

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held by a Zoom Webinar on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

A. Mayor Burchell called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:32 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 April 13th.

***Motion** was made by Cayer, 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 Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve the amended agenda adding item D1. Update from City Staff regarding COVID-19. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

D1. Update from City Staff regarding COVID-19.

City Manager Erickson noted City Staff continues to work daily on COVID-19 matters along with their daily work. Mr. Erickson requested Public Safety, Community Development and the Finance Director/Treasurer give an update.

Public Safety Director DiGiorgio stated Ironwood has had 4 cases (1 death, 2 recovered, and 1 active). Director DiGiorgio continues to work with the Western UP Health Department on updates and reviews all the Executive Orders. He also thanked the community for their support in making 900 to 1,000 cloth masks (Fabric Patch, area quilters, and Denise Trone). The Public Safety Department just wrapped up the food drive in which 63 residents contributed.

Community Development Director Bergman addressed the City Commission stating he continues to have weekly meetings with other community development departments, Invest UP and many representatives both federal and state. Today at 9:30 a.m., the federal government gave \$310 billion dollars for the Paycheck Protection Program. The Small Business Association (SBA) Recovery Loan Program is still available. Mr. Bergman also mentioned that the Small Business Administration out of Marquette has offered to contract an employee just for Gogebic County to help small businesses.

Finance Director Linn stated that the financial impact of COVID-19 has been an extremely hot topic. Many communities have asked how they should move forward financially. Mr. Linn added there will be big cuts to Revenue Sharing and Act 51 monies for April and May. Finance Director Linn also noted that from an accounting standpoint the City has set up an account to track the City of Ironwood's COVID-19 expenses and will look toward getting reimbursed through FEMA (75%) along with other funding sources. He felt the City's strategy will be to evaluate every project going forward. Mr. Linn also noted that current projects were already budgeted.

City Manager Erickson noted bounce back plans are being worked on by all departments once the Stay at Home orders are lifted.

E. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.
2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending March 31, 2020 and the Cash and Investment Summary Report month ending March 31, 2020. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for the month ending March 31, 2020. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

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

Katelyn, of 221 S. Curry Street had several questions for City Staff on what public safety was doing to fight COVID-19 and was COVID-19 a Bio Safety Hazard. Additional comments were received.

Public Safety Director DiGiorgio suggested she contact the WUPHD. City Manager Erickson also mentioned contacts are located on the City website and is a good source for information.

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

Katelyn, of 221 S. Curry Street had several questions for staff on general environmental issues like Lyme Disease.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Discuss and Consider awarding the lowest bid to Jack Doheny Co. for S1E Crawler Mainline (Sanitary Sewer) System Camera in the amount of \$30,960.00.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Cayer to award the lowest bid to Jack Doheny Co. for S1E Crawler Mainline (Sanitary Sewer) System Camera in the amount of \$30,960.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

J. Discuss and consider awarding the lowest bid to Jack Doheny Co. for S1E Optical Push Camera (Sanitary Sewer) in the amount of \$5,755.00.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to award the lowest bid to Jack Doheny Co. for S1E Optical Push Camera (Sanitary Sewer) in the amount of \$5,755.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and Consider approving 2020-2021 City Commission Goals.

Mayor Burchell noted to the audience that the noxious smell ordinance is currently being worked on and just because it has a low number does not mean that it is not a priority for the City Commission. City Manager Erickson followed by stating Public Safety Staff was currently being trained on new equipment regarding this matter.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to approve the 2020-2021 City Commission Goals. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Manager's Report.

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

- *The insurance company has taken the lead on rebuilding of the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center.

They have already hired Engineers and Architects and the Civic Center Board continues to provide input.

- *MDOT has awarded a contract to Mathy Construction for the mill/overlay of Country Club Road as well as portions of Ayer Street by the High School and Post Office areas.

- *The preliminary engineering study and USDA application continue to be worked on by Short Elliott Hendrickson and Coleman Engineering. They are anticipating the report and USDA funding request will be completed in May 2020.

- *The City Water Department has been working with the State EGLE and Health Department staff to coordinate the spring water main flushing program. The spring water main flushing is scheduled to begin on Sunday, May 31st and will continue for a two-week period.

- *The Downtown Square Project design and bidding process continues to move forward. The project design has been completed with bids to be solicited over the next few weeks.

- *The Public Safety Department has been working with the American Legion regarding the upcoming Memorial Day. The parade will not occur this year, but the American Legion will be placing flowers on the graves and people will be able to pay their respects. He urged everyone to drive through the Cemetery practicing social distancing.

- *Bids are currently being solicited for the demolition of three commercial buildings located on the north side of McLeod Avenue between Ironwood Glass and Backstreet Cycle.

M. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo questioned City Staff regarding the upcoming budget workshop, home construction projects, and grant funding for the clear well.

City Manager Erickson stated the clear well grant is currently on hold due to the state funding freeze.

Commissioner Mildren mentioned that if there is a family, or a child who has been affected by sickness, fire, etc. there is a needy child fund available. All they need to do is ask for help from the many civic group organizations (Kiwanis, Rotary, or Hurley Lions).

Commissioner Corcoran thanked City Staff and Public Safety for keeping everyone safe.

Commissioner Cayer thanked everyone for following the Governor's "Stay at Home" "Stay Safe" order.

Mayor Burchell noted the City of Ironwood is not in a hot zone and she sympathizes with other parts of the world who have had spikes in COVID-19. Mayor Burchell stated she knows it is hard but urged everyone to wear their mask when out in the public. She thanked her fellow commissioners for their comments and everyone for helping to keep the community safe. Additional comments were received.

N. Adjournment.

Motion was made Cayer, seconded by Semo to adjourn the zoom webinar at 6:36 P.M.

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk