

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on February 12, 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, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: Commissioner Korpi (excused)

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2023.

b. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2023.

c. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2024.

d. Ironwood Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of December 6, 2023.

e. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2024.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, 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.).

Larry Holcombe commented on incorporating an activities director as part of future Recreation ideas to help teach people how to use the recreational facilities and recreational options, such as pickleball.

OLD BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #7 in the amount of \$400,868.93 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 #7 in the amount of \$400,868.93 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.

- H. Discuss and consider awarding the 2024 Jessieville Water Tank Improvements bid to LC United Painting Company, Inc., in the amount of \$113,000.00 for tank lining, mixer install, mud valve installs, disinfection and filling of the Water Tank.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve awarding the 2024 Jessieville Water Tank Improvements bid to LC United Painting Company, Inc., in the amount of \$113,000.00 for tank lining, mixer install, mud valve installs, disinfection and filling of the Water Tank. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and consider approval of the \$11,400,000 Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Finance Division and the City of Ironwood for Phase 2 of the Water Treatment Plant and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve the \$11,400,000 Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Finance Division and the City of Ironwood for Phase 2 of the Water Treatment Plant and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- J. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to purchase a replacement Water Department Truck from West Chicago Haggerty Ford for \$50,595 and declare the 2013 GMC Sierra as surplus equipment with a minimum bid set at \$3,000.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to authorize the Department of Public Works to purchase a replacement Water Department Truck from West Chicago Haggerty Ford for \$50,595 and declare the 2013 GMC Sierra as surplus equipment with a minimum bid set at \$3,000. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- K. Discuss and consider adjusting the Election Inspectors hourly pay.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to increase the Election worker rate from \$12.00 per hour to \$15.50 per hour and increase the Election Chairperson pay from \$12.00 per hour to \$16.50 per hour. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Discuss and consider Resolution #024-004 recognizing Emberlight Arts as a non-profit organization operating in the community for obtaining Charitable Gaming Licenses.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #024-004 recognizing Emberlight Arts as a non-profit organization operating in the community for obtaining Charitable Gaming Licenses. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Mayor's Appointment.

Mayor Corcoran re-appointed Richard Jenkins to the Ironwood Planning Commission to fill an 3-year term (term expiring December 31, 2026).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's re-appointment of Richard Jenkins to the Ironwood Planning Commission to fill an 3-year term (term expiring December 31, 2026).

N. 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. Numerous wall pours have occurred and framing of walls continue. Low snow has aided in winter progress.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They are working on the last few addresses which are on all seasons roads. After that, they will likely have to shut down for the spring breakup. They have changed out 93 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 at the end of February.*
- *The improvements in the Memorial building gym and locker room are essentially complete for the time being. Basketball hoops are up (still need some painting where the old mounting boards were) and the men's locker room, shower, and bathroom right next to the gym is painted and the bathroom has a new sink and toilet installed. Thanks to our DPW staff, Hobbs Painting Services and Future Plumbing for executing this work. The gym is booked out pretty much full time Mon-Fri and even some on the weekends with pickleball, basketball and youth sports practices. Really great to see.*
- *Staff and I are working on numerous other project bidding documents to be put out in the weeks and months to come.*

Managers Updates

- *Staff spent some time in the old pool room on Tuesday going through old files. We are separating 100 years' worth of documents of things to be shredded (if they are beyond their retention period), or things to be scanned and filed. We found some really cool 100-year-old books and documents that will be going to the historical society once we are ready to unload them.*
- *Reminder that Curry Park Campground Reservations are now open through the City website.*
- *We are currently working through the interview process for the IPSD Administrative Assistant position.*

- *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.*
- *High Profile Cannabis shop held their grand opening last Friday in the old Black Bear Sports building. This is a full retail recreational marijuana business. Levels Cannabis will be opening in the old Family Video store this spring. This will be the first of two approved micro marijuana businesses in the City of Ironwood. It is still undetermined if the second micro business (3 Twins on Ayer St and Lawrence) will break ground prior to their approval expiration this fall. Fire Station is scheduled to open in the old Western Auto building behind Little Caesars in the late Spring this year. This will be the fourth and final full retail recreational marijuana business which is approved at this time.*
- *The Clerk's office is busy with the upcoming 4 elections. Feb 27th is the presidential primary election w/ early voting starting this Saturday to Feb 25th. Early voting can be done at the County Courthouse 8:30 to 4:30, 7 days a week. May 7th is the school millage special election; August 6th is the State Primary and November 5th is the Presidential Election.*
- *Weight restrictions are currently on all our non all seasons roads. We will follow Gogebic County Road Commission as far as pulling them off. It's likely to be a long season for weight restrictions.*

O. Other Matters.

Commissioner Andresen commented on the new chairs in the Commission Chambers.

P. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 P.M.

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk