

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission along with a Public Hearing was held by a Zoom Webinar on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 5:15 P.M. and 5:30 P.M.

1. Mayor Burchell called the Public Hearing to order at 5:17 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 5:18 P.M.

4. Public Hearing: To hear comment on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Trust Fund Grant application being submitted for the Norrie Park Renovation and Montreal River Water Trail Project for the renovation of the Norrie Park Boardwalk and creation of the Montreal River Water Trail.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman shared a map with the proposed Montreal River Water Trail Project. Mr. Bergman reviewed the project with the City Commission and stated that the City funds would be \$25,200.00 plus \$14,000.00 in kind work for a total \$39,200.00 local match. The total amount of \$39,200.00 local match represents 26% of the total project.

Commissioner Corcoran inquired if the project would include the removal of some trees creating blockages in the Montreal River.

Mr. Bergman confirmed that according to the MDNR the removal of trees is considered a maintenance matter. Mr. Bergman noted that he recently spoke with Gogebic County and was working on trying to partner with them on a mitigation project for the removal of those trees. Mr. Bergman also noted that there would be an ADA kayak launch. Further discussion of the handicap launch took place.

Ben Thompson addressed the City Commission and stated he spoke with Bob Constantini who offered to donate a two (2) acre parcel next to the bike trail to the City of Ironwood for the boat landing. Mr. Thompson noted the only thing Mr. Constantini requested is that he get a receipt for the donation of the parcel.

Amy Nosal, Chairman for the Ironwood Downtown Development Authority (DIDA) informed the City Commission the DIDA is in full support of the water trail project. She further thanked City Staff for working on this project and bringing attention to this area.

Jake Ring, a current resident and a former Wisconsin DNR Water Resource Manager noted that he worked with a group on the Chippewa River Water Trail Project. Mr. Ring informed the City Commission and those people listening that DNR funding provides money for safety which is the biggest thing for residents living in our area. He also noted the Montreal River is a flat-water river which is safer than most other rivers in the area. Additional comments were received.

5. Mayor Burchell closed the Public Hearing at 5:39 P.M.

A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 5:40 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 13th.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of July 14th.

b. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Special Meeting Minutes of July 14th.

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

D. Update on COVID-19 response.

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio gave an update stating the health department had 10 new cases with 6 more today. The Health Department wanted him to express to everyone that there have been no false positives at the Western U.P. Health Department.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman noted his department is still working on the Michigan Restart Program where they have had numerous businesses apply. Mr. Bergman also noted his staff is providing support to area businesses in completing the application to be a part of this grant program. Mr. Bergman urged anyone interested to contact his office.

Finance Director Linn stated there is nothing extremely new from the last time. He did note that the City currently submitted funding applications to the State of Michigan along with keeping an eye out for any additional funding.

Further discussion of this matter took place and City Staff and the Commission urged everyone to mask up.

E. Approval of the Agenda

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

F. 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 June 30, 2020 and the Cash and Investment Summary Report month ending June 30, 2020. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

G. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for the month ending June 30, 2020. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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

There were none.

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

Stoch Wasik, of 722 Horizons Drive, Marquette, Michigan, owner of the Fire Station Cannabis Provisioning Center in Negaunee, Michigan. Mr. Wasik thanked the City Commission for all their work on the Adult Recreational Marijuana Ordinance and for moving it forward. He expressed his concerns about the restrictive signage in the proposed ordinance and stated it would make it hard for people to find a place of business. Additional comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

J. Discuss and Consider approving the purchase of new-used dasher boards as recommended by the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to authorize the purchase of new-used dasher boards as recommended by the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and Consider approving Pay Application #3 to Angelo Luppino, Inc. for the 2019 Local Street Paving Program in the amount of \$18,594.32.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve pay application #3 to Angelo Luppino, Inc. for the 2019 Local Street Paving Program in the amount of \$18,594.32. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Discuss and Consider adopting Resolution #020-011 MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application for Norrie Park Renovation and Montreal River Water Trail Project.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to adopt Resolution #020-011 MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application for Norrie Park Renovation and Montreal River Water Trail Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and Consider approval of Pay Application #1 for the Downtown City Square Project in the amount of \$129,394.75 to Ruotsala Construction contingent upon MEDC approval.

***Motion** was made by Corcoran, seconded by Cayer to approve pay application #1 for the Downtown City Square Project in the amount of \$129,394.75 to Ruotsala Construction contingent upon MEDC approval. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

N. Discuss and Consider adopting Resolution #020-012 Mayor's Proclamation recognizing "Suicide Prevention Week".

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to adopt Resolution #020-012 Mayor's Proclamation recognizing "Suicide Prevention Week" September 7th through September 13th. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

O. Manager's Report.

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

- *The Country Club Road Project has been completed, and the City will be reviewing the intersection of Lowell Street/Ayer Street.
- *The Pat O'Donnell Civic Center has been moving along nicely.
- *The Downtown Square Project underground work has been finished and the contractor will be working on some of the above ground features this coming week.
- *The demolition of the buildings on McLeod will be completed this week and Gogebic County has been looking to fund the removal of their building.

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Cayer had several questions for City Staff about the Tamarack Street traffic issue. He also questioned City staff about securing jobs in the City of Ironwood. Further discussion of these matters took place.

Commissioner Mildren applauded the City of Ironwood for all the beautiful trails and stated it is so nice to see young people out enjoying the trails.

Q. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Corcoran, seconded by Semo to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 p.m.
Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk