their efforts.

Q. Adjournment.

***Motion*** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 P.M.

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk