Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on February 26, 2024, 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, Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran ABSENT: None
- C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.
 - 1) Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024.
 - 2) Review and Place on File:
 - a. Downtown Ironwood Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2023.
 - b. Downtown Ironwood Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2023.
 - c. Downtown Ironwood Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of December 28, 2023.
 - d. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024.
 - 3) Poverty Exemption Resolution #024-005.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Semo, 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 Semo, 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 approving Change Order #5, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$1,102.50 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Change Order #5, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$1,102.50 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

H. Discuss and consider approving Payment #4, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$82,214.34 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #4, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$82,214.34 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

I. Discuss and consider awarding the bid for a one-year Cemetery Mowing Contract to Saari Lawn Service in the amount of 41,850.00.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to award the bid for a one-year Cemetery Mowing Contract to Saari Lawn Service in the amount of 41,850.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

J. Discuss and consider awarding the bid for a 2-year City Park Mowing Contract to 4 Seasons Lawn & Property Services, Inc. in the amount of \$17,486.94.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to award the bid for a 2-year City Park Mowing Contract to 4 Seasons Lawn & Property Services, Inc. in the amount of \$17,486.94. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider amendments to the Ironwood Tourism Council Agreement.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to approve the amendments to the Ironwood Tourism Council Agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Discuss and consider approval of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Commission Goals.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to approve the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Commission Goals. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works Water Department to purchase a new 2022 Ram 2500 truck from Ray Chrysler Dodge Jeep & Ram for a total cost of \$50,585.03 and declare Truck #13, a 2011 Ford F-250 (with a Boss v-plow) as surplus equipment with a minimum bid set at \$5,700.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to authorizing the Department of Public Works Water Department to purchase a new 2022 Ram 2500 truck from Ray Chrysler Dodge Jeep & Ram for a total cost of \$50,585.03 and declare Truck #13, a 2011 Ford F-250 (with a Boss v-plow) as surplus equipment with a minimum bid set at \$5,700. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

N. Discuss and consider accepting HKGi's Proposal for the 2024 City of Ironwood Comprehensive Plan Update in the amount of \$93,500.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to accepting HKGi's Proposal for the 2024 City of Ironwood Comprehensive Plan Update in the amount of \$93,500. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

O. Discuss and consider authorizing a Letter of Intent for the purchase of the Civic Center property from Gogebic Community College.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to authorize a Letter of Intent for the purchase of the Civic Center property from Gogebic Community College.

P. Discuss and consider authorizing the City to seek bids for the Bonnie Road sewer lift station generator.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to authorize the City to seek bids for the Bonnie Road sewer lift station generator.

Q. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran appointed herself and Commissioner Rick Semo to the two Commission Representative seats on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), Nancy Korpela to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2025), Richard Jenkins to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2026), and Steven Lehto Jr., to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2027).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointments of herself and Commissioner Rick Semo to the two Commission Representative seats on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), Nancy Korpela to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2025), Richard Jenkins to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2026), and Steven Lehto Jr., to the ZBA to fill a staggered 3-year term (term expiring March 31, 2027).

R. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Updates

- Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction with numerous wall pours continuing.
- Phase 2 of the water plant is under design by HDR. Plans are scheduled to be complete in April, permitting in April and May, and bidding in July/August with construction beginning summer 2025.
- The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They are working on the last few addresses which are on all season's roads. We expect them to have to shut down soon for the spring breakup but are working on finding new addresses. They have changed out around 100 galvanized services with copper to date.
- Phase 5 water system design continues by Coleman Engineering, as we wait for USDA Rural Development to get back to our funding request for sewer system improvements.
- Curry Park Water system design continues by Coleman Engineering. We plan to replace the galvanized water system in Curry Park with Pex plastic water lines with funding from our \$3MIL LSLR project.
- The replacement for the pole mounted bucket transformer that blew for our Spring Creek well field is on order and scheduled to be installed by Jolma Electric in the next week.

Managers Updates

- An announcement came out late last week about Gogebic County receiving blight elimination funding from the State of Michigan. We are waiting for details from the County and the State of Michigan, but this multi-million-dollar funding request had been applied for, for the demolition of 634 E. Ayer St. (Josephson's) and 121 N. Mansfield St. and the stabilization of 210 S. Suffolk St. all in Ironwood, MI. We are awaiting further details.
- Reminder that Curry Park Campground Reservations are now open through the City website.
- There is a L.L. Wright School centennial committee to help plan the 100-year celebration of the school. People who are interested in assisting with planning and executing this celebration are welcome to join through the Superintendent's office.
- Tomorrow is election day! It is the presidential primary election, so please get out and vote! May 7th is the school millage special election; August 6th is the State Primary and November 5th is the Presidential Election.
- Our budgeting process continues to be in process. Department heads are currently entering in their requested budgets for review and consideration.
- After only one week of having them off, weight restrictions are currently back on for all our non-all-season roads. We will follow Gogebic County Road Commission as far as pulling them off. It's likely going to continue to be a long season for weight restrictions.
- Fund raising meeting for the Iron Belle Trail on Wednesday night at 5pm at Cold Iron Brewery for anyone who has ideas on how to raise maintenance money for the trail.
- S. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo requested to be excused from the March 11 & 25, 2024 meetings.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Semo from the March 11 & 25, 2024 meetings.

Commissioner Andresen wished to thank Sisu for giving an opportunity to 22 of our local students the opportunity to attend the Berkie Jr. races in Cable, WI and congratulated all the local kids who represented Ironwood and the Sisu Endurance Team well, including the three young kids that took home 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places!

T. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 P.M.

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk