

### Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on December 9, 2024, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by a Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

1. Mayor Pro Tem Andresen opened the Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M.
  2. Recording of the Roll.  
PRESENT: Commissioners Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Pro Tem Andresen  
ABSENT: Mayor Corcoran (excused)
  3. Public Hearing: To receive public comment relative to the condemnation of a Described Structure Constituting a Public Nuisance at 615 E. Tamarack Street. Dennis Hewitt presented the Commission and public with pictures of 615 E. Tamarack Street citing several reasons why the property needs to be condemned.
  4. Mayor Pro Tem Andresen closed the Public Hearing at 5:29 P.M.
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A. Mayor Pro Tem Andresen called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioners, Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Mayor Pro Tem Andresen

ABSENT: Mayor Corcoran (excused)

***Motion*** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to excuse Mayor Corcoran from the Meeting and Public Hearing.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2024.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2024.

b. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2024.

c. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of September 5, 2024.

d. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2024

e. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2024.

f. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of October 24, 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 Semo, and carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.

December 9, 2024

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.*

G. Introduction of new City of Ironwood staff members Matthew Igl and Bridget Braspenick  
*City Manager, Paul Anderson, and Finance Director/Treasurer, Paul Linn, introduced Matt (absent) and Bridget to the Public and Commissioners, stating Matt will be working as the City's Assistant Finance Director/Treasurer and Bridget is the City's new Human Resources Manager.*

H. Presentation: Certificate of Appreciation to Jeff Sjoquist of Coleman Engineering  
*Jeff Sjoquist made comment giving Thanks to the City and stated the since 2009 with his employment with Coleman, they have done near \$100mil of successful projects with the City.*

I. Presentation: Community Development Director Tom Bergman

(RE: FY 2023-2024 Planning Commission Annual Report)

*Tom Bergman, Community Development Director provided an annual report on the FY 2023-2024 Planning Commission activities. A report summarizing the activities was included with the Agenda packet.*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Consider declaring a public nuisance and order condemnation for the removal of a structure at 615 E. Tamarack Street.

***Motion*** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to declare a public nuisance and order condemnation for the removal of a structure at 615 E. Tamarack Street. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider approving Rural Development Pay Package #17 in the amount of \$586,877.20 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion*** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren to approve Rural Development Pay Package #17 in the amount of \$586,877.20 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase I Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

L. Discuss and consider approving Payment #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$89,017.47 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion*** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #1, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$89,017.47 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and authorize Mayor Pro Tem Andresen to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Discuss and consider the approval of \$20,000 of Additional Services for HDR Michigan, Inc., for the Phase 2 Water Treatment Plant Project and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve of \$20,000 of Additional Services for HDR Michigan, Inc., for the Phase 2 Water Treatment Plant Project and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1 for PK Contracting, which is an increase of \$5,328.88 for the 2024 Pavement Striping Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to approve Change Order #1 for PK Contracting, which is an increase of \$5,328.88 for the 2024 Pavement Striping Project and authorize Mayor Pro Tem Andresen to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider approving Payment #1, for PK Contracting, in the amount of \$43,114.88 for the 2024 Pavement Striping Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Payment #1, for PK Contracting, in the amount of \$43,114.88 for the 2024 Pavement Striping Project and approve authorized signature to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- P. Discuss and consider authorizing the contract and payment of \$113,102.00 for Nasi Construction for the insurance siding repairs to the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to authorize the contract and payment of \$113,102.00 for Nasi Construction for the insurance siding repairs to the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Q. Discuss and consider approving the Gogebic County Land Bank Access and Demolition Agreement for 456 E. Tamarack St, as a condition of the State Land Bank Grant and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Gogebic County Land Bank Access and Demolition Agreement for 456 E. Tamarack St, as a condition of the State Land Bank Grant and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and consider approval of the Norrie Street Border Bridge Agreement and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve of the Norrie Street Border Bridge Agreement and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- S. Discuss and consider approval of the Dupont Road Border Bridge Agreement and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to approve of the Dupont Road Border Bridge

*Agreement and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

**T. Manager's Report.**

*City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following updates:*

*Engineering Updates*

- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. They are doing numerous equipment start-ups this week. We are looking at putting the new plant online on approximately Tuesday, 1/7/24. This will likely be the substantial completion date. Final completion of Phase 1 will be 2 to 3 weeks later.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water plant is underway. We have biweekly meetings w/ the team. Construction of some of the phase 2 interior walls are expected to start in January once Phase 1 is completed.*
- *Phase 5B water and sewer project design is in progress. State permit plans are going out to the State of Michigan any day now. The plan is to submit for sewer and water permits in December and then have a bid package ready by January / February. Construction will occur in 2025 and 2026. This is roughly a \$11 MIL construction project.*
- *The sewer lift station generator project is waiting for the generator to arrive in January and be installed and hooked up at that time.*
- *Historic Ironwood Theatre's Community Spaces grant will be occurring in January / February to install a new stage rigging system. This work is being done by Angelo Luppino Inc. and a subcontractor of theirs who specializes in this type of work. They are having some planning meetings in the weeks to come.*
- *I am working on an update to the GIWA Project Performance Certification Workplan for things that Ironwood is doing to reduce our Inflow and Infiltration within our sanitary sewer system. That update is due to EGLE on 12/31/24.*
- *I will be putting together a list of projects that need to be bid out this winter and get that on an upcoming Commission agenda to get authorization to go out for bids for those projects.*
- *Projects on hold for the winter season:*
  - *Jakes has been working on the \$598,000 TMF grant for about two months. As of today, they are shutting down for the season since our DPW can't keep up with locates due to snow plowing operations. This identifies material types of water services on ~520 unknown water services. So far, they have found 4 galvanized/lead lines out of the first 220 lines; the rest were copper. This is good news for our long-term liability of a number of services that need to be replaced.*
  - *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project with Jakes Excavating is shut down for the winter season. There aren't many more that we can do with winter conditions about to set in.*
  - *Phase 5A water system project is on hold for the season. The remaining work for next year consists of getting grass to grow, raising a couple of hydrants, paving the second lift of asphalt, and other miscellaneous work.*
  - *Curry Park Campground: Next spring, DPW will work on getting grass to grow, and a couple of trees/shrubs need to be installed. Next year DPW will pave some of the spaces that were left by the removal of the bathroom exterior walls.*
  - *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: The project is planned for construction in 2025, with completion in the spring of 2026. The library is working on issuing a Notice of Award*

*and getting the contract signed with Ruotsala Construction. This winter we will work with Ruotsala to come up with some value engineering options.*

### *Managers Updates*

- *HKGI is working on the Comp plan and the housing plan. Another survey is about to be started for different subject area: infrastructure, housing, downtown, goals and strategies, etc. They are drafting the plans. We should be seeing drafts plans in January or February.*
- *Social Pinpoint interactive mapping survey for ideas and problems.*
- *Comprehensive Deer Management Hunt in the City of Ironwood opened Oct. 1. To date, we have 12 people participating, with 12 does and 1 buck harvested. The City Hunt is until the end of the month.*
- *Auditors are wrapping up the audit process. Paul Linn and I will be meeting with them on Wednesday, and we should have a work session at one of the next two meetings.*
- *Staff are working on the Capital Improvement Project process. There are still a few more departments that need to provide input. This is the beginning of our 8-month budgeting process for the new fiscal year beginning Jul. 1, 2025.*
- *Thanks to everyone who participated in the Jack Frost parade this past weekend. Special thanks to DPW for lighting up the equipment and for their commemoration of Neil Corcoran. That was very special and appreciated by Kim and the rest of the Community.*
- *Mt Zion Snowcross Nationals on 12/13-14 and the snowmobile Olympiad.*
- *Reminder for garbage collection: if your garbage or recycling isn't taken, please leave it out on the next business day. Sometimes, there are mechanical issues, and the collectors are not able to finish a route.*
- *We are back into snow plowing season. Please remember to comply with the no overnight parking rules from now until Apr. 1.*
- *Our IPSD has been trying to work with downtown businesses to have them comply with the sidewalk snow removal ordinance. Last Friday, we had to order our contractor to remove snow from a few addresses that hadn't complied yet this year, and we will be sending out an applicable fine. We do not want to have to do this.*
- *The next meeting is on 12/23. Ideally, I would like to cancel this meeting, but there may be some critical items for the water plant project and a few other issues that may need to be moved forward. I will stay in touch on this topic.*

### *U. Other Matters.*

Commissioner Korpi requested to be excused from the December 23, 2024 meeting.

***Motion*** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Korpi from the December 23, 2024 meeting.

*Commissioner Mildren commented on how well the Jack Frost Festival turned out with all the wonderful entries in the parade and public turnout.*

*Commissioner Mildren requested that the Fire & Public Safety Department and Emergency Response groups be recognized at a City Commission Meeting in the near future.*

December 9, 2024

V. Consider going into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(a), personnel evaluation of the DPW Supervisor / Assessor.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to enter closed session at 6:18 P.M. pursuant to MCL 15.268(a), personnel evaluation of the DPW Supervisor / Assessor. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

W. Return to Open Session.

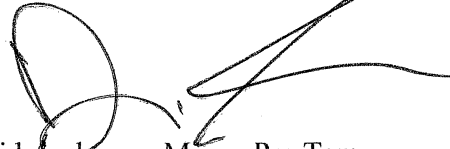
**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to return to open session at 6:52 P.M.

X. Discuss and consider salary adjustment for the DPW Supervisor / Assessor.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, based on a unanimous excellent evaluation for the DPW Supervisor / Assessor, to approve a salary increase of \$1,000.00 per year, effective November 23, 2024, with future cost-of-living adjustments pursuant to the non-union staff, effective July 1, 2025. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

Y. Adjournment.

**Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 P.M.



David Andresen, Mayor Pro Tem



Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk