

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on May 13, 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 April 22, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2024.

b. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2024.

c. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Special Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2024.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, 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 amend the Agenda to remove New Business Item W. Discuss and consider accepting the \$66,000 Place Dynamics Proposal for the Strategic Housing Plan.*

E. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.

2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending March 31, 2024, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for March 2024.*

F. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit). Amy Nosel and Mora Nedlund addressed the Commission on agenda item Q., the Pride Proclamation, wishing to take a moment of gratitude towards the City Staff and Commissioners who help move the City forward to be more welcoming to all people.

*John Rudberg addressed the Commission on agenda item X., Hiawatha Project, stating he feels the Human Relations and Equity Committee is creating an issue that doesn't exist with the Hiawatha Statue.*

*Steve Frank, addressed the Commission on agenda items Q and X, expressing his feelings against the Human Relations and Equity Committee efforts. Steve first stated that the Pride Flag should not be allowed to be flown in a City Park and recommended that the City keep the Hiawatha Statue as it is, commenting that it is a fiberglass novelty that was never intended to teach history.*

G. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).

*There were none.*

H. Presentation: Andrew DiGiorgio, Present two Life Saving Awards, as a result of the Lutey's Flower Shop Fire.

*Andrew DiGiorgio, Director of Ironwood Public Safety, introduced Public Safety Officers Colin Claussen and Kevin Stevens to the City Commissioners and Public. Andrew also presented Colin and Kevin with Life Saving Awards for their diligent efforts in saving the life of a victim from inside the structure during a fire that took place at Lutey's Flower shop and spread to the adjacent structure in April 2024.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

I. Discuss and consider adopting the Gogebic County Council of Veteran's Affairs Memorandum of Understanding for Veteran's Services.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to adopt the Gogebic County Council of Veteran's Affairs Memorandum of Understanding for Veteran's Services. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

J. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #10 in the amount of \$238,290.64 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #10 in the amount of \$238,290.64 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.*

K. Motion to rescind the approval of the American Rescue Plan State Revolving Fund Grant Agreement and Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the City of Ironwood for Phase II of the Water Treatment Plant.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Semo, to rescind the April 22, 2024 approval of the American Rescue Plan State Revolving Fund Grant Agreement and Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the City of Ironwood for Phase II of the Water Treatment Plant. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Motion to approve the of the American Rescue Plan State Revolving Fund Grant Agreement and Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the City of Ironwood for the Phase V Water Project.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to approve the of the American Rescue Plan State Revolving Fund Grant Agreement and Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and the City of Ironwood for the Phase V Water Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and consider approving the Contract with Angelo Luppino, Inc., for the 2024 Asphalt Blacktop Patching Project.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve the Contract with Angelo Luppino, Inc., for the 2024 Asphalt Blacktop Patching Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

N. Discuss and consider approving a Change Order for Miller-Bradford, which is a decrease of \$6,800 for the 2023 Loader Purchase.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to approve a Change Order for Miller-Bradford, which is a decrease of \$6,800 for the 2023 Loader Purchase. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

O. Discuss and consider approving Cemetery Marker Fees.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Semo, to approve Cemetery Marker Fees for Monument Companies at the rate of \$50 for the first locate, \$75 for the second and \$100 for the third, effective immediately. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

P. Discuss and consider approving the Red Power Diesel invoice in the amount of \$28,263.54, for the additional expenses to the Fire Truck.

***Motion** was made by Andrew, seconded by Mildren, to approve the Red Power Diesel invoice in the amount of \$28,263.54, for the additional expenses to the Fire Truck. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Q. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-007 declaring June 2024 as Pride Diversity & Inclusivity Celebration Month in the City of Ironwood and authorize the Pride flag to be flown at the City Square during the month of June.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to adopt Resolution #024-007 declaring June 2024 as Pride Diversity & Inclusivity Celebration Month in the City of Ironwood and authorize the Pride flag to be flown at the City Square during the month of June. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

R. Discuss and consider authorizing the Mayor to execute a Mt. Zion Easement Agreement with Gogebic Community College.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to authorize the Mayor to execute a Mt. Zion Easement Agreement with Gogebic Community College. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

S. Discuss and acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance No. 547, an Ordinance to rezone 316 Houk Street, Ironwood, Michigan, from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial to R-1A Residential.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance No. 547, an Ordinance to rezone 316 Houk Street, Ironwood, Michigan, from C-1 Neighborhood Commercial to R-1A Residential.*

- T. Discuss and acknowledge introduction of Ordinance No. 548, an Ordinance to rezone 1 Iron King Road, Ironwood, Michigan, from R-1A Residential to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance No. 548, an Ordinance to rezone 1 Iron King Road, Ironwood, Michigan, from R-1A Residential to C-1 Neighborhood Commercial.*

- U. Discuss and acknowledge introduction of Ordinance No. 549, an Ordinance to vacate Blue Jacket Street from Brogan Street to Fudally Street, Fudally Street from Blue Jacket Street to East Street, East Street from Fudally Street to Geneva Street, and the Alley Right-of-Way East of Blue Jacket Street, North of Brogan, and South of Fudally Street, and schedule a Public Hearing for the May 28, 2024 City Commission meeting.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance No. 549, an Ordinance to vacate Blue Jacket Street from Brogan Street to Fudally Street, Fudally Street from Blue Jacket Street to East Street, East Street from Fudally Street to Geneva Street, and the Alley Right-of-Way East of Blue Jacket Street, North of Brogan, and South of Fudally Street, and schedule a Public Hearing for the May 28, 2024 City Commission meeting.*

- V. Discuss and consider approving the construction of a Pavilion at the Ironwood Little League Field.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve the construction of a Pavilion at the Ironwood Little League Field. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- W. Discuss and consider authorizing the City to bid refuse collection, commercial dumpsters, and recycling.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to authorize the City to bid refuse collection, commercial dumpsters, and recycling.*

- X. Discuss and consider approving Human Relations and Equity Committee Hiawatha project recommendation.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to rework the Human Relations and Equity Committee Hiawatha project recommendation for educational panels to be displayed near the Hiawatha Statue. Commissioner Semo volunteered to be on a committee to assist with reworking the educational pieces. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- Y. 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.*
- *Today we started two new projects. The playground equipment was delivered for the Hiawatha Park Playground project. City crews were excavating the subgrade today and leveling the site out. Installation crews were scheduled to arrive this afternoon and will be working this week to install the equipment. After the equipment is installed the City crew will need to come back in to backfill and restore the site.*

- *Also starting today, was the 2024 Street Improvement project being performed by Jakes Excavating. The project is storm sewer replacement and road repair on Clemens Street by the UPS facility and DPW garage. The project will also repair the overflow parking lot here at the Memorial Building where there was some settlement from old building foundations.*
- *Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. Exterior masonry work is currently occurring in addition to exterior concrete flatwork. Local Subcontractor Snow Country Contracting will begin work tomorrow on exterior piping work to tie the new facility into the existing wells and main lines into Town. Precast Concrete ceiling slabs will start arriving and being installed on Wednesday this week. Roofing will be going on in the end of May and early June. CD Smith will be done with their part of the work by July and then it will be subcontractors working on electrical/mechanical items the rest of this summer and fall.*
- *Phase 2 of the water plant is in for permit with EGLE with bidding hopefully in June - August with construction beginning summer 2025.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They have one service line crew working full time replacing services. Last week they started a restoration crew. They have taken about 211 addresses off our list to date. They have replaced around 132 galvanized services with copper to date. 7 of those had the service replaced all the way from the house to the main line, with the remainder being from just the house to the curb stop (known as the “private side”).*
- *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. We are planning to do Phase 5A where we will be issuing a few streets out to bid this summer where there is water only. Those streets under that first phase are: Lake Ave, Albany (Hemlock to Norrie St), Fredrick (Albany to Lowell), a little piece of Lawrence north of Francis to the highway, and lastly is Nightingale between Francis and Coolidge.*
- *Curry Park Campground: last week Jakes Excavating replaced the water system as part of the Lead Service Line project. There is still some construction restoration work that needs to be completed out there, but everything is on schedule to be completed by May 24 as planned.*

### *Managers Updates*

- *Surveys for the new Comprehensive Plan 10-year update are out. We are in the middle of a yearlong process to update this guiding document for the City of Ironwood. The Boards and Commissioners have their own survey and then there is a public survey which has been sent out as well.*
- *Thank you to the clerk’s office and election workers for putting on another successful election on May 7th for the school general operating millage special election. They will begin on the next two elections in the coming weeks. This year’s 3rd and 4th elections will be on August 6th for the State Primary and November 5th for the General Election.*
- *A reminder that Monday 5/27 is Memorial Day. The City offices and DPW will be closed. The 2nd City Commission meeting for the month of May will therefore be moved to Tuesday 5/28/24.*
- *Our budgeting process continues to be in process. With the budgeting work session that we had before tonight’s meeting, there will be another budgeting workshop with the Commission on Tuesday 5/28/24 before the next City Commission meeting.*
- *Spring Cleanup Day was held two weekends ago. We had 91 residents bring trash on Friday May 3rd and 70 on Saturday May 4th at IPSD. This was approximately 40 more*

*than last year. We will stay in touch ASAP for the fall clean up date.*

- *Thanks to our resident's patience as our DPW performed water main flushing last week. This greatly aids in the maintenance of our water system. We do this flushing twice a year with a second round coming up in the fall. We will be sure to give plenty of notice prior to the second round this fall.*
- *All five of the Summer Help positions have been filled. 3 workers started already, and 2 workers will be starting when school is out in June.*
- *We have 3 openings in the DPW which will begin external advertising in the coming days. The open positions are in the water, sewer, and equipment maintenance departments.*
- *The Compost Site is now open. Hours are posted on our website.*
- *Congratulations to the upcoming Ironwood High School Class of 2024 Graduates, who will be graduating on May 24.*

Z. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented on the trail network and connectivity Ironwood has worked so hard over the past several years to accomplish. He commended the efforts and is excited that many of the different Ironwood Recreation Areas are accessible and connected by trails.

AA. Consider Closed Session to discuss AFSCME Local 1538, Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations and Tentative Agreement.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to enter closed session at 6:54 P.M. for the purpose of discussing AFSCME Local 1538, Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations and Tentative Agreement, as permissible under MCL 15.268 (c). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

BB. Return to Open Session.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to return to open session at 7:30 P.M.*

CC. Consider ratification of AFSCME Local 1538, Collective Bargaining Tentative Agreement.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to ratify the AFSCME Local 1538, May 7, 2024 Tentative Agreement. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

DD. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk