

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held via Zoom on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. along with two (2) Public Hearings.

1. Mayor Burchell opened the public hearing at 5:25 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.

The following members who were in attendance indicated the physical location from which they were remotely participating in the meeting were as follows: Commissioner Cayer (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Corcoran (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Mildren (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Semo (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), and Mayor Burchell (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan).

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

ABSENT: None.

3. Public Hearing: To hear comment relative to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Budget and the Schedule of Rates for City Services.

Finance Director/Treasurer Paul Linn addressed the City Commission regarding the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Budget and the Schedule of Rates for City Services. Mr. Linn reviewed a two (2) page summary of revenues and expenditures comparing this year's budget to last year's budget. Additional comments were received.

4. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:40 P.M.

---

**5:20 P.M.**

1. Mayor Burchell opened the public hearing at 5:40 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.

The following members who were in attendance indicated the physical location from which they were remotely participating in the meeting were as follows: Commissioner Cayer (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Corcoran (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Mildren (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Semo (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), and Mayor Burchell (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan).

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

ABSENT: None.

3. Public Hearing: To hear comment on submittal of an application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for a Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) Project to upgrade aging water and sewer facilities, including removal and replacement of lead and copper water service lines.

City Manager Scott Erickson addressed the City Commission noting this was another grant opportunity for the City of Ironwood through MEDC. He also stated the City of Ironwood was working with Coleman Engineering on the submittal of the application.

Paul Anderson from Coleman Engineering stated the City of Ironwood qualifies for this grant opportunity since our community is 51% low to moderate income and it would provide a community wide benefit. This grant helps with cutting the Inflow & Infiltration (I & I) in the City of Ironwood's sanitary sewer system and Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI). He further stated there was an 11% local match and does not include a certified grant administrator. Mr. Anderson suggested the certified grant administrator should be clarified with the State of Michigan. Further discussion of this matter took place.

4. Mayor Burchell closed the public hearing at 5:53 P.M.

---

A. Mayor Burchell called the regular meeting to order at 5:53 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

The following members who were in attendance indicated the physical location from which they were remotely participating in the meeting were as follows: Commissioner Cayer (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Corcoran (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Mildren (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), Commissioner Semo (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan), and Mayor Burchell (City of Ironwood, Gogebic County, State of Michigan).

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 May 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of May 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

D. Approval of the Agenda

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve the amended agenda adding M1. Discuss and consider approving Resolution #021-015 Declaration of Ironwood Pride Diversity & Inclusivity June 2021 Celebration Month. 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 Cayer, seconded by Corcoran to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending April 30, 2021 and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for April 2021. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

***Motion** was made by Cayer, seconded by Semo to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for April 2021. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

G. Update on COVID-19 Response.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman stated the restaurant revitalization program is now closed. He noted there were many more requests than funding. He did not hear if anyone in our area was successful in obtaining any funds.

Public Safety Director Andrew DiGiorgio updated the City Commission on the mask mandate. He urged everyone to go on the CDC website or the Western UP Health Department website for updated information. He further noted if someone is vaccinated, they are not required to wear a mask and those that are not vaccinated should wear their masks. He also urged everyone if they need to be vaccinated, please call the Western UP Health Department at (906) 667-0200 to schedule an appointment.

Finance Director Paul Linn mentioned he has not heard from the US Treasury on the amount the City of Ironwood will receive, but they did issue guidelines on how the funds could be spent. Mr. Linn clarified that the American Rescue Plan Funds need to be obligated by 12/31/2024 and the City will have until 12/31/2026 to spend them.

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).

There were none.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- J. Discuss and Consider adopting Resolution #021-013 authorizing submittal of an application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) Project to upgrade aging water and sewer facilities, including removal and replacement of lead and copper water service lines and authorize Mayor to sign all necessary documents.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to adopt Resolution #021-013 authorizing submittal of an application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) Project to upgrade aging water and sewer facilities, including removal and replacement of lead and copper water service lines and authorize Mayor to sign all necessary documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Consider approval of Change Order No. 1 for the City of Ironwood – 2021 Water and Sewer Project to Jake’s Excavating & Landscaping, LLC. in the amount of \$20,700 (Water – \$19,350, Sewer - \$1,350) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve the Change Order No. 1 for the City of Ironwood – 2021 Water and Sewer Project to Jake’s Excavating & Landscaping, LLC. in the amount of \$20,700 (Water – \$19,350, Sewer - \$1,350) and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Consider approval of Pay Package in the amount of \$68,839.57 (Water– \$22,130.44, Sewer - \$46,709.13) to Jake’s Excavating & Landscaping, LLC for the City of Ironwood – 2021 Water and Sewer Project and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Corcoran to approve Pay Package in the amount of \$68,839.57 (Water– \$22,130.44, Sewer - \$46,709.13) to Jake’s Excavating & Landscaping, LLC for the City of Ironwood – 2021 Water and Sewer Project and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- M1. Discuss and consider approving Resolution #021-015 Declaration of Ironwood Pride Diversity & Inclusivity June 2021 Celebration Month.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve Resolution #021-015 Declaration of Ironwood Pride Diversity & Inclusivity June 2021 Celebration Month. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss incorporating fluoridation into the design of the new water treatment plant.

A brief discussion regarding fluoridation took place, and the City Commission requested more information be brought back to them at their next regular meeting.

N. Discuss and consider approving cost of living adjustment for non-union employees.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve a 2% cost of living adjustment for non-union employees excluding the City Manager. 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 insurance company will be meeting at the Civic Center on Wednesday to finalize the project.
- \*Public Works Department has been working on getting the splash pad in operation by tomorrow at 1:00 P.M.
- \*The Memorial Day Parade will start at 10:00 a.m. from the Memorial Building. The Ironwood Area Schools will be participating, and it is a scaled down version from past Memorial Day Celebrations.
- \*Riverside Cemetery will be mowed on Wednesday.
- \*Flags downtown will be going up and the ones at the Downtown City Square will be replaced.
- \*He listed several new businesses: Suffolk Street Eatery, Domino's, UP-N-Smoke, V's Piano Bar, Armata Small Engine, Wild Wild West Tobacco, Cup It, Garden Tech, and an expansion to Contrast Coffee.
- \*Installation of the new City entrance signs on the east and west ends of US-2 are complete.
- \*Pavement Striping is being completed this week.
- \*Friends of the Miners' Memorial Heritage Park have been busy working on their new storage garage located in the composite area.

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Cayer questioned if there was a combined meeting with the Planning Commission this week. City Staff noted currently there is not a combined meeting scheduled.

Commissioner Mildren congratulated all the graduates and stated how proud he was of each and everyone of them.

Commissioner Semo noted the Theatre was reopening with a dance recital. He also questioned when the City could go back to open public meetings. Further discussion of this matter took place.

Q. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Corcoran to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 P.M.  
Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Annette Da Lio-Burchell, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk