

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

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, September 26, 2022.

1. Mayor Corcoran called the public hearing to order at 5:25 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

3. Public Hearing: To receive public comment on a request to transfer remaining Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption (IFT) Certificate #2012-157 from Ottawa Forest Products to Manufacturers Pallet Disposal, Inc., (MPD).

City Assessor/Code Officer Jason Alonen provided information on the request to transfer the remaining Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption from Ottawa Forest Products to Manufacturers Pallet Disposal, Inc., (MPD). The IFT is for real and personal property for a remaining 3 years. The other part of the IFT is personal property that has 5 years remaining. In 2007 Ottawa Forest Products was granted 50 percent exemption on real property and 100 percent exemption on equipment/personal property. This is a transfer of the ownership. There are no extensions or changes in values.

Michael Mapes, the owner of MPD addressed the City Commission. He purchased this in late December and is employing 34 people with the goal of growing. He plans on hiring more people and get back to two shifts.

No additional comments were received.

4. Mayor Corcoran closed the public hearing at 5:30 P.M.

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

B. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.\*

\*1) Approval of Minutes – Regular City Commission Meeting of September 12, 2022.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2022.
- b. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2022.

- c. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of September 13, 2022.
- d. Ironwood Carnegie Library Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2022.
- e. Ironwood Carnegie Library Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2022.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Mayor Corcoran requested to amend the Agenda, removing Item E, “Review and Place on File 1. Revenue & Expenditure Report and 2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.”.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to amend the Agenda, removing Item E, “Review and Place on File 1. Revenue & Expenditure Report and 2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.”.*

- E. Review and Place on File: *(Removed from Agenda)*
- 1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.
  - 2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried to approve the Monthly Check Register Report for August 2022.*

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

Randy Kashich of 342 W. Lake stated there were no financials available at the meeting. He noted salaries go from \$109,000.00 to over \$200,000.00 within a budget year to cover salaries. He questioned the tax payers money.

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

Ben Thompson of Three Twins came to do an update on their micro license per Mr. Semo’s request. They are actively working on it. He is enthused about changing of the Class A. They are working on the site plan amendment and will be putting the application in next week. There is currently a fairly interested investor.

Louise Demasi stated there is a rumor going around that she has talked to every commissioner, and she individually questioned each commissioner if it is true. She also inquired if Mr. Anderson is willing to move into the City of Ironwood. She stated it isn’t required but wanted to know if he was asked that question. Mayor Corcoran stated she would not present that question.

Randy Kashich of 342 Lake noted Tom Bergman hasn’t reported in two to three months. Mayor

Corcoran noted this is not an opportunity to degrade people, nor is it a complaint session. Mr. Kashich then spoke about those at the poverty level in our City and mismanagement of funding opportunities and grants provided. The former City Manager's Employment Agreement and Amendment to the Employment Agreement were also noted by Mr. Kashich.

I. City Engineer Project Updates.

City Manager Scott Erickson spoke to the Commission on the status of active construction projects in the City of Ironwood. The Francis Street Project was discussed as well as an update on the street project with Angelo Lupino. Seven and a half miles of mountain bike trail has now been completed by Flowtrack in the Miners Memorial Park. This project will continue into next spring. For now, Flowtrack will keep on going until the snow begins. He also stated the Street Road Rating has been completed.

OLD BUSINESS

- J. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #022-025 approving request to transfer remaining Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption (IFT) Certificate #2012-157 from Ottawa Forest Products to Manufacturers Pallet Disposal, Inc., (MPD).

Jason Alonen, City Assessor and Code Officer brought the Resolution before the Commission for adoption. The application packet will be submitted to the State of Michigan in the next couple of days.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to adopt Resolution #022-025, approving request to transfer remaining Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption (IFT) Certificate #2012-157 from Ottawa Forest Products to Manufacturers Pallet Disposal, Inc., (MPD). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Discuss and consider authorizing final payment to Nasi Construction, LLC in the amount of \$33,905.78 for the DPW Garage Siding Replacement Project.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio presented information affirming the City Engineer's report. It covers the rest of this project. Final payment for Nasi Construction, LLC is requested.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to authorize final payment to Nasi Construction, LLC in the amount of \$33,905.78 for the DPW Garage Siding Replacement Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Discuss and consider authorizing re-bid of the surplus 1994 Ford cargo sweeper with a minimum bid amount of \$1,500.00.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio addressed the Commissioners, stating it was out for bids a few months ago but in mean time, mechanical issues occurred. It's valued now much less than the \$11,000 anticipated worth. Value is now around \$1,500.00.

*Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to authorize a re-bid of the*

*surplus 1994 Ford cargo sweeper with a minimum bid amount of \$1,500.00.*

- M. Discuss and consider authorizing Payment # 8 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,844.47 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Park.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio noted as stated in the City Engineer's report , this is ongoing work, and he is requesting the next payment.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpela, to authorize Payment #8 to Flowtrack Mountain Bike Trails, LLC in the amount of \$13,844.47 for the MDNR Trust Fund Mountain Bike Trail Project in Miners Memorial Park. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

#### NEW BUSINESS

- N. Discuss and consider authorizing payment to Nasi Construction, LLC in the amount of \$5,556.01 for service repairs to garage doors at DPW Garage.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio stated that additional work had to be done, and it went over the \$5,000.00 threshold.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, to authorize payment to Nasi Construction, LLC in the amount of \$5,556.01 for service repairs to garage doors at the DPW Garage. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- O. Discuss and consider approving a revised "Exhibit A" map associated with the Norrie Park License Agreement between the City and ABR, Inc., and Anderson Bluffs & River Trail Foundation, Inc.

Community Development Director Tom Bergman stated there will be an extension that runs through Norrie Park. The purpose is to connect the trail that goes directly from ABR, through Norrie Park, and then crosses Norrie Park Road in a safer location for when they develop the trail. Eric Anderson from ABR was also present and confirmed the information.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried to approve a revised "Exhibit A" map associated with the Norrie Park License Agreement between the City and ABR, Inc., and Anderson Bluffs & River Trail Foundation, Inc.*

- P. Discuss and consider approval of Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$224,460.77 for the City of Ironwood – 2022 Sewer and Water Project and authorize Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio confirmed this is Pay Application No. 2 to Jake's Excavating & Landscaping on the Francis Street Project referred to in the City Engineer's Report.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$224,460.77 for the City of Ironwood – 2022 Sewer and Water Project and authorize Mayor to*

*sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- Q. Discuss and consider authorizing quotes for the purchase of a battery for the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Zamboni, amount not to exceed \$12,000.00, pending approval by the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board.

Interim City Manager Andrew DiGiorgio discussed with the Commissioners the special circumstances and 6-week lead time to receive a battery for the Zamboni. The current battery life has been tested. The Zamboni is 10 years old. There has currently only been one quote received, and that is for \$12,000.00. There are two more quotes coming, and they will wait to see what those amounts are. The Civic Center will be laying ice in October. They need to start that process now with the 6 week lead time.

Finance Director and Treasurer Paul Linn was questioned by the City Commission and noted the purchase of the battery it is not in the Civic Center budget, but they do have an unassigned fund balance built up to pay for this expenditure. Commissioner Semo asked for a budget update. Commissioner Mildren noted it is hard to get company representatives to come here with regard to the Civic Century Zamboni. Now when the battery was finally tested, they found there is decreased battery life. This is a \$150,000 machine. They have been using it for 10 years. It is absolutely needed. They cannot have a brand-new beautiful facility and programs available and have that fail. With 6-8 weeks lead time, it has to be done.

***Motion** was made by Semo seconded by Mildren, and carried to authorize quotes for the purchase of a battery for the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Zamboni, amount not to exceed \$12,000.00, pending approval by the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board.*

R. Manager's Report.

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

- \* The City will be applying for the Forest Management Grant for Norrie Park and Miners Park.
- \* An update on purchasing facilities in the city was given. Sleigh School was purchased by another bidder, so the City will not have access to that building. The Wells Fargo purchase fell through, and the City was the second bidder, so on Friday payment was sent. The City should be taking possession in the next 5-10 days. He is excited on potential opportunities. He also noted in the next 30-45 days they can work on the blight process.
- \* Bridges and Bluffs was held over the weekend. It was a great event and an opportunity to display our trails from here to Bessemer.
- \* October 7<sup>th</sup> is Plaidurday. The big photo opportunity downtown is at 6:00 p.m.
- \* The City-Wide Deer Hunt starts October 1<sup>st</sup>. About 10 plus hunters are participating, and it helps control the deer population in the city.
- \* It was noted the City Clerk is resigning effective October 7, 2022.
- \* Watermain flushing starts October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bottled water will be available at Ironwood Public Safety.

S. Other Matters.

Mayor Corcoran thanked the City Clerk, Wendy Hagstrom, for her work with the Commission and City of Ironwood. The Mayor further stated she is excited about the Wells Fargo purchase.

Commissioner Mildren requested an excused absence for the 10/10/22 City Commission Meeting.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpela, and carried to excuse Commissioner Mildren from the October 10, 2022 Regular City Commission Meeting.*

T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Wendy L. Hagstrom, City Clerk