

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on September 23, 2024, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by Public Hearings at 5:10 P.M., 5:15 P.M., 5:20 P.M. and 5:25 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 5:10 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.
PRESENT: Commissioners Andresen, Korpi (arrived at 5:22 p.m.), Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Corcoran
ABSENT: None
3. Public Hearing: To receive public comment relative to a Blight Violation at 131 W. Oak Street (52-27-204-230). Lieutenant Matt Sterbenz presented pictures and reviewed blight on the property. One comment was received from the public asking for the City to please proceed forward with cleaning the property up stating they have been asking for 5 years to have this property cleaned up. No additional comments were received.
4. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:18 P.M.

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1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:18 P.M.
 2. Public Hearing: To receive public comment relative to a Blight Violation at 239 W. Ayer Street (52-22-314-010). Lieutenant Matt Sterbenz presented pictures and reviewed blight on the property. One comment was received from the public requesting the City to please move forward with the blighted property process. No additional comments were received.
 3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:21 P.M.

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1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:21 P.M.
 2. Public Hearing: To receive public comment relative to a Blight Violation at 216 Kennedy Street (52-24-310-060). Lieutenant Matt Sterbenz presented pictures and reviewed blight present on the property, indicating that this property is a rental unit. Matt spoke with the tenant who stated that all the blight on the property belongs to her landlord. One comment was received from Commissioner Semo asking that the City protect the tenant and if the blight is not the tenants, requested that the City hold the property owner accountable for the clean-up. No additional comments were received.
 3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:26 P.M.

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1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:26 P.M.

2. Public Hearing: To receive public comment to Ordinance Number 554, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 491, Chapter 19, III, Miners' Memorial Heritage Park, Attachment A, Park Boundary Map. Community Development Director Tom Bergman informed the Commission that the purpose of the Ordinance is to expand the Miner's Park boundaries in two places, which are behind Burton Industries and near the DPW Garage. Three members of the Miner's Heritage Trail Group spoke in favor of the expansion, which will help the group reach its goal of placing a 50-foot-high headframe on the former Vaughn Mine Site to serve as a memorial site to miners and to help keep our mining heritage alive. No additional comments were heard.
3. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:34 P.M.

A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:34 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 September 9, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2024.

b. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2024.

c. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2024.

d. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2024.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, 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 Items W. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-027, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:15 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 922 E. Ayer St. (52-24-102-260), and X. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-028, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:20 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 205 N. Curry Street (52-22-253-050).

E. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.

2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

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

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Check Register Report for August 2024 as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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

H. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).
There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. Discuss and consider adoption of Ordinance Number 554, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 491, Chapter 19, III, Miners' Memorial Heritage Park, Attachment A, Park Boundary Map.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to adopt Ordinance Number 554, an Ordinance to amend Ordinance Number 491, Chapter 19, III, Miners' Memorial Heritage Park, Attachment A, Park Boundary Map. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

J. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-024, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 131 W. Oak Street (52-27-204-230).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #024-024, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 131 W. Oak Street (52-27-204-230). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-025, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 239 W. Ayer Street (52-22-314-010).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to adopt Resolution #024-025, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 239 W. Ayer Street (52-22-314-010). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

L. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-026, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 216 Kennedy Street (52-24-310-060).

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #024-026, a Resolution Ordering Removal and Abatement of the Hazard and Nuisance of the property located at 216 Kennedy Street (52-24-310-060). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1, for Jake's Excavating, which is an increase of \$6,065.20 for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Change Order #1, for Jake's Excavating, which is an increase of \$6,065.20 for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider approving Payment #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$336,369.33 for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve Payment #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$336,369.33 for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider approving Work Change Directive #3 for Jake's Excavating, to replace the existing sanitary main, laterals and manholes in Albany Street between Hemlock Street and Norrie Street for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Work Change Directive #3 for Jake's Excavating, to replace the existing sanitary main, laterals and manholes in Albany Street between Hemlock Street and Norrie Street for the Phase 5A Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- P. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #7, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$12,306.19 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Change Order #7, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$12,306.19 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- Q. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #12, for Jake's Excavating, which is an increase of \$42,605.00 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve Change Order #12, for Jake's Excavating, which is an increase of \$42,605.00 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and consider approving Payment #11, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$66,017.64 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #11, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$66,017.64 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- S. Discuss and consider adjusting the Garbage/Recycling Utility monthly rate to be \$19.18 per month, effective November 1, 2024.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to adjust the Garbage/Recycling Utility monthly rate to be \$19.18 per month, effective November 1, 2024. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- T. Discuss and consider approving a one-year lease extension with United Parcel Service, Inc., at the current rate of \$1,800 per month, effective November 1, 2024, for 201 Penokee Road.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, to approving a one-year lease extension with United Parcel Service, Inc., at the current rate of \$1,800 per month, effective November 1, 2024, for 201 Penokee Road. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- U. Discuss and consider declaring eight items at Ironwood Public Safety Department as Surplus Equipment, approve the sale of Surplus Equipment and authorize bids.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to declare eight items at Ironwood Public Safety Department as Surplus Equipment, approve the sale of Surplus Equipment and authorize bids. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- V. Discuss and consider approving a budget amendment for City staff restructuring, an increase in General Fund expenditures of \$88,000.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Andresen, to approve a budget amendment for City staff restructuring, an increase in General Fund expenditures of \$88,000. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- W. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-027, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:15 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 922 E. Ayer Street (52-24-102-260).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to adopt Resolution #024-027, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:15 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 922 E. Ayer Street (52-24-102-260). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- X. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #024-028, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:20 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 205 N. Curry Street (52-22-253-050).

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to adopt Resolution #024-028, to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024, at 5:20 P.M., to hear comment on a blight violation at 205 N. Curry Street (52-22-253-050). Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- Y. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Klaus Kutschke to the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired three-year term (term expiring December 31, 2025).

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Klaus Kutschke to the Planning Commission to fill an unexpired three-year term (term expiring December 31, 2025).*

Mayor Corcoran appointed Jesse Carroll to the Human Resources and Equity Committee to fill an unexpired three-year term (term expiring July 31, 2027).

Motion was made by Andresen, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jesse Carroll to the Human Resources and Equity Committee to fill an unexpired three-year term (term expiring July 31, 2027).

Z. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Updates

- *The Memorial Building overflow parking lot is complete.*
- *The \$598,000 TMF grant is now awarded to Jakes. Some of that work will be done this fall and the remainder of the 500+ services will be done next summer.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. They are continuing to work on underground piping work, as well as interior and exterior masonry, and roofing work. We are working on numerous change orders to spend our remaining contingency funds.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water plant: we are working on getting the contract documents all in line and then will be moving some work from Phase 2 to Phase 1. Work to begin in the coming months.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project continues with Jakes Excavating. They are working on getting two crews performing the work and will be working on the Fairgrounds water services in the next one to two weeks. This property is in the City of Ironwood limits and part of the City of Ironwood water system.*
- *Phase 5A water system project continues. Lake Ave the water pipe and services are in and they are waiting to start concrete work once Xcel completes their gas line work at the end of September. Albany Street water piping work is mainly complete and awaiting sewer work next week. Fredrick Street water line work is beginning this week.*
- *Phase 5B water and sewer project the design is in progress. The bid will occur in winter of early 2025 and construction will occur in 2025 and 2026. This is roughly a \$11 MIL construction project.*
- *Curry Park Campground: We are waiting on the DNR bid spec review so that we can bid out some site furniture improvements this fall for the DNR grant project. The electrical project will begin in two weeks after the campground closes on October 6th. That is expected to take approximately 2 weeks. DPW will be doing some gravel pad improvements and restoration after all of that is done. Also, I am looking at having a contractor do some work on the bathroom building.*
- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: This project is currently out to bid. The project is planned for construction in 2025 with completion in the spring of 2026.*

Managers Updates

- *Fall cleanup day was two weeks ago. Sept 13th, we had 87 people and Saturday Sept 14th we had 66 people.*
- *HKGI is working on the Comp plan and the housing plan. There will be a series of stakeholder meetings October 1-3. Commission and all others are invited to the following workshops:*
- *Tuesday 10/1: Visioning Workshop from 5:30 -7*
- *Wednesday 10/2 Housing / Development Workshop from 5:30 -7*
- *Thursday 10/3 Planning Commission meeting from 5:30 – 7*
- *Social Pinpoint on website and on Facebook is where people can add information about places*

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- to see or renovate, etc.
- The November election is coming soon. The Clerk's office has 560 ballots to send out to people who have requested ballots. AV's will be available to people on Thursday this week. Any residents with voting related questions are encouraged to contact the Clerk's office.
- The City of IW and 4 other local entities have received a \$5000 NGO grant to help offset election costs. Our grant will be used to help offset costs to repair our ADA access doors that have long needed repair.
- Iron Belle Trail fundraiser raffle was a complete success. All 300 tickets were sold which raised \$20,000 plus a \$5,000 match by GRHF plus a couple of small donations for a total raise of \$25,680 raised for trail maintenance. The Trail Authority now has their new shed in place at the Bessemer Trailhead parking lot and will be filling it soon w/ all of our maintenance equipment.
- We are working on a schedule for Fall water main flushing. The City will notify residents ahead of this work.
- I will be at the UP Managers fall conference in Marquette on Thursday evening and Friday this week. Before I leave, Andy Grankskog from USDA Rural Development is planning on visiting us on Thursday morning.
- Next week is already October! That means that Plaidurday will be Friday 10/4/24. Please come out for the annual photo shoot with our friends from Stormy Kromer at 4 PM.
- The next City Commission meeting is 3 weeks away on Monday 10/14/24.

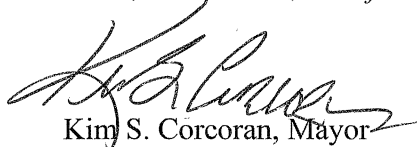
AA. Other Matters.

Mayor Corcoran wished to thank the Public for taking part in the City's annual fall clean-up.

Commissioner Mildren commented on the Ironwood Lumberjacks Hockey Team and encouraged anyone who hasn't gone to a game yet to attend expressing the excitement for Ironwood to have a local Hockey Team.

BB. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 P.M.


Kim S. Corcoran, Mayor


Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk