

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held in person and via Zoom at 5:30 P.M., along with a Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M. on Monday, August 8, 2022.

1. Mayor Corcoran called the public hearing to order at 5:27 P.M.

2. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran.

ABSENT: Commissioner Semo (excused).

3. Public Hearing: To receive a final report and closeout on the completion of the Downtown City Square Project CDBG Grant (MSC218001-CPF) and receive public comment.

Jerald Wuorenmaa, Executive Director of the Western U.P. Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR) presented the final report on the closeout of the Downtown City Square Project CDBG Grant to the City Commission. He informed the City Commission that they provided up to \$1,475,972.00 towards administration, property acquisition, engineering, and construction of the Downtown City Square Project, which has now been completed as planned. Ten percent of the project funding was provided by the City of Ironwood, and the CDBG benefitted at least 51% of the low to moderate income persons. Zero persons were displaced as a result of the project. Notice is required at closeout. That's a step needed. Final payment took place a few meetings ago. Commissioner Mildren commented how good this project was.

Randall Kashich of 342 Lake Avenue gave a public comment, noting he was the only one of the 51 percent of low-income people who came to the meeting. He questioned the benefit for low-income people, stating it only helps the businesses downtown. He wanted an answer to how it benefits low-income community members. He also stated he wants something done for those with less means.

Mayor Corcoran noted picking and choosing is always hard. The City Square went from a parking lot to now being filled with children running in and out of the water park. There is a lot of happiness that it brings to the kids, and many events are being held there.

No additional comments were received.

4. Mayor Corcoran closed the public hearing at 5:34 P.M.

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A. Mayor Corcoran called the regular meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Andresen, Korpela, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: Commissioner Semo (excused).

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda. \*

\*1) Approval of Minutes:

- a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2022.
- b. Special City Commission Meeting Minutes of July 26, 2022.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. DIDA Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2022.
- b. DIDA Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2022.
- c. DIDA Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2022.

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

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Mayor Corcoran requested to amend the Agenda, removing Items S, T, and U to go into Closed Session as the City Attorney was not present at the Regular City Commission Meeting date of August 8, 2022.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, and carried to amend the Agenda, removing Items S, T, and U, and approve the Agenda.*

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

Randall Kashich, 342 Lake Avenue, had a question on the scrap iron bid, including information on how many bids were received.

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

Randall Kashich, 342 Lake Avenue, spoke regarding the city's legal counsel and incompetence regarding marihuana laws. He stated he feels the Commission should seek better legal advice.

G. City Engineer Project Updates.

City Engineer Scott Erickson gave an update on active construction projects in the City of Ironwood. He stated that Nasi Construction has started on the wall repair work on the DPW building. There are a few additional items they have run into that will come back to the Commission once City Staff has looked into them. The Francis Street project is underway, noting the street is closed at the moment. The water service line investigation project with Jake's Excavating is coming to a conclusion. Jake's will then go back and do restoration. Ruotsala Construction has completed the water main intersection repair on the northeast side of town. Miners Memorial Park Mountain Bike trail project is at 5.2 miles now and keeps progressing.

The project will be ongoing the rest of the summer. The chip seal project with the County and the list of those streets within the city have been completed. The downtown sanitary sewer line is out for bid now. He noted the downtown sanitary sewer line is old. They will be looking at relining them. This will be a project for next year. He also noted the Commission had approved the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at the Little League Field. Penchura is the company that was awarded the bid, and they have ordered the equipment. Hopefully the equipment will be here in the next month and then installed. He also wanted to note there have been some improvements over at the Curry Park Campground. Picnic tables and fire rings have been added. With a few updates, people are enjoying the City's campground, and it is getting more use now.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- H. Discuss and consider approval of Pay Application # 1 for the City of Ironwood – Intersection Replacement Project to Ruotsala Concrete, Inc., in the amount of \$161,243.50 and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio confirmed information related to the Intersection Replacement Project addressed by the City Engineer in his update report. The project is moving along very well. They are requesting the first payment.

*Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela to approve Pay Application # 1 for the City of Ironwood Intersection Replacement Project to Ruotsala Concrete, Inc., in the amount of \$161,243.50 and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- I. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment #5 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,592.84 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Park.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio confirmed information related to the Miners Memorial Park Mountain Bike Trails which was addressed by the City Engineer in his update report. He also added he had the opportunity to ride the trails this week, and it was a lot of fun. Part of the process is to continue to pay Flowtrack. The trails are open to the public now.

*Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpela, to authorize Payment # 5 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,592.84 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and consider awarding bid to Chicago Iron & Supplies for the sale of surplus miscellaneous brass and scrap iron.

DPW Supervisor Bob Richards addressed the Commission, recommending the bid be awarded to Chicago Iron & Supplies. Two bids were received. Chicago Iron was the highest bid.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to award a bid to Chicago Iron & Supplies for the sale of surplus miscellaneous brass and scrap iron. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- K. Discuss and consider authorizing proposal from Nasi Construction, LLC Garage Door Division for purchase and installation of an overhead garage door at the Department of Public Works Utilities and Storage Facility in the amount of \$5,541.00 using Water and Sewer Funds.

DPW Supervisor Bob Richards presented information on the DPW Utilities and Storage Facility, noting winterization is needed which entails the purchase and installation of an overhead garage door. Nasi Construction, LLC Garage Door Division has submitted a proposal to do the work for the amount of \$5,541.00. It is quite necessary. The furnace was repaired last year, and things could freeze. He did ask for authorization from the Commission and thanked them for their consideration.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpela, to authorize a proposal from Nasi Construction, LLC Garage Door Division for purchase and installation of an overhead garage door at the Department of Public Works Utilities and Storage Facility in the amount of \$5,541.00 using Water and Sewer Funds. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Discuss and consider engineering services agreement with Coleman Engineering in the amount of \$17,750.00 for the Margaret Street storm water culvert replacement using Major Street Funds.

City Engineer Scott Erickson noted it is budgeted for next year by the City Commission. It is in bad shape. It is a project for next year that will require some permitting as it is designated a stream. Design would then take place, and it will go out for bids this winter.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela to authorize an engineering services agreement with Coleman Engineering in the amount of \$17,750.00 for the Margaret Street storm water culvert replacement using Major Street Funds. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- M. Discuss and consider approving \$500.00 payments to Applicant # 2, Applicant # 7, and Applicant # 9, for a total cost of \$1,500.00 related to travel expenses for the Executive Search /Ironwood City Manager interviews scheduled on August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Mayor Kim Corcoran addressed the full City Commission with regards to the follow-up from the Special City Commission Meeting and MML Facilitator Glenn Anderson confirming the five (5) applicants contacted to interview for the City Manager position, with all five (5) expressing interested in an interview. Three (3) of the applicants will need to travel from out-of-town to interview in person the dates of August 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and the discussion entails consideration of paying an amount of \$500.00 for each of the three (3) applicants for travel expenses related to the interview. It was noted by the Commission that the \$500 will not cover

their full cost, but they want to do their due diligence for those applicants coming in.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve \$500.00 payments to Applicant # 2, Applicant # 7, and Applicant # 9, for a total cost of \$1,500.00 related to travel expenses for the Executive Search /Ironwood City Manager interviews scheduled on August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- N. Discuss and consider authorizing payment to PowerDMS, Inc. in the amount of \$5,221.72 for the Ironwood Public Safety Department’s annual subscription for digital record-keeping services, to be paid with grant funds.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio, who is also the Director of Ironwood Public Safety, addressed the City Commission regarding the annual subscription with PowerDMS, Inc. This system is integrated with their training management system. The State of Michigan will provide grant funding for the next two (2) years to pay for this service.

***Motion** was made by Korpela, seconded by Mildren, to authorize payment to PowerDMS, Inc. in the amount of \$5,221.72 for the Ironwood Public Safety Department’s annual subscription for digital record-keeping services, to be paid with grant funds. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- O. Discuss and consider authorizing Automated Comfort Control’s proposal in the amount of \$3,561.00 to design a bid specification to include replacement of two (2) boilers, hot water pumps, control system, and one (1) roof top unit for the Ironwood Municipal Memorial Building using budgeted funds.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio noted this is another item budgeted for improvements in the Memorial Building, with this being the proposal phase to design a bid specification. This is part of some of the work that needs to be done on the heating and cooling system for the building.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to authorize Automated Comfort Control’s proposal in the amount of \$3,561.00 to design a bid specification to include replacement of two (2) boilers, hot water pumps, control system, and one (1) roof top unit for the Ironwood Municipal Memorial Building using budgeted funds. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- P. Mayor’s Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran confirmed the following Appointments:

Mayor Corcoran appointed Annette DaLio-Burchell, Carol Erickson, and Christina Rencontre to the newly formed Ironwood Human Relations and Equity Committee (HREC) to fill 3 year terms, (terms expiring July 31, 2025) and Gerald Gripper and Nancy Korpela to fill 2 year terms (terms expiring July 31, 2024).

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, and carried to approve the Mayor's appointment of Annette DaLio-Burchell, Carol Erickson, and Christina Rencontre to the Ironwood Human Relations and Equity Committee (HREC) for a 3 year term, (term expiring July 31, 2025), and Gerald Gripper and Nancy Korpela to the Ironwood Human Relations and Equity Committee (HREC) for a 2 year term, (term expiring July 31, 2024).*

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Adrienne Chase to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a 5 year term (term expiring June 30, 2027).

***Motion** was made by Korpela, seconded by Mildren, and carried to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Adrienne Chase to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a 5 year term (term expiring June 30, 2027).*

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Sam Davey and Randy Kirchoff to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a 3 year term (terms expiring July 1, 2025), and appointed Christina Boyette to the Parks and Recreation Committee to fill the expired term of Linda Jindrich for a 3 year term (term expiring July 1, 2025).

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, and carried to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Sam Davey and Randy Kirchoff to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a 3 year term (term expiring July 1, 2025), and appointment of Christina Boyette to the Parks and Recreation Committee, for the expired term of Linda Jindrich, for a 3 year term (term expiring July 1, 2025).*

#### Q. Manager's Report.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio verbally gave the Manager's report noting the following items:

- \* The recent First Friday event was very well attended, and a great use of the City Square. A lot of people came out for it, and the weather was great.
- \* The Emberlight Festival continues over the next few weeks in the City of Ironwood.
- \* The Gogebic County Fair starts this week.
- \* The City Staff is starting DPW interviews. There is the potential of a retirement in the near future within the DPW Department, so the process is beginning to bring on new people. He noted it is always challenging to replace those employees who have been here for numerous years.
- \* The City Fall Cleanup dates are tentatively scheduled for September 16 and 17<sup>th</sup> at Public Safety. This will be conducted in the same format.
- \* Utility Manager Bob Tervonen gave an updated on the City's lead and copper levels. Testing is required by the State of Michigan. Lead levels need to be at 15 or below. Samples of lead taken 3 years ago, showed the highest sample was 1. The City of Ironwood received results from recent testing today. No detects for lead. Copper levels need to be

below 1500, and the highest was 300. Copper and lead levels are low for the City of Ironwood.

- \* Jay Kivisto has agreed to come on board as the new Civic Center Manager. He is currently going through contingencies with a start date of September 6<sup>th</sup>. This will give him some time before ice season begins.

R. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented on what we do for our area children. Everyone has participated in Santa's Headquarters, which helps 300 – 400 children. The Civic Center and Splash Park light up the children's faces. He noted if parents can't drive their kids to the area lakes, they can go to the Splash Park. We all have a great track record of helping the children.

S. Consider Closed Session to pursuant to MCL 15.268(h). *(Amended to Remove from the Agenda.)*

T. Return to Open Session. *(Amended to Remove from the Agenda.)*

U. Discuss and consider Water Treatment Plant Bids. *(Amended to Remove from the Agenda.)*

V. Adjournment.

**Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Mildren, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 P.M.

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Wendy L. Hagstrom, City Clerk