

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on April 8, 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 March 25, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2024.

b. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Special Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2024.

c. Ironwood Economic Development Corporation Committee Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2024.

d. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2024.

e. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2024.

3) Approve Sale of:

a. Ironwood American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #5 – Poppy's during the month of May.

Motion was made by Mildren, 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 Korpi, 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #9 in the amount of \$319,066.03 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 #9 in the amount of \$319,066.03 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.

H. Discuss and consider awarding the bid for the 2024 Street Improvements Project to Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC, in the amount of \$205,611.70.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to award the bid for the 2024 Street Improvements Project to Jake’s Excavating and Landscaping, LLC, in the amount of \$205,611.70. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- I. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to seek bids for the DPW Garage Siding Project.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to authorize the Department of Public Works to seek bids for the DPW Garage Siding Project.*

NEW BUSINESS

- J. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to seek bids for a new Grader.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to authorize the Department of Public Works to seek bids for a new Grader.*

- K. Mayor’s Appointment.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Danielle Virshek to an unexpired term on the Economic Development Corporation to fill a six-year term (term expiring October 31, 2027).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to approve the Mayor’s appointment of Danielle Virshek to the Economic Development Corporation to fill a six-year term (term expiring October 31, 2027).*

- L. 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 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. The concrete wall pours are now complete and now they are working on precast ceiling slabs. Roofing will 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 in the final design phase and should be going in for permit towards the end of the month with bidding in July/August with construction beginning summer 2025.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. Last week they got snowed out for a few days but are scheduled to continue this with performing about 1 a day. They have replaced around 112 galvanized services with copper to date. 5 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.*
- *Curry Park Water system design by Coleman Engineering is in for review w/ 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. Hoping for early May to do this work.*

- *The 2024 crack sealing project and the 2024 Curry Park electrical system upgrades project are both out for bids right now. Bids are due this week and should be on the next Commission meeting agenda for contract approval.*
- *Last week, our DPW installed 18 flow meters in our sanitary sewer system. Last year was our first year having the flow meters installed. This year we have made some adjustments in how the meters operate and read data and hope to get a full season of data for trying to identify where inflow and infiltration is coming from within the sewer system. This is a State requirement for our sanitary sewer flows that go to the Wastewater Treatment plant.*

Managers Updates

- *Thanks to the Community Development department for submitting grant applications for the Civic Center Ice Making System project. Applications went into the MDNR Land and Water Conservation Fund as well as Congressional Discretionary Spending requests to Senator Stabenow and Senator Peters offices for the \$750K project.*
- *The clerk's office is working towards the May 7th school general operating millage special election. The 431 Absentee Voter ballots are out and are being received until election day. 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 General Election.*
- *Our budgeting process continues to be in process. Staff are currently reviewing proposed budgets for their respective departments. Staff will be in touch w/ the Commission to set up further budgeting workshops.*
- *We are about to have three openings in our DPW. We are in the middle of AFSCME Union Contract negotiations. Once wages are agreed upon in those negotiations, we plan to advertise all three positions.*
- *We are still accepting applications for summer seasonal help in the DPW. Applications should be submitted in the Clerk's office.*
- *We are currently working on scheduling our Spring Cleanup for early may. We will be publicizing the official date once everything is worked out.*
- *We are also currently scheduling the spring water flushing for early May. Our utility department will be advertising those dates once finalized as well.*
- *The current tentative date for opening the Compost site is Thursday May 2nd. As that date gets closer and we confirm that the site is dry enough to open, we will be publicizing this event as well.*
- *The City received 7 proposals for the Ironwood Strategic Housing Plan RFP. We are currently forming a committee to review the proposals and will be in touch with a recommendation for a firm to award the project to.*
- *HKGI is currently gathering information for the Ironwood Comprehensive Plan update project. They will be reaching out to schedule meetings with our different stakeholders in the coming months. This is the early phase of an 18-month plan update process.*

M. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented on Winter being almost over and shared that his neighbors spoke positively on the plowing that took place this winter. Compliments were given to Jason and the DPW on their work. He did express how nice it would be to get a recap of projects complete by the Department of Public Works with the unseasonably warm winter. Commissioner Mildren also commended the Ironwood Public Safety Department again for the continued job well done with fire and public safety efforts and asked for a briefing on how mutual aid comes into play with Hurley on fire scenes.

N. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk