

### **Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting**

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on October 9, 2023, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by Public Hearings at 5:15 P.M., and 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 5:15 P.M.
2. Public Hearing to hear comment on Ordinance Number 544, an Ordinance to vacate the alley adjacent to 117 N. Hemlock and 115 N. Hemlock Street.

Tom Bergman, Community Development Director, reviewed the request to vacate the alleyway adjacent to 117 N. Hemlock and 115 N. Hemlock Street.

Ruth Mitchell, 206 N. Hemlock Street, read a letter that she wrote to the City Commission. In summary, Mrs. Mitchell would like the alleyway behind her house to be vacated in addition to 117 N. and 115 N. Hemlock Street.

3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M.

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1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M.
  2. Public Hearing to hear comment on Ordinance Number 543, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 535, Book 5, of the “Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan”, Chapter 37-4, item (d), and Chapter 37-4, item (b), Marihuana Establishment, regarding grow and processing licenses.

Tom Bergman, Community Development Director, reviewed the changes to the Ordinance stating this proposed change would do away with the limit on the number of licenses in industrial zoned areas only.

Mayor Corcoran asked if this could potentially create future issues with industrial property in the City. Tom stated that long term discussions on industrial zone expansion should start within the next few years.

Nate Price, 212 E. Ayer Street, expressed his support for the Ordinance amendment stating it would be great for the Community.

Randy Kohler, 415 Bundy Street, spoke in favor of the Ordinance amendment stating it is more geared towards local people.

3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:31 P.M.
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- A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:31 P.M.
- B. Recording of the Roll.  
PRESENT: Commissioners Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran  
ABSENT: None

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) 1) Approval of Minutes:

- a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2023.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2023.
- b. Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2023.
- c. Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2023.
- d. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2023.
- e. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2023.
- f. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2023.
- g. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2023.

*Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpela, 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).

Curt Martell, 424 W. Larch Street, discussed the existing Parks within the City. Curt informed the Commission there is an open grant through the Department of Natural Resources for planting trees in City Parks. A letter was presented to each of the Commissioners regarding the Parks.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- G. Discuss and consider adopting Ordinance Number 543, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 535, Book 5, of the “Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan”, Chapter 37-4, item (d), and Chapter 37-4, item (b).

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Ordinance Number 543, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 535, Book 5, of the “Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan”, Chapter 37-4, item (d), and Chapter 37-4, item (b). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

H. Discuss and consider adopting Ordinance Number 544, an Ordinance to Vacate the alley adjacent to 117 N. Hemlock and 115 N. Hemlock Street.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to adopt Ordinance Number 544, an Ordinance to Vacate the alley adjacent to 117 N. Hemlock and 115 N. Hemlock Street. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

I. Discuss and consider approving Change Order 4 for Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC for an increase of \$513.86 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to approve Change Order 4 for Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC for an increase of \$513.86 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 #18, the final payment, to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$15,438.49 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Heritage Park.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to authorize Payment #18, the final payment, to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$15,438.49 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 a License Agreement for Krist Oil to use a portion of the City-owned alleyway immediately to the north of Krist Oil Company's property located at 1340 E. Cloverland Drive.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve a License Agreement for Krist Oil to use a portion of the City-owned alleyway immediately to the north of Krist Oil Company's property located at 1340 E. Cloverland Drive, keeping a 5 foot setback from the manhole. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

L. City Manager’s Report.

### *Engineering Updates*

1. Phase 1 water plant project has started. The deepest floor in the plant has been poured and walls were being formed last week along w/ the floor for the rest of the building.
2. The Theatre sidewalk project is wrapped up. I will have a final change order and pay app for the next City Commission meeting.

3. *Hemlock Street construction is wrapped up. Ruotsala is going through the claim process for one change order request with MDOT, Coleman and the City.*
4. *Angelo Luppino is complete with asphalt patches and concrete patches around town. Any remaining work will likely have to wait until next year.*
5. *Miners Park Mountain Bike Trail project by Flow Track is complete! We will be scheduling a ribbon cutting event for this wonderful project either this fall or possibly in the spring.*
6. *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project has begun. Jakes will have fall 2023, 2024 and 2025 to complete approximately 225 water service line replacements. They have begun work in the Norrie neighborhood and done 7 addresses so far and plan to perform 1-2 per day until winter sets in.*

### *Managers Updates*

1. *The Nov. 7 Election is underway. The Clerk's office sent out 731 absentee voter applications. Approximately 320 ballots are out, and 137 ballots are back in so far. Absentee voter ballots can be returned until 8 PM of election day.*
2. *Public accuracy test for testing our voting machines is taking place on October 25th.*
3. *City Deer Hunt starts Oct 1 and goes through 12/31. Come into the clerk's office for the application process. We currently have 9 hunters participating.*
4. *DPW Staffing update:*
  - a. *We are conducting interviews tomorrow for the DPW Supervisor job posting. We hope to have someone selected soon for that role.*
  - b. *A quick update on our last two DPW union positions:*
    - i. *Equipment Repair: who has completed the drug, physical and background screening and he plans to start on 10/16/23.*
    - ii. *Equipment Operator II – Sewer – our selected candidate is going through the drug, physical and background screening and we hope to have them on board around Halloween or early November.*
5. *We are still looking for one more member for the Ironwood Housing Board of Directors. Any qualified applicants should inquire at the Clerk's office.*
6. *The League of Women Voters is going to hold a candidate forum on October 10 for the Ironwood City Commission candidates. The location will be the Student Area of the Lindquist Center at GCC. A zoom link will be made public once it is available.*
7. *Ironwood Chamber of Commerce is putting on a Volunteer Fair on November 9th from 3-6 PM.*
8. *Halloween is just around the corner! Halloween Trick or Treating will be celebrated from 4-7 PM on Tuesday 10/31 this year.*
9. *After a few years off, there will be a very large snowmobile sno-cross race at Mt Zion on December 15-17th. This is the ISOC Nationals event on Friday and Saturday where there will be numerous pro riders participating. This was last held at Blackjack approximately 4 years ago. Then the Regional event will be held on Sunday. Organizers are expecting many 1000s of spectators to be in attendance and hotel rooms in the area are already selling out. Many thanks go out to the organizers of this event for putting Ironwood in the National Spotlight for the weekend and for locking in this event for several years to come.*

M. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren thanked all the attendees who took part in the annual Plaidurday Event in Downtown Ironwood on Friday, October 6, 2023.

N. Adjournment.

***Motion*** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 P.M.

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk