



**Proceedings of the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority
Thursday, October 26, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority (DIDA) was held on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 8:00 A.M. in the Ironwood Memorial Building Women’s Club Room.

1. Call to Order: Chair Nosal called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.

MEMBER	PRESENT		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Cathy Flory	X			
Nancy Korpela	X			
Kim Corcoran	X			
Robert Alexander, Vice	X			
Lynne Wiercinski	X			
Eric Moran	X			
Ben Thompson	X			
Robbie Sardinha	X			
Bruce Greenhill	X			
	9	0	Quorum	

Also, present: Community Development Director, Tom Bergman, and Community Development Assistant, Tim Erickson.

3. Approval of the September 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Corcoran to approve the meeting minutes with noted corrections. Second by Sardinha. Motion carried 9 to 0.
4. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Corcoran to approve the agenda. Second by Greenhill. Motion carried 9 to 0.
5. Citizens wishing to address the Authority on Items on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit): None.
6. Citizens wishing to address the Authority on Items not on the Agenda (Three-Minute Limit): None.

7. Receive and place on file the financial report: Bergman presented the report.

Motion by Korpela to receive and place on file the financial report, second by Corcoran. Motion carried 9 to 0.

8. Items for Discussion and Consideration.

- A. Social District for the Downtown: Director Bergman presented some of the needs to create a social district area. The Downtown Marquette Social District Plan was presented. Greenhill discussed the need to get more information before recommending adoption.

Motion by Thompson to recommend to the City Commission to create a downtown social district, second by Sardinha. Motion carried 7 to 2. Greenhill and Wiercinski not in favor.

- B. First Friday Update: Sardinha was asking for the City to remove the sidewalk snow for Jack Frost Parade.

- C. Ironwood Chamber of Commerce Update: No update.

- D. 2023 Goals:

- Update on Downtown Development Plan and TIF: The plan will be adopted in November. A new development will be constructed on the Wells Fargo lot and the TIF will need to be adopted prior to approval.
- Downtown wide snow removal: The City attorney provided a contact with a U.P. city that does sidewalk snow removal. Director Bergman will look into their plan. Flory asked about different methods to pay for downtown wide snow removal.
- Downtown Historic Signage: Many of the signs are installed.
- Downtown Business Communication: No update.
- Public Parking, Bike Racks, Garbage Can locations and Restroom Map: The DIDA needs to look into getting different bike racks. The current racks don't fit on the sidewalks. The current bike racks could be reduced in size.
- Building vacancies-building inventory: The City is working directly with the Suffolk Ale House for repairs. Sardinha asked about the Lahti buildings and the mural.

- Downtown Vision Plan as Part of Comprehensive Plan Revision: The Planning Commission and City Commission will review the final bid spec before going out for bids.
9. Other Business: Thompson asked about doing a downtown visioning meeting. Bergman talked about doing a downtown visioning meeting for the Comprehensive Plan. Thompson talked about the urgent need to invest in the downtown building infrastructure. The need and ways to retain youth was discussed.
10. Next Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.
11. Adjournment.

Motion by Thompson to adjourn the meeting, second by Alexander. Motion carried 9 to 0.



Cathy Flory, Chair



Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant