

Ironwood City Commission Meeting Minutes

1. Mayor Pro Tem called the Zoning Board of Appeals to order at 5:20 p.m.

***Motion** was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo to excuse Mayor Burchell from tonight's meeting. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

2. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: Mayor Burchell (excused).

3. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran opened the public hearing at 5:21 p.m.

4. Public Hearing: To hear comment on a variance to Section 34-53(7) for a new garage at 125 E. Ash Street, Ironwood, MI 49938 (an additional accessory structure greater than 200 square feet).

Community Development Director Bergman addressed the City Commission stating the request before them this evening was to erect a 34' x 26' garage at 125 E. Ash Street. He further stated the homeowners already has a 300 sq. ft garage on the property but meets all other requirements including set back and size of building. Mr. Bergman also stated this meets the requirements of the zoning request, but it is impractical to have homeowners shave off 100 square feet of the current shed. Community Development Director Bergman felt this was a hardship to make the homeowner shave off 100 sq. ft. of the current building and recommended the City Commission approve the dimensional variance request. Further discussion of this matter took place.

5. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran closed the public hearing at 5:24 p.m.

6. Consider Action on the William and Michelle Stanczak (125 E. Ash Street) Dimensional Variance Request.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to approve William and Michelle Stanczak's (125 E. Ash Street) Dimensional Variance Request to construct a 34' x 26' garage.*

Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

7. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran adjourned the Zoning Board of Appeals at 5:25 p.m.
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1. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran called the public hearing to order at 5:25 p.m.

2. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: Mayor Burchell (excused).

3. Public Hearing: To hear comment on City of Ironwood Regulations of an Adult-Use Marihuana Establishment Ordinance, Ordinance #523, Book 5 an Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan by adding a new chapter which new chapter shall be designated as Chapter 37 of said Code entitled “Marihuana Establishments”.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman reviewed the changes to Ordinance #523, Book 5 with the City Commission. Mr. Bergman noted the map is the largest change to this ordinance.

Commissioner Corcoran noted business signs near the Marquette area are done in good taste and questioned the size of the sign lettering in the ordinance feeling it was a little restrictive.

Jeffery Barker, an attorney from 1146 E. Washington, Suite E, Lansing, Michigan has been retained by some community members. Mr. Barker thanked the City Commission for all their work on developing this ordinance and felt it was a good ordinance. He also thanked Commissioner Corcoran for bringing attention to the size of the lettering for business signs. Mr. Barker felt it would cause traffic backups and other problems if the lettering were to be so small that people could not find the businesses due to signage. He noted the copy of the Ordinance he printed from the website was different then what was in the agenda packet. Mr. Barker also mentioned that in 37.5, paragraph b(5) talks about the prequalification process as defined under the State Emergency Rules which have now been replaced with a permanent rule set from this summer. He further stated requiring prequalification prior to the initial application stage might make it difficult for local people to apply. Mr. Barker stated if everything must pass inspection before a license can be approved, why would anyone invest a half of million dollars in renovation of a building if they were not granted a license. He asked why the City Commission and the Planning Commission both had to review the application. Community Development Director Bergman clarified that the Planning Commission would be involved in the conditional use process and then the City Commission would be involved in the competitive process of the application process. Mr. Barker also felt by uncapping the number of applications it would give the caregivers an avenue to full licensure. Further discussion of this matter took place.

Commissioner Semo asked Mr. Barker if he has seen other caregivers go to fully licensed facilities. Mr. Barker acknowledged that these small caregivers moved to building larger facilities.

Ben Thompson felt in his opinion most of the people who attended the first public hearing on the Adult-Use Marihuana Establishment Ordinance were for it and felt there were a wide variety of people in attendance.

Stoch Wasik, of 722 Horizons Drive, Marquette, Michigan, owner of the Fire Station Cannabis Provisioning Center in Negaunee, Michigan thanked the City Commission for all their work on the Adult Recreational Marihuana Ordinance and felt they got it right.

4. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran closed the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.

A. Mayor Pro Tem Corcoran called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

B. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: Mayor Burchell (excused).

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.*

*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting of August 10th.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Special Meeting Minutes of August 11th.

*3) Designate City Manager, Scott Erickson as MML Convention Delegate, with alternate official being Commissioner Kim Corcoran.

***Motion** was made by Semo, 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 Mildren, seconded by Semo to amend the agenda to include item O1. Discuss and consider awarding the highest bids for IPSD seized property as listed on the bid sheet. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

E. Review and Place on File:

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

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

F. 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 July 31, 2020. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

I. UPDATE: COVID-19 Response.

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio addressed the City Commission stating with the help of the Western U.P. Health Department and the National Guard there were 326 COVID-19 tests completed with only four (4) positives. Director DiGiorgio also stated that he has been working with the school to identify a traffic pattern for safe drop off and pick up of students.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman noted his department was wrapping up with the Michigan Restart Program and that MEDC would be making their decision by August 31st with businesses being notified by the end of September.

Finance Director Linn stated the water department has been working with Community Action Agency to get the word out for the sewer and water assistance program for families in our area who are behind on their bills. He further stated due to the federal stimulus money that the state funding is not as bad as they projected. Additional comments were received.

OLD BUSINESS

J. Discuss and Consider approving Ordinance No. 523, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend the Code of ordinances, City of Ironwood, Michigan by adding a new chapter which new chapter shall be designated as Chapter 37 of said Code entitled “Marihuana Establishments”.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to table this item to the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2020 when there can be a full City Commission. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider introduction of Ordinance No. 524, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend Section 36-6, Sunset Provision of Chapter 36, Article I, Marijuana Establishments of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood and schedule a special City Commission Meeting for a public hearing on Monday, August 31, 2020 at 5:25 P.M.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to schedule a special City Commission Meeting to adopt Ordinance No. 524, Book 5, an Ordinance to amend Section 36-6, Sunset Provision of Chapter 36, Article I, Marijuana Establishments of the Code of Ordinances, City of Ironwood. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Discuss and Consider approving Pay Application #4 to Angelo Luppino, Inc. for the 2019 Local Street Paving Program in the amount of \$98,412.74.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to approve Pay Application #4 to Angelo Luppino, Inc. for the 2019 Local Street Paving Program in the amount of \$98,412.74. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- M. Discuss and Consider awarding bid for mini excavator to Fabick Cat of Marquette, Michigan in the amount of \$123,889.00 with 55% being funded by a USDA Disaster Relief Grant (up to a maximum of \$50,000.00).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to award the mini excavator bid to Fabick Cat of Marquette, Michigan in the amount of \$123,889.00 with \$50,000.00 funding coming from USDA Disaster Relief Grant and the remainder from the City of Ironwood's equipment fund. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and Consider awarding bid for removal of existing Dasher Boards at the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to award the bid for the removal of the existing Dasher Boards at the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center to Glen Hupp in the amount of \$120.00 pending approval from the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and Consider approval of Pay Application #2 for the City of Ironwood - Downtown City Square Project in the amount of \$170,260.77 to Ruotsala Construction and authorize Mayor Pro Tem to sign all applicable documents contingent upon MEDC approval.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to approve the Pay Application #2 for the City of Ironwood - Downtown City Square Project in the amount of \$170,260.77 to Ruotsala Construction and authorize Mayor Pro Tem to sign all applicable documents contingent upon MEDC approval. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O1. Discuss and consider awarding the Ironwood Public Safety Department's seized property to the highest bidders.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to award the IPSD seized property to the highest bidders. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- P. Discuss and Consider approving quotation in the amount of \$8,900.00 with GTE Electric to relocate electric service and replace variable frequency drive at Well House #104.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to approve the quote in the amount of \$8,900.00 from GTE Electric to relocate electric service and replace variable frequency drive at Well House #104. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- Q. Discuss and Consider adopting Resolution #020-013 scheduling a Public Hearing on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 5:25 P.M. to hear comment on a blight violation at 143 W. Oak Street (Tax ID #52-27-204-260).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to adopt Resolution #020-013 scheduling a Public Hearing for Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:25 p.m. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and Consider approving a \$50.00 COVID-19 Stipend for election workers for the November 2020 General Election.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to approve a \$50.00 COVID-19 Stipend for election workers for the November 2020 General Election to help with recruitment. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- S. Discuss and Consider Resolution #020-014 Governing the 2020 Comprehensive Deer Management Program.

Motion was made by Cayer, seconded by Mildren to approve Resolution #020-014 Governing the 2020 Comprehensive Deer Management Program. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- T. Discuss and Consider adopting CDBG required policies (Section 504 Grievance Procedure, Fair Housing Plan, and Fair Housing Discrimination Complaint Process) and authorize Mayor and City Clerk to sign same.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo to adopt Section 504 Grievance Procedure, Fair Housing Plan, and Fair Housing Discrimination Complaint Process with the changing the time for the City Commission to respond from 15 calendar days to 30 calendar days. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- U. Manager's Report.

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

*The Civic Center construction is continuing to move along. The structural part of the building has been completed, with the contractor currently working on the insulation and installation of the roof panels.

*The City Water Department is scheduling the fall water main flushing starting the week of September 20th.

*The 2020 Michigan Municipal League (MML) Fall Convention will be held virtually starting Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

V. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo questioned City Staff on when the bike trail from Bessemer to Ramsay would be complete. City Manager Erickson felt it would be finished in about one (1) week.

W. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Cayer to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Kim Corcoran, Mayor Pro Tem

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk