

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on March 11, 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, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: Commissioner Semo (excused)

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2024.

b. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2024.

c. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2024.

d. Human Relations Equity Committee Quarterly Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2023.

e. Human Relations Equity Committee Working Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024.

f. Human Relations Equity Committee Working Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2024.

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

E. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Check Register Report for January 2024 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).

Randy Kashich, 342 Lake Avenue, commented that he was scolded the day after the election by the secretary for taking oranges, brownies, and waters that were for the Election workers, which he stated wouldn't have happened if there was armed security at the Election site. He also commented on the City's DPW crew being underpaid by about \$5.00 per hour and lastly discussed his intentions of purchasing a building in Ironwood's downtown.

H. Presentation: Andrew DiGiorgio, IPSD Director/Code Enforcement (Re: 2024 Blight Process Update).

Andrew reviewed the City's Blight Process and encouraged the Commission and public to report any Blight concerns to Ironwood Public Safety as they are now taking lead on Blight efforts throughout the City. The Commission thanked Andrew and the Public Safety Department for their efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #8 in the amount of \$375,134.93 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #8 in the amount of \$375,134.93 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

J. Discuss and consider a change order request for \$1,628.00 from Midwest Overhead Crane for the DPW crane replacement project.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, to approve a change order request for \$1,628.00 from Midwest Overhead Crane for the DPW crane replacement project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

K. Discuss and consider a Quit Claim Deed to Sage Timber Cub, LLC, for the strip of property near the former Keweenaw Land Association office.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve a Quit Claim Deed to Sage Timber Cub, LLC, for the strip of property near the former Keweenaw Land Association office. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

L. Discuss and consider Coleman Engineering's proposal letter and work order for the 2025 Small Urban Projects, with a not-to-exceed \$115,706 fee related to the roadway design and inspection and a not-to-exceed \$16,100 fee for water main design and inspection of the project.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve Coleman Engineering's proposal letter and work order for the 2025 Small Urban Projects, with a not-to-exceed \$115,706 fee related to the roadway design and inspection and a not-to-exceed \$16,100 fee for water main design and inspection of the project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. 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. The walls should be finished over the next month or so with precast ceiling*

slabs going in after that. Roofing should be going on in May and June and then interior plumbing and mechanical work happening this summer and long lead time electrical/mechanical items arriving this fall.

- *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 took a couple of weeks off but are back at it today working on addresses on all season's roads where they will have to dig into the roadway. They have replaced 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 by Coleman Engineering is in for review with the State Campground department within EGLE. We plan to replace the galvanized water system in Curry Park with plastic water lines with funding from our \$3MIL LSLR project.*
- *The Curry Park electrical system upgrades project is under final review with MDNR and should hopefully be out to bid in the next week or two with bids due in April.*

Managers Updates

- *Tom Bergman and Tim Erickson are currently putting grant applications together for the Civic Center Ice Making System project. Applications are going into the MDNR Land and Water Conservation Fund as well as Congressional Discretionary Spending requests to Senator Stabenow and Senator Peters offices.*
- *Thanks to GCRC for including us in their bid for culverts. We ordered a series of 12", 15", 18" and 24" Steel culverts for our use on our road system at a cost of \$17,530.12. We will be executing a contract between the City and GCRC for these supplies and using funds from our local and major road funds.*
- *Congratulations to two Ironwood entities on receiving Michigan Community Center Grant awards! The Ironwood Carnegie Library is receiving \$750,000 for a new Community Center space remodel and/or addition. And the Historic Ironwood Theatre is receiving \$250,000 for a new rigging system for their stage.*
- *Last week there were numerous Board of Review meetings for people with questions on their tax assessments. There were 42 cases heard throughout the week. Thanks to our part-time and full-time staff for making this process happen.*
- *The clerk's office is already kicking off the May 7th school millage special election. They are sending out Absentee Voters applications this week. The Absentee Voter ballots will be available at the Clerk's office by the end of March. There will be no early voting for the May election. After the May election, we will still have elections on August 6th for the State Primary and November 5th for the Presidential Election.*
- *Our budgeting process continues to be in process. Staff are currently reviewing proposed budgets for their respective departments. Staff will be in touch with the Commission to set up further budgeting workshops.*

N. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented on the First Friday events that have been drawing business to Ironwood's downtown all winter long, specifically mentioning the Northwind Natural Food Co-op, that always does a wonderful job participating in the first Friday festivities.

O. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk