

## **Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting**

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

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to excuse Commissioner Semo from tonight's meeting. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

B. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Semo (Excused)

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.\*

\*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, and Special Meeting Minutes of June 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

E. Update on COVID-19 Response.

Public Safety Director DiGiorgio noted there are 14 positive cases in Gogebic County and today the Governor of the State of Michigan made it mandatory to wear masks in public and open areas at all times. He further noted community spread has begun in our area from not only people coming to our area but others leaving our area and coming back. He urged everyone to be diligent on hand washing.

Finance Director/Treasurer Paul Linn stated there are some positive things from the CARES Act that will be coming to our communities. Mr. Linn explained the 3 areas which were 1) 25 million to help with water utility bills, 2) 100 million statewide was allocated for first responders hazard pay (IPSD Officers and Paid On Call Fireman) \$1,000 each, and 3) 200 million for the payroll reimbursement program which was also for Public Safety Officers for payroll costs for the months of April and May.

Commissioner Mildren thanked City Staff for everyone for all the extra work they have had to do to help our area businesses and citizens.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman stated there will be another round at the state level through the CARES act to be distributed to the small businesses. The maximum amount for small business with 50 employees or less is \$20,000 and it is a good opportunity for them. Mr. Bergman continues to contact area businesses, along with continuing to post it on the City of Ironwood Facebook page. Community Development Director Bergman also mentioned the City of Ironwood is working with the other local communities to get the word out. Further discussion of this matter took place.

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

There were none.

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

Charlene Kalla, of 225 Newport Location Rd. expressed her concerns with the speed of traffic in her neighborhood. Public Safety Director DiGiorgio offered to arrange a meeting with her and the neighborhood to address some of the issues.

Jeffery Barker, an attorney who represents residents who would like a Marihuana Establishment license, urged the City Commission to address the Marihuana Establishments Ordinance. Mr. Barker thanked the City Commission for being proactive in many of the issues in the City of Ironwood. He also hoped the City of Ironwood would like to increase their tax base, create jobs, and would like to offer his help with any new information on the marihuana laws. Additional comments were received.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

H. Discuss and Consider authorizing bids for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project and Trail Head Development Project in Miners' Memorial Park.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to authorize bids for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project and Trail Head Development Project in Miners' Memorial Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

I. Discuss and Consider declaring the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center dasher boards as surplus property & authorize bids for sale of dasher boards.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to declare the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center dasher boards as surplus property, and authorize bids for sale of dasher boards. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and Consider declaring Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD) seized property list as surplus and authorize bids for sale of seized property.

**Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to declare Ironwood Public Safety Department (IPSD) seized property list as surplus and authorize bids for sale of seized property. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- K. Discuss and consider approving a \$1,000 hazard pay premium to Public Safety Officers and Paid-on-Call Firefighters contingent upon receiving funding from the Michigan Department of Treasury's First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve a \$1,000 hazard pay premium to Public Safety Officers and Paid-on-Call Firefighters contingent upon receiving funding from the Michigan Department of Treasury's First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Manager's appointment.

City Manager Erickson re-appointed Annabelle O'Brien (resident member) to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a five (5) year term (term expiring June 30, 2024).

**Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren to approve the Manager's re-appointment of Annabelle O'Brien (resident member) to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a five (5) year term (term expiring June 30, 2024). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- M. Manager's Report.

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

- \*The Civic Center continues to move along nicely, and is being managed by the insurance company. They will be pouring the footings and the steel is already on site.
- \*The Downtown Square Project has been working on underground soil corrections and utilities and conduit. The above ground improvements will begin in 1-2 weeks.
- \*Water Treatment Funding Applications have been completed and submitted to both USDA Rural Development and Michigan Drinking Water Revolving Fund.
- \*County Club Road Project and Ayer Street Paving Project has started.
- \*Downtown Alley Paving Project will begin in the next few days.
- \*A 3-mile extension of the Iron Belle Trail from Bessemer to Ramsay should be paved by the end of July.

The City Commission all agreed to move Q. Other Matters right after M. Manager's Report.

- Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren would also like to add to Ms. Kalla's statement regarding the extra traffic and speed limit on local streets.

Commissioner Cayer requested the information for the meetings be given earlier so he has time to review. Commissioner Cayer also mentioned getting the speed trailer out and look at closing parks.

Mayor Burchell requested a copy of the Engineering Study for the Water Treatment Plant. City Manager Erickson stated the City was waiting for a digital copy.

N. Consider Closed Session to discuss City Manager's Contract.

***Motion*** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren to enter closed session at 6:22 P.M. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

O. Return to Open Session.

***Motion*** as made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren and carried to return to open session at 6:50 P.M.

P. Discuss & Consider action on City Manager's Contract.

***Motion*** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren to extend the City Manager's Contract from July 1, 2020-June 30, 2025 with a 2% cost of living adjustment effective July 1, 2020 for 1 year.

***ROLL CALL:***

*Yes (3): Commissioner Corcoran, Mildren, and Mayor Burchell.  
No (1): Commissioner Cayer.*

***Motion*** carried on a 3 to 1 vote.

R. Adjournment.

***Motion*** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Mildren to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk