

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on June 10, 2024, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by a Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.
PRESENT: Commissioners Andresen, Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran
ABSENT: None
3. Public Hearing: To receive public comment relative to the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget and the 2024-2025 Fee Schedule for City Services. Paul Linn, Finance Director/Treasurer, reviewed the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget. There were no comments from the public.
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: Commissioners Andresen, Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran
ABSENT: None
 - C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.
 - 1) Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2024.
 - 2) Review and Place on File:
 - a. Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2024.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Andresen, 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 Andresen, and carried, to amend the Agenda to add New Business, Item P. City Manager's Report.

- E. Review and Place on File:
 1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.
 2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending April, 2024, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for April 2024.

- F. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).
There were none.

G. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit). *Aleen Fuchs addressed the Commission to share her concerns regarding the County Material Concrete Plant and a Marijuana Facility that are being proposed for development in Jessieville Location attributing her concerns to the proximity to the homes, the old, uncapped mine shafts, and noise pollution.*

Christopher Fuchs spoke against the proposed Concrete Plant and the Grow Facility asking the Commission to deny the applications primarily concerned with the necessity to power upgrades that will be needed.

Kevin Brenner addressed the Commission sharing his concerns with and requesting that the City Commission overturn the Planning Commission's decision to approve the Concrete Plant. Kevin requested that if the City cannot overturn the decision, can a compromise be reached with the residents and have the concrete silos moved to the back of the building to help offset some of the noise, dust, and visual concerns addressed by several of the neighbors.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

H. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #11 in the amount of \$627,284.59 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #11 in the amount of \$627,284.59 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 #1, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$2,615.00 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve Change Order #1, for Jakes Excavating, which is an increase of \$2,615.00 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 #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$102,171.55 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$102,171.55 for the 2024 Street Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #5, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$24,771.82 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve Change Order #5, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$24,771.82 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1, adding the Memorial Building lawn to the property list in the Parks Mowing Contract, with 4 Seasons LPC, Inc.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve Change Order #1, adding the Memorial Building lawn to the property list in the Parks Mowing Contract, with 4 Seasons LPC, Inc.*

- M. Discuss and consider approval of the revised sign language to be placed at Hiawatha Park.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve the revised sign language to be placed at Hiawatha Park.*

NEW BUSINESS

- N. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-008, authorizing the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopt the 2024-2025 Fee Schedule.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to adopt Resolution #024-008, authorizing the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopt the 2024-2025 Fee Schedule. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- O. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-009, to transfer delinquent invoices for ordinance violations to the July 2024 City Tax Roll.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to adopt Resolution #024-009, to transfer delinquent invoices for ordinance violations to the July 2024 City Tax Roll. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- P. City Manager's Report.

In the excused absence of City Manager Paul Anderson, Clerk Jen Jacobson verbally presented the City Manager's Report as prepared by Paul:

Engineering Updates

- The playground equipment at Hiawatha Park has been installed. The concrete improvements are staked out and hopefully our crew will be getting them prepped this week, along w/ the necessary topsoil restoration.*
- The Clemens Street storm sewer and road work is continuing by Jakes Excavating as part of the 2024 Street Improvement project. Jakes is now working on coring out the pour road subgrade and will be preparing the road for paving soon. I've made the decision to not leave the couple small areas of 1/2 width paving and pave the entire project area so that there is one clean new sheet of asphalt that is all the same age on the entire project area. The additional cost of this is approximately \$14,000 and there is sufficient contingency funding within the project budget to pay for this.*
- \$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 access road improvements, masonry interior and exterior and underground electrical. As we are nearing the end of the project, we have contingency grant funds to spend, so I am getting 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. In the long run, natural gas is cheaper than propane and the upfront cost of the tank vs running the new natural gas line is comparable.*

- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water plant: we have our permit in hand from EGLE and are going out to bid with bids due in August and construction beginning spring 2025.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They have two crews working on restoration with orders to restore the oldest sites first. They expect this work to take approximately one month and then they will get back to digging more new service lines. They have taken about 219 addresses off our list to date. They have replaced 140 galvanized services with copper to date. 10 of those had the service replaced all the way from the house to the main line, with the remainder being from just the house to the curb stop (known as the “private side”).*
- *Phase 5A water system design is being reviewed by EGLE for a permit and we should have our permit in hand this week. Bids will be due July 11th at 10 AM with a prebid meeting on June 26th. This construction project will be roughly \$2MIL. Construction will start later this summer and will need to be completed in the middle of next summer.*
- *Phase 5B water and sewer project we are waiting on a contract from Coleman Engineering for likely the next City Commission meeting. They will begin that field work this summer and fall and will be shooting for a winter bid with construction in 2025 and 2026. This is roughly a \$11 MIL construction project.*
- *Curry Park Campground: Jakes water line project restoration is mainly complete although we do need to do some touch ups. The DNR grant project we need to bid out some site furniture improvements this summer. The electrical project is under final design and permitting with plan for fall construction after closing. Then DPW will do some gravel pad improvements after all of that is done during final restoration. Next year should be a wonderful camping season!*
- *The crane replacement for the DPW garage is due to be installed in mid-August.*
- *Bids for the Bonnie St sewer lift station was received on 6/7 and should be ready for approval at the 6/24/24 meeting.*
- *The Pavement striping work is complete. We are awaiting invoicing.*
- *Crack sealing work should be done in the next month or two.*
- *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 the next Commission meeting.*

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.*
- *All five of the Summer Help positions are working now and are doing a fantastic job. With all 5 positions filled, we can do a lot more mowing in our parks which I think the public will be able to notice compared to recent years.*
- *We have 3 openings in the DPW which we are in the middle of the hiring process for right now. The open positions are in the water department, sewer department and equipment maintenance department. The equipment repair person is set to start on June 24th. Hopefully the other two positions will be starting in early July. I am really excited for DPW to be fully staffed and running on all cylinders for the first time in a long time. I hope to get all our new hires into a City Commission meeting in July or August so that the Commission can meet everyone.*
- *The flower baskets are up downtown and look beautiful.*
- *Many other things are happening, but I will end it here. I hope everyone is enjoying summer.*

Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Semo requested additional information after the Bonnie Street comments and requested to be excused from the June 24, 2024 City Commission meeting.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Semo from the June 24, 2024 City Commission meeting.*

Commissioner Andresen encouraged everyone to complete the Comprehensive Plan Survey that is available online.

Commissioner Mildren also commented on the Bonnie Street Concrete Site Plan.

Mayor Corcoran commented on the activities over the weekend stating that Ironwood had another well-attended First Friday/Pride Event and thanked everyone for their efforts.

R. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 P.M.*

Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk