

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on July 8, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioners Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: Commissioner Andresen (excused)

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2024.

b. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2024

c. Carnegie Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2024.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, 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 Korpi, and carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.*

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider approving a 2-month contract extension with Republic Services for Refuse Collection Services.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve a 2-month contract extension with Republic Services for Refuse and Recycling Collection Services. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

H. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #12 in the amount of \$976,671.39 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #12 in the amount of \$976,671.39 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- I. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #2, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$31,974.70 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve Change Order #2, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$31,974.70 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and consider approving Payment #2, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$42,878.51 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #2, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$42,878.51 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- K. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-011 approving the State Trunkline Maintenance Contract for the period October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2029 and authorize Mayor Kim Corcoran to sign contract.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #024-011 approving the State Trunkline Maintenance Contract for the period October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2029 and authorize Mayor Kim Corcoran to sign contract. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- L. Discuss and acknowledge introduction of Ordinance Number 550, an Ordinance to vacate the alley behind 206 N. Hemlock Street.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to acknowledge introduction of Ordinance Number 550, an Ordinance to vacate the alley behind 206 N. Hemlock Street and schedule a Public Hearing for the July 22, 2024 meeting.*

- M. Discuss and consider adopting Notice of Intent Resolution #024-012, authorizing publication of the Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds for the Sewer Disposal System Improvements Phase 5B Project.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to adopt Notice of Intent Resolution #024-012, authorizing publication of the Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds for the Sewer Disposal System Improvements Phase 5B Project. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- N. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran re-appointed Bruce Greenhill to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority to fill a 4-year term (term expiring June 30, 2028).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's re-appointment of Bruce Greenhill to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority to fill a 4-year term (term expiring June 30, 2028).*

O. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

I hope everyone enjoyed their 4th of July holiday celebrations. I have my fingers crossed for some drier / warmer weather this upcoming week. The forecast is finally looking good!

Engineering Updates

- *The concrete improvements at Hiawatha Park are complete and we are now awaiting the picnic table and bench (donated by the Semo family) to be delivered next week and all will be installed prior to Festival Ironwood. We are also getting a trash can and recycling can put on the new slab by the bench as well.*
- *The Clemens Street project by Jakes Excavating is going to be getting paved within the next two weeks. Currently waiting for final schedule.*
- *Currently awaiting grant agreement for the \$598,000 grant through EGLE for the Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) Grant which will help us identify the material type on the majority of our remaining 800 unknown service lines that are suspected to be galvanized / lead.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. They are continuing to work on underground piping work to tie the new plant into the existing waterlines, as well as interior and exterior masonry, precast ceiling slabs and trusses will begin soon. We are awaiting updated quotes from the Contractor on upgrading our SCADA system and getting a price from Xcel on running a natural gas line out to the site in lieu of buying a large propane tank. These two items are expected to use the bulk of the remaining contingency funds.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water plant: we are out to bid with a prebid meeting on July 10th and bids due on July 31st and construction beginning spring 2025.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They are catching up on restoration and are slowly starting back to be digging more new service lines. They have taken about 222 addresses off our list to date. They have replaced 143 galvanized services with copper to date.*
- *Phase 5A water system is out to bid right now with bids due July 11th at 10 AM with a pre-bid meeting this Wednesday on June 26th. This construction project will be roughly \$2MIL. Construction will start later this summer and will need to be completed by the end of next summer.*
- *Phase 5B water and sewer project will begin design soon and that will take through the winter to occur. The bid will occur in the late winter or spring of 2025 and construction will occur in 2025 and 2026. This is roughly a \$11 MIL construction project.*
- *Curry Park Campground: We need to bid out some site furniture improvements this summer for the DNR grant project. The electrical project is under final design and permitting with plan for fall construction after closing. Then DPW will do some gravel pad improvements and restoration after all of that is done. I am going to start looking at some upgrades to the bathrooms / shower rooms as well.*
- *The crane replacement for the DPW garage is due to be installed in mid-August.*
- *Crack sealing work should be done in the next month or two. This year's project will incorporate the north 1/3 of the City (north of the railroad grade, minus the Phase 5 project area). All the rain has been pushing back Pitlik's schedule.*
- *Jessieville water tank project: the Contractor plans to do the tank lining and associated work in July or August. Further updates and time extension request will be forthcoming at an upcoming Commission meeting.*

- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: The architect Meyer Group and Owner met with the Michigan Historic Preservation Office to go over options of the building layout and come up with one that is likely to move forward in to Design Development phase of Architecture and Engineering. The project is planned for construction in 2025.*
- *The Historic Ironwood Theatre stage rigging project is moving forward. Two bids were received, and the Theatre Board is moving forward with a contract with Custom State Services and Angello Lupino. The Theatre is going to be buying the materials direct to save on sales tax and then writing a contract for the labor and installation. The project construction will be moving forward this coming winter in between Theatre events.*

Managers Updates

- *Surveys for the new Comprehensive Plan 10-year update are out and posted on our website homepage. Commissioners and the public, we ask everyone to fill out the survey! We are in the middle of a yearlong process to update this guiding document for the City of Ironwood.*
- *Staff kicked off our Housing Study project with HKGI back in June. Stakeholder meetings will be getting set up.*
- *I hope to get all our DPW crew into a City Commission meeting in August so that the Commission can meet everyone, including our three most recent hires once they all start.*
- *Congratulations to the Community Development staff on finally obtaining Redevelopment Ready Community status from MEDC after a multi-year process. We will be having a celebration of this with the State of Michigan on Friday July 12th at 1 PM at the Downtown City Square. All are welcome to attend.*
- *The Clerk's office is busy with the upcoming August election. 454 absentee ballots have been sent out and are due back on August 6th. And right after the August election the process will start for the November election!*
- *Reminder that our RFP is currently out for companies interested in bidding on our refuse and recycling contract. Those bids are due on 8/1/24.*
- *Festival Ironwood is coming up next week! Check out the Chamber's website for all of the details of events. As always, I want to say thank you in advance to all the volunteers that made Festival Ironwood happen.*
- *Lastly, I want to thank Ivan Hellen and Rod Smith of the Ironwood Historical Society for installing the Downtown Historical Walking Tour Signs on the various downtown buildings. This is the culmination of a multi-year project that was funded by DIDA. Travel Ironwood assisted with funding for portions of the project including brochures which are available at numerous locations around the downtown including the Memorial building and the Depot Chamber office.*

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren excitedly spoke about how busy Ironwood was on July 5, stating he's never seen our town so busy after our neighboring Communities held their Independence Day Celebrations.

Commission Semo reminded people about the Emberlight Festival with the fantastic art displays in Miner's Park.

Mayor Corcoran encouraged people to participate in the Historic Walking Tour downtown.

- Q. Consider Closed Session for strategy and negotiation connected with the Ironwood Professional Police Association/Police Officers Association of Michigan Collective Bargaining Agreement as permissible under MCL 15.268(1)(c).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to enter closed session at 6:08 P.M. for strategy and negotiation connected with the Ironwood Professional Police Association/Police Officers Association of Michigan Collective Bargaining Agreement as permissible under MCL 15.268(1)(c). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- R. Return to Open Session.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to return to open session at 6:33 P.M.*

- S. Discuss and consider approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Professional Police Association/Police Officers Association of Michigan.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Professional Police Association/Police Officers Association of Michigan.*

- T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk