

## Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on August 25, 2025, 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 Andresen, Korpi, Mildren, Semo, and Corcoran

ABSENT: None

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2025.

b. Closed Session Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2025.

c. Closed Session Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2025.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of July 15, 2025.

b. Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2025.

c. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of May 22, and June 26, 2025.

d. Department of Public Works Updates.

**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 remove New Business Item W., Discuss and consider establishing Downtown Ice Space, and add Unfinished Business Item S., Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to reduce the minimum bid previously set on four pieces of surplus equipment, and New Business Item Y., Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #025-045, Mayor's Proclamation recognizing "Suicide Prevention Week".

E. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.

2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending July 2025, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for July 2025.

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve the Check Register Report for July 2025 as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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

*Lydia Christensen addressed the Commission on Agenda Item Z. Mayor's Appointments.*

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

*There were none.*

I. Presentation: Kathy Linville, Republic Services, Introduction.

*Kathy Linville, Republic Services' new Municipal Sales Manager, introduced herself, discussed recycling and the company's non-profit grant program, and addressed questions from the Commission. The Commission and staff thanked her for attending and for the refuse and recycling services provided by Republic Services.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

J. Discuss and consider approving Payment #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$23,880.44 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$23,880.44 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

K. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #18, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$7,000.00 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve Change Order #18, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$7,000.00 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Discuss and consider approving Payment #19, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$79,319.18 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Payment #19, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$79,319.18 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #5, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$26,111.50 for the Phase 5A Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve Change Order #5, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$26,111.50 for the Phase 5A Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

N. Discuss and consider approving Payment #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$34,424.97 for the Phase 5A Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Payment #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$34,424.97 for the Phase 5A Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider approving Payment #2, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$390,636.69 for the Phase 5B Water and Sewer 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 and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of \$390,636.69 for the Phase 5B Water and Sewer Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- P. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #3 in the amount of \$339,515.45 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 5B Sewer Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #3 in the amount of \$339,515.45 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 5B Sewer Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- Q. Discuss and consider approving Payment #3, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$533,777.72 for the Phase 5C Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, to approve Payment #3, for Jake's Excavating, in the amount of \$533,777.72 for the Phase 5C Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #16, for C.D. Smith, which is a time extension only, for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

**Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, to approve Change Order #16, for C.D. Smith, which is a time extension only, for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- S. Discuss and consider authorizing the Department of Public Works to reduce the minimum bid previously set on four pieces of surplus equipment.

**Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, and carried, to authorize the Department of Public Works to reduce the minimum bid previously set on four pieces of surplus equipment to the following:

#25 1977 F350 - \$2,000.00 min. bid  
12' side delivery plow truck mount - \$100.00 min. bid  
2) 12' side delivery bucket mounted plows - \$100.00 min. bid  
Prentice log grapple - \$100.00 min. bid

## NEW BUSINESS

- T. Discuss and consider authorization to seek bids for 2,000 yards of street sand for maintaining roads during the winter.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to authorize the Department of Public Works to seek bids for 2,000 yards of street sand for maintaining roads during the winter.*

- U. Discuss and consider authorization to seek bids for 1,000 yards of road gravel for alley and street maintenance.

***Motion** was made by Andresen, seconded by Semo, and carried, to authorize the Department of Public Works to seek bids for 1,000 yards of road gravel for alley and street maintenance.*

- V. Discuss and consider declaring a 2018 Dodge Charger, as surplus equipment and authorize the sale with a minimum bid set at \$500.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Andresen, and carried, to authorize the City to declare a 2018 Dodge Charger, as surplus equipment and authorize the sale with a minimum bid set at \$500.*

- W. Discuss and consider approving an agreement with Coleman Engineering Company, not to exceed \$137,183, for Professional Engineering Services regarding the Water Related Infrastructure Project on Old County Road.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Semo, to approve an agreement with Coleman Engineering Company, not to exceed \$137,183, for Professional Engineering Services regarding the Water Related Infrastructure Project on Old County Road. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- X. Discuss and consider granting a timeline extension on the roof drain disconnection requirement for one building, by changing the completion deadline from August 20, 2025, to September 22, 2025.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to grant a timeline extension on the roof drain disconnection requirement for one building, by changing the completion deadline from August 20, 2025, to September 22, 2025.*

- Y. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #025-045, Mayor's Proclamation recognizing "Suicide Prevention Week".

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Korpi, to adopt Resolution #025-045, Mayor's Proclamation recognizing "Suicide Prevention Week" as September 7-13, 2025, in the City of Ironwood. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- Z. Mayor's Appointment.

*Mayor Corcoran selected to hold off on making an appointment at this meeting.*

- AA. Manager's Report.

*City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:*

**Engineering Projects**

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA: No new updates from last meeting. Construction is approximately 33% complete at this point and is scheduled to go through the end of 2026. The project is updating many electrical and mechanical systems within the 40-year-old wastewater plant which treats water for Ironwood, Hurley, and Ironwood Township. Project is currently on schedule.*

- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. We are working on spending the last of the contingency money by completing some well rehab work and asphalt paving of the driveway around the water plant. Asphalt paving work is being pushed into September and well rehab work started today and will go through October.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant continues. The floor is poured for the 250,000-gallon clear well. CD Smith is working on setting forms and rebar and pouring the north and eastern portions of the concrete garage walls. South area along building access road was topsoiled and seeded and mulched last week. CD Smith is also constructing rebar mat's for clearwell walls which will be formed once the garage walls are finished. Phase 2 work will generally be complete by January 2026 and start up commissioning of the treatment process is expected to be complete by spring 2026. The State of MI and the engineering team will be here tomorrow to meet all day to go over the start up and commissioning process of the entire project.*
- *Phase 5A \$1.6MIL water system project. Paving of Frederick Street, Lake Ave and Albany is complete. Paving the second lift of asphalt for Lawrence and Nightingale will occur later this week. All other punch list work is complete.*
- *Phase 5B \$3.8MIL water and sewer project –consists of water and sewer work on Coolidge, Harding, Michigan, Ridge and Arch. Phase 5C \$1.8MIL water project for reconstructing portions of Coolidge, Harding and Lowell St from US2 to Harding.*
- *Jakes plans on having all of Coolidge, Harding and Michigan Ave done this summer/fall. Ridge and Arch will be in 2026. A small section of Ridge just east of Lowell street needed to be done this fall due to the deep sanitary sewer line and needing to get an old undersize main completed.*
  - Coolidge: all water and sewer main and all services are in and they are working on rebuilding the road gravel. Concrete crew is scheduled to arrive this week.*
  - Harding: they are waiting on the gas company to finish the gas work on the 100-block east Harding. Jakes is working on water and sewer services on the 100 W Harding and 100 block of W Michigan.*
  - Lowell: done with water and sewer from US2 to Arch and headed east on Ridge with the deep sewer.*
  - Michigan: they will get back to installing the water and sewer mains east of Lowell Street starting this week.*
- *Xcel Energy and Q3 contracting are doing their best to stay ahead of Jake's crews with replacing gas mains and services prior to Jakes coming in to do the water sewer and street work. There has been extensive coordination between the two companies with Xcel getting pushed around to different parts of the job to stay out of Jake's way.*
- *The \$3MIL lead service line replacement project with Jakes Excavating: their crew has been back and forth between Phase 5 and this job. There is roughly \$800K remaining in budget for this job. They will be working on services on Hedin Street later this week. To date, they have had 162 services that they thought to be lead/galvanized, but they turned out to be copper. We have replaced a total of 282 lead service lines with Copper. We have approximately 120 known galvanized / lead lines to replace still. We have 45 unknowns that need to be identified.*
- *The \$598,000 TMF grant work continues by Jakes Excavating. Roughly \$100K budget remaining on this job. Project currently on hold waiting for equipment from other jobs to perform exploratory digs. We will have all of our unknowns throughout the City identified by the end of this project.*

- *2025 Small Urban Grant Project Update: \$375K grant will be split between these two projects:  
Project 1: Superior street paving should be in the week or two after Labor Day. Curry St mill and overlay is complete as of last Friday.  
Project 2: Chip seal work by Fahrner Asphalt is complete.*
- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: Ruotsala Construction is working on installing the new wall penetration from the new building to the old building. This will cause the closure of the library for the next two weeks or so. Outside they are waiting on the delivery of brick and block to continue progress on exterior work. The construction project will continue through fall 2025 with completion in the spring of 2026.*
- *Newport Heights water future project: Coleman Engineering submitted the EGLE funding application on 5/15/25. The USDA Rural Development application is being worked on; we need a draft engineering agreement, bond counsel agreement letter, SHPO resubmittal process, and then to publish a Notice of Intent. We are waiting on RD to review documents currently before we proceed any further. Signs are that RD has grant money available, so we are anxious to get our application in for consideration.*
- *Phase 6 preliminary engineering report is in the early phases with work just beginning in August 2025.*
- *Our 24 sanitary sewer flow meters are installed, and we are waiting for our vendor to analyze results.*
- *Mud Creek Builders has been hired by the Civic Center to do some drainage improvements and build a covered entry on the east door on the “front” of the Civic Center.*
- *Longyear Park playground equipment installers arrived on site this afternoon and are going to have the install complete in the next couple of days, pending the delivery of the woodchips.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – we need to create a bid package and get that out to bid this fall. I am exploring options for this.*
- *Contractors have been busy with roof drain disconnections for the 15 private property owners that need to be disconnected this fall. 14 have been completed and the remaining 1 are being worked on in the coming weeks.*
- *WRI grant application: we are working through the steps with the State of Michigan Community Development Block Grant for this \$900K project for waterline work on Old County Road east of Country Club Road. We have been authorized to hire a SHPO consultant. Waiting on permission to hire environmental consultant. The state is putting out an RFP for a certified grant administrator. Xcel Energy has agreed to move the gas line that is in the way this fall. Coleman will design this fall and bid project this winter for construction in 2026.*
- *MDOT US2 projects:*
  - *A MDOT Contractor will be working for the next 2 months on repair the WI/MI border bridge on US-2 on the west end of Ironwood. This will also cause additional lane closures and lane shifts as they route traffic through the work area.*
- *Paving by GCRC in the Townships continues Lake Road, North Star Road, Vanderhagen Road, Airport Road and Indianhead Road (Wakefield) yet this fall.*
- *Downtown entrance sign: staff is finalizing the design and will be putting that out to bid soon. Construction expected to be complete by early to mid-summer 2026.*

### ***Manager's Updates***

- *DPW report is in the consent agenda. We are adding this in for further transparency of things that DPW is working on.*

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- *Ironwood Public Safety is actively working on blight efforts. Cleanups from the July and August public hearings have been continuing. DPW will end up doing 4 of the property cleanups, we are hiring a local contractor to cleanup 6 of them, and the property owners have cleaned up the other 10 or so properties themselves. IPSD will work on getting a list sent out to the Commission in the coming days.*
- *The 10-year Comprehensive Plan update is continuing through the process as our staff works with HKGI on reviewing all of the different chapters. Public review process will be occurring this fall.*
- *The Iron Belle Trail local authority is selling raffle tickets right now for their latest fundraiser for maintenance of the Iron Belle Trail. Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased here at the Memorial Building.*
- *All flowerpots, artificial flowers, statues, and vigil lights must be removed from the Riverside Cemetery in Ironwood by Thursday, September 11th.*
- *City of Ironwood offices will be closed on Monday Sept 1 for observation of Labor Day.*
- *Mural Festival is schedule for next week, September 2-6, 2025, with three new murals set to be painted on buildings in the City's Downtown with several First Friday events taking place on Friday, Sept. 5.*

BB. Other Matters.

*Commissioner Semo commented on the impressive array of projects happening within the City of Ironwood. Commissioner Semo requested to be excused from the September 2025 City Commission meetings.*


***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to excuse Commissioner Semo from the September 2025 City Commission Meetings.*

*Commissioner Mildren also spoke of the many other projects happening within the City from Longyear Park, the Library, City streets, gutters, and the Civic Center.*

*Commissioner Andresen reminded the public that School starts tomorrow and urges people to use extra caution with children at bus stops and walking to school, especially in the construction areas.*

CC. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Semo, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 P.M.*

  
Kim Corcoran, Mayor

  
Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk