

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on July 22, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. along with a 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 public hearing to order at 5:25 P.M.

2. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

3. Mayor Burchell opened the public hearing at 5:26 P.M.

4. Public Hearing: To hear comment on Ordinance No. 520, Book 5, an Ordinance providing for the vacation of that portion of the North-South alley, Block 1, Sunnyside Addition, adjacent to Lots 12-21 in the City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, Michigan.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman addressed the City Commission informing them that the vacation of the above-mentioned alley was because the adjacent property owner needed it to meet set back requirements. He further stated City Staff recommends this alley vacation of that portion of the North-South alley, Block 1, Sunnyside Addition, adjacent to Lots 12-21 in the City of Ironwood. The City does retain an easement over the property after vacation.

No public comments were received.

5. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:27 P.M.

A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.*

*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting of July 8th.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Meeting Minutes of May 1st.

b. Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of June 3rd.

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve the consent agenda amending the minutes from the July 8th meeting changing the word magnesium to “manganese” under item I. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

D. Approval of the Agenda

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer and carried to approve the amended agenda correcting the spelling error of Western.

E. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for the month ending June 30, 2019. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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

Jim Albert, of 133 W. Aurora addressed the City Commission expressing his concerns with the selection and qualifications of the engineering company to be selected under item M. He also questioned if this information would be available to the public.

Paul Grbavcich, of 1221 Leonard Street requested the City of Ironwood go out for bid for engineering services under item M. Additional comments were received.

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

Jim Albert, of 133 W. Aurora Street complained about the video feed of the City Commission meetings and was frustrated that he was not able to speak during the recent City Commission work session. Additional comments were received.

Bill Martel, of 420 W. Francis Street claims he gets mineral deposits on his glasses when he cleans them with City water.

Paul Grbavcich, of 1221 Leonard Street expressed his dismay with the recent work session conducted by the City Commission. Additional comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

H. Discuss and consider approving Ordinance No. 520, Book 5, an ordinance providing for the vacation of that portion of the North-South alley, Block 1, Sunnyside Addition, adjacent to Lots 12-21 in the City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, Michigan.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve Ordinance No. 520, Book 5, an ordinance providing for the vacation of that portion of the North-South alley, Block 1, Sunnyside Addition adjacent to Lots 12-21 in the City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, Michigan.

Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and Consider awarding bid to Western UP Recycling in the amount of ~~\$100~~ \$40 per ton and Miscellaneous Brass Meters Iron in the amount of \$1.00 per pound.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to award the bid to Western UP Recycling in the amount of \$40 per ton instead of the error of \$100 per ton and Miscellaneous Brass Meters in the amount of \$1.00 per pound. *Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and Consider approving Change order #1 for the 2019 Sealcoat Project.

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to approve Change order #1 for the 2019 Sealcoat Project. *Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- K. Discuss and consider authorizing City Staff to apply for a Rural Development Grant under the Disaster Relief Act for an Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD) squad car(s) and an excavator for the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to authorize City Staff to apply for three (3) separate Rural Development Grants under the Disaster Relief Act for two (2) Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD) squad cars, and an excavator and trailer for the Department of Public Works (DPW), and authorize Mayor Burchell to sign same. *Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Discuss and Consider approving Traffic Control Order TC#1-19P establishing no overnight parking in the City owned lot located on the northeast corner of McLeod Avenue and Norfolk Street.

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to approve Traffic Control Order TC#1-19P establishing no overnight parking in the City owned lot located on the northeast corner of McLeod Avenue and Norfolk Street.

ROLL CALL: Yes (4): Commissioner Mildren, Semo, Corcoran, and Mayor Burchell.
No (1): Commissioner Cayer.

Motion carried on a 4 to 1 vote.

- M. Discuss and Consider obtaining a proposal or proposals for the development of a preliminary engineering study for the water pump station, including water filtration improvements.

Motion was made by Semo to move forward with a request for qualifications from engineering firms for the development of a preliminary engineering study for the water pump station, including water filtration improvements.

Motion failed with a lack of a support.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to request proposals along with qualifications for the development of a preliminary engineering study for the water pump station improvements, water filtration, and treatment. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

N. Mayor's Appointment.

Mayor Burchell appointed Cathryn Flory to the unexpired term of Yvonne Novascone (term expiring June 30, 2023) on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority (DIDA).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren and carried to approve the Mayor's appointment of Cathryn Flory to the unexpired term on the DIDA (term expiring June 30, 2023).

O. Manager's Report.

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

- *As indicated at the recent work session, the City of Ironwood Water Department has initiated the following: request the Michigan Rural Water Association perform an independent audit of the City water system operations, take additional water samples at each wellhead and test for manganese levels, schedule an earlier round of lead and copper testing for 2019 instead of 2020 as required, adjust the polyphosphate rates as recommended by EGLE, schedule reservoir tank clean, perform "spot" water main flushing as needed, initiate discussion regarding a preliminary engineering study for a water treatment system and meet with homeowners as needed.
- *The Civic Center Insurance Adjuster and his structural engineer continue to work towards finalizing their criteria for repairs to the Civic Center Roof.
- *The Waupaca Foundry ribbon cutting last week was a great opportunity to welcome an excellent new business to the City of Ironwood and Gogebic County.
- *A tentative work session is planned for 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 29th at the Ironwood Memorial Building to review the status of the draft commercial marijuana ordinances. The work session will be with the City Commission, Planning Commission and the ordinance working group.
- *The demolition of the commercial property on Ayer Street by Fahrner Excavating is well under way.
- *The pavement crack seal contractor, Pitlik & Wick, is in town this week to seal pavement cracks in the southern zone of the City.
- *The pavement seal coat contractor, Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, will be in town this week to perform the pavement seal coat project.
- *The Department of Public Works shop roof is currently being replaced with a new rubber roof system.

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Corcoran and Mayor Burchell requested information regarding the water issue be placed on the City of Ironwood website.

Commissioner Cayer expressed his dismay with the agenda packet not being available for review earlier in the week. He also noted that the agenda packet was difficult to find on the City Website. Commissioner Cayer was also disappointed with the communication between the Civic Center Board and the Ice Crystals Figure Skating Club regarding the status of the Pat O' Donnell Civic Center.

Commissioner Mildren noted Festival Ironwood was a great event with something for everyone. There was good music and food at the Festival. He also mentioned the historic event that took place with the Waupaca Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Commissioner Mildren explained to the public that a work session is generally meant to be an interactive meeting between the City Commission and City Staff and other professionals (if necessary). Additional comments were received.

Commissioner Cayer questioned City Staff regarding the backups during a rain event on Florence Street. He asked if the City had figured out the problem yet.

City Manager Erickson stated the pipes were re-televised to see if something shifted, a flow meter was installed, analyzed and found out it is not the size of the sewer main, and it could be sump pumps pushing storm water back into the sanitary sewer system. The City did confirm that it is storm water related, as the problems happen during heavy rain. Further discussion of this matter took place.

Q. 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.).

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to enter into Closed Session at 6:43 P.M. to discuss contract negotiations with Ironwood Public Safety Officers Association affiliated with the Police Officers Association of Michigan (P.O.A.M.). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

R. Return to Open Session

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded Corcoran and carried to return to open session at 7:05 P.M.*

S. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 P.M.*

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk
(minutes taken by Finance Director/Treasurer Paul Linn)