

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on March 13, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. along with the Public Hearing at 5:20 P.M. and 5:25 P.M. in the City Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

1. Mayor Burchell called the public hearing to order at 5:23 P.M.
2. Public Hearing: To hear comment on an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to be used for the Beltline Railroad Acquisition to connect Norrie Park to the Miners Memorial Heritage Park and to the Iron Belle Trail.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman addressed the City Commission regarding the application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to be used for the Beltline Railroad Acquisition to connect Norrie Park to the Miners Memorial Heritage Park and to the Iron Belle Trail. Community Development Director Bergman stated this grant is only for the acquisition of the beltline railroad grade and the City of Ironwood's portion of the 25% match would be \$18,125.00. He further noted that the City already has put aside the \$15,000 in fund balance and an additional \$4,000 could come from the left-over timber sale money. Mr. Bergman stated that he recently was informed that a property owner on the west end of the grade has indicated an interest in working with the city to extend the beltline trail through his property to connect to Norrie Park. This connection will also be included with the grant application. Further discussion of this matter took place.

3. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:30 P.M.

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1. Mayor Burchell called the public hearing to order at 5:25 P.M.
 2. Public Hearing: To hear comment on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant Application being submitted for the construction of the North Lowell Street Playground to be located on the corner of North Lowell Street and East Midland Avenue.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman addressed the City Commission regarding the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant Application being submitted for the construction of the new Lowell Street playground to be located on the northeast corner of North Lowell Street and East Midland Avenue. He noted the grant was for \$50,000 with the City of Ironwood providing a match of 25% which would be provided through in-kind contributions. Community Development Director Bergman also mentioned the property was given to the City of Ironwood last year by Zion Lutheran Church with a 10-year reversionary clause if it was not turned into a city park. Further discussion of this matter took place.

3. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:34 P.M.
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A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Mildren, Tauer, and Mayor Burchell.

ABSENT: Commissioner Corcoran (excused) and Semo (excused).

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda*

*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting of March 6th.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of February 2nd.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, 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 Tauer, seconded by Mildren and carried to approve the agenda as presented.*

E. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).

Bill Martel, of 421 W. Francis addressed the City Commission questioning how the \$50,000 was being spent under item H and suggested the Iron Belle Trail also be connected through Miners' Memorial Park.

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 Resolution #017-008 for grant application for a Trust Fund Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the acquisition of the Beltline Railroad Grade.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Tauer to approve Resolution #017-008 for the grant application for a Trust Fund Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the acquisition of the Beltline Railroad Grade including the route south into Norrie Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Community Development Director Bergman noted the future long term plan is to connect to the Iron Belle Trail.

- H. Discuss and Consider approving Resolution #017-007 for grant application for a Recreation Passport Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the construction of the North Lowell Street Playground.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren to approve Resolution #017-007 for the grant application for a Recreation Passport Grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the construction of the North Lowell Street Playground. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and Consider approving Resolution #017-009 adjusting the Water and Sewer rates.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren to approve Resolution #017-009 adjusting the Water and Sewer rates. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J Discuss and Consider awarding 2017 Pavement Marking Bid to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC in the amount of \$26,227.50.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Tauer to award the 2017 Pavement Marking Bid to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC in the amount of \$26,227.50. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Discuss and Consider transferring ownership of property at 109 W. Pine Street to the Gogebic County Land Bank under the Hardest Hit Blight Grant and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren to authorize the transfer of ownership of 109 W. Pine Street to the Gogebic County Land Bank under the Hardest Hit Blight grant and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Mayor's Appointment.

Mayor Burchell appointed John Lorenson to the unexpired term of Jonathan Paakola on the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center (term expiring October 31, 2017).

***Motion** was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren and carried to approve the Mayor's appointment of John Lorenson to the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center (term expiring October 31, 2017).*

M. Manager's Report.

City Manager Scott B. Erickson verbally gave the manager's report noting the following items:

- *A special city commission meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, March 16, 2017 in the City Commission Chambers. The special meeting will be to obtain public input and act on a MEDC Infrastructure Enhancement Grant application for the replacement of the water booster pumping station.
- *Phase 4 water and sewer project is waiting for final permits. Coleman Engineering is working with the MDEQ on a wetland permit for the project.
- *The community "Drop Off Day" will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

N. Other Matters.

There were none.

O. Consider Closed Session to discuss contract negotiations with AFSCME, Local 1538.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren to enter closed session at 5:50 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations with AFSCME, Local 1538. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

P. Return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Tauer and carried to return to open session at 6:12 P.M.

Q. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Tauer, seconded by Mildren and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 P.M.

Annette Da-Lio Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk