

**Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission**

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. and a Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Public Hearing at 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 Zoning Board of Appeals to Order at 5:25 P.M.

2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Corcoran, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Burchell.

ABSENT: None.

3. Consider action on the variance request of temporary storage without a principal use at 844 E. Ayer Street in the I-1 Industrial District.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to deny the variance request of a temporary storage without a principal use at 844 E. Ayer Street in the I-1 Industrial District. Unanimously passed by roll call vote with Mayor Burchell excusing herself from voting.*

4. Mayor Burchell opened the public hearing at 5:44 P.M.

5. Public Hearing: To hear comment on a variance to Section 34-54(6)(b) of the City of Ironwood Zoning Ordinance for attached garage at 360 W. Midland

Community Development Director Tom Bergman addressed the City Commission regarding the variance request to erect a 24'x7' addition to an attached garage at 360 W. Midland Ave. The variance request is for a reduced setback to the north lot line. A brief discussion on this matter took place with the homeowner Dominic Kessler who stated he was reducing the size of the addition by more than a foot. Notices were sent to surrounding property owners within 300 ft. and no negative comments were received.

6. Mayor closed the public hearing at 5:55 P.M.

7. Consider action on the variance request for attached garage at 360 W. Midland.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to grant the variance request for an attached 24' x 7' garage addition at 360 W. Midland. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

8. Mayor Burchell adjourned the Zoning Board of Appeals at 5:56 P.M.

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1. Mayor Burchell opened the public hearing at 5:56 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.  
PRESENT: Commissioner Cayer, Corcoran, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Burchell.  
ABSENT: None.
3. Public Hearing: To hear comment relative to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Proposed Budget and the Schedule of Rates for City Services.

Finance Director Paul Linn addressed the City Commission regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget and the schedule of rates for city services. A brief discussion took place regarding the comparison that Mr. Linn prepared for the City Commission review. It was noted that there was an error on the fee schedule regarding the sewer rates. Everything should have been only a 2.8% increase and was corrected.

Carissa Cayer-Mott, of 101 W. Birch Street expressed her dismay with the rising cost of water and sewer. She also noted that the \$550.00 water deposit was not something that encourages people to live in Ironwood.

Randall Kashich, of 314 Lake Avenue addressed the City Commission with his dismay with the growing cost of water and sewer charges. He also questioned the City Commission regarding Civic Center budget. Additional comments were received.

Commissioner Mildren noted that the millage rate was not increasing from last year and the taxpayers would not have to pay more.

Commissioner Corcoran and City Commission encouraged everyone next year to attend the work sessions they hold regarding the budget. The City had 10 Phases of projects that were identified through the SAW Grant and they are only on Phase 4. The City of Ironwood has been very proactive in securing grants and funding through other government agencies. It was also mentioned that our water rates are on the low side which does not qualify us for many grant programs through Rural Development, but on the sewer side it does. Further discussion of the budget took place.

4. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 6:22 P.M.

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A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 6:22 P.M.

B. Approval of the Consent Agenda.\*

\*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting of May 28th.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2019.
- b. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of March 4 & May 6, 2019.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

C. Approval of the Agenda

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

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

There were none.

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

Randall Kashich, of 314 Lake Avenue expressed his dismay with the sanitary sewer catch basins that were raised and felt Coleman Engineering should be held accountable for not taking proper compacting tests.

OLD BUSINESS

F. Review and Consider Resolution #019-010 approving an Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 including Budget establishment of the 2019-2020 Millage rates for City Services and authorizing the collection of a 1% Tax Administration Fee and adopt the 2019-2020 Fee Schedule.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to adopt Resolution #019-010 approving an Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 including Budget establishment of the 2019-2020 Millage rates for City Services and authorizing the collection of a 1% Tax Administration Fee and adopt the amended 2019-2020 Fee Schedule.*

**ROLL CALL:**

*Yes (4): Commissioner Corcoran, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Burchell.*

*No (1): Commissioner Cayer.*

***Motion** carried on a 4 to 1 vote.*

G. Discuss and Consider introducing Ordinance No. 519, Book 5, an ordinance to amend Article 1. Marihuana Establishments, Sec. 36-6 Sunset Provision and scheduling it for a public hearing on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 5:25 P.M.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran and carried to introduce Ordinance No. 519, Book 5, an ordinance to amend Article 1. Marihuana Establishments, Sec. 36-6 Sunset Provision and schedule it for a public hearing on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 5:25 P.M.*

- H. Consider approval of Pay Package in the amount of \$69,276.85 for the City of Ironwood – Country Club Road 2019 Watermain Replacement Project and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve the pay package in the amount of \$69,276.85 for the City of Ironwood-Country Club Road 2019 Watermain Replacement Project and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- I. Discuss and Consider awarding the lowest demolition bid for the Michigan Rural Community Demolition Grant to Fahrner Excavating for 238 E. Ayer St. in the amount of \$46,343.00.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to award the lowest demolition bid for the Michigan Rural Community Demolition Grant to Fahrner Excavating for 238 E. Ayer St. in the amount of \$46,343.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and Consider awarding the lowest demolition bid of 528 Bluejacket Street for the “Hardest Hit” Blight Grant to Angelo Luppino in the amount of \$11,476.60 contingent upon Gogebic County accepting the property for the Gogebic County Land Bank.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to award the lowest demolition bid of 528 Bluejacket Street for the “Hardest Hit” Blight Grant to Angelo Luppino in the amount of \$11,476.60 contingent upon Gogebic County accepting the property for the Gogebic County Land Bank. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Discuss and Consider approving Resolution #019-007 for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Trust Fund Grant Acceptance for the Miners’ Memorial Heritage Park (MMHP) Mountain Bike Trail System.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to approve Resolution #019-007 for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Trust Fund Grant Acceptance for the Miners’ Memorial Heritage Park (MMHP) Mountain Bike Trail System. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- L. Discuss and Consider authorization awarding a contract to Kleiman Well Drilling in the amount of \$30,750.00 to repair High Lift Pump #3 (and spare pump) and motor at the water booster station.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to authorize awarding a contract to Kleiman Well Drilling in the amount of \$30,750.00 to repair High Lift Pump #3 (and spare pump) and motor at the water booster station. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and Consider extension of the Eagle Waste and Recycling refuse collection contract.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve the proposal dated May 3, 2019 extending the Eagle Waste and Recycling refuse collection contract for a 5-year term expiring on August 31, 2024. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

N. Manager's Reports.

City Manager Scott B. Erickson proceeded with his manager's report noting the following items:

- \*The insurance adjuster and their structural engineer are analyzing the Civic Center damage and have indicated they will be finalizing their report and should have the bid specs prepared later this week.
- \*The Waupaca Foundry building construction in the Industrial Park is continuing to move along nicely.
- \*Contractor bids for the demolition of 10 blighted resident structures and one commercial structure have been received and have been awarded.
- \*Ruotsala Construction has completed the installation of the new watermain along Country Club Road and will be finishing up on the watermain and sewer on the last few blocks on Francis Street.
- \*The Curry Trail construction is well underway, Angelo Luppino Construction should be paving next week.
- \*The City has completed hiring the seasonal summer staff for DPW and is working with the Department of Human Services on their work-based learning program which provides job opportunities for area youth.
- \*The City will be reviewing applications for the new Civic Center Manager this week along with the Civic Center Board.

O. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo mentioned that Efficiency United would be at the Memorial Building on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. It is a great program to purchase LED light bulbs, etc.

Commissioner Mildren noted that improvements downtown continue for First Friday events.

Commissioner Corcoran commended and gave kudos to the first responders, Brandon Snyder and Neil Corcoran for their quick response in administering first aid and getting an injured female to an area where she could be airlifted after a recent UTV accident.

P. Consider Closed Session to discuss contract negotiations with Ironwood Public Safety Officers Association affiliated with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (P.O.A.M.) and City Manager's Contract.

**Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to enter into Closed Session at 7:17 P.M. to discuss contract negotiations with Ironwood Public Safety Officers Association affiliated with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (P.O.A.M.) and City Manager's Contract. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Q. Return to Open Session.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer and carried to return to open session at 7:55 P.M.

R. Consider action on City Manager's Contract.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to extend the City Manager's contract with the City of Ironwood for five (5) years to June 30, 2024 and approve a one (1) year 2.5% cost of living salary adjustment beginning July 1, 2019. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

S. Adjournment.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 P.M.

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk