

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on February 9, 2026, 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 Dean, Frank, Korpi, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran

ABSENT: None

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.

1) Approval of Minutes:

a. Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2026.

b. Civic Center Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2026.

c. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2025.

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 the modification of the purchase price for the new motor grader from McCoy Construction and Forestry from the amount of \$374,500 up to \$384,900.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to approve the modification of the purchase price for the new motor grader from McCoy Construction and Forestry from the amount of \$374,500 up to \$384,900. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

H. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #18, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$10,414.11 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Frank, to approve Change Order #18, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$10,414.11 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and consider approving Payment #14, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$957,485.37 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to approve Payment #14, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$957,485.37 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- J. Discuss and consider adopting the City’s Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to adopt the City’s Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- K. Discuss and consider approval of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Commission Goals.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to adopt the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Commission Goals. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Discuss and consider declaring three High Service Water Pumps as surplus equipment and authorizing the sale of the surplus equipment with a minimum bid of \$500.00 for each pump.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, and carried, to declare three High Service Water Pumps as surplus equipment and authorize the sale of the surplus equipment with a minimum bid of \$500.00 set for each pump.

- M. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #026-002, a Resolution approving an internal Loan between the City’s General Fund and Equipment Fund in the amount of \$315,704.07 for the construction of a new cold storage building for the Department of Public Works.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Frank, to adopt Resolution #026-002, a Resolution approving an internal Loan between the City’s General Fund and Equipment Fund in the amount of \$315,704.07 for the construction of a new cold storage building for the Department of Public Works. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider approval of a services agreement between the City of Ironwood and the Gogebic County Land Bank.

*Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to approve a services agreement between the City of Ironwood and Gogebic County Land Bank. With consent of the Commission, the **motion was withdrawn**, and the matter was **tabled**.*

- O. Mayor’s Appointment.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Simon Batu to fill an unexpired 3-year term on the Planning Commission with the term ending December 31, 2026.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve the Mayor’s appointment Simon Batu to fill an unexpired 3-year term on the Planning Commission with the term ending December 31, 2026.

P. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
 - *Work continues throughout this winter, for controls, painting, electrical and all associated work.*
 - *The million-dollar Chinese sludge dryer was supposed to be here by now, but we believe that it is currently sitting in New York with a part broken on the shipping container that is keeping it from being trucked from there to Ironwood.*
 - *Discussions are continuing regarding project deadline for June 2026 and CD Smith request for extension to Nov 1, 2026. We need to resolve this timeline and any related engineering fees that would result from the time extension. These timelines are a reflection from the time that it took to do value engineering at the beginning of the project to get the project cost down.*
 - *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. We are working on permit from EGLE to convert our chlorine gas to liquid chlorine injection out at the Big Springs well field. The parts are ordered and this needs to be completed by end of March 2026.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant:*
 - *Working in the clear well to clear forming and shoring material – working on slabs in there and detention tank.*
 - *Rough carpentry for roof over garage.*
 - *August Winters – process piping and chemical piping, drain in garage and gas lines to feed garage, plumbing, domestic water in garage.*
 - *Electricians working conduit work in garage.*
 - *Card readers installed yesterday and functional – working through a few things with electrician.*
 - *CD Smith work on mechanical permit approval with August Winters to stop the temp heat.*
 - *Automatic Systems is working on radio antenna change over (working with Bill closely).*
 - *Camera conduits in the next two weeks and cameras will be installed in next couple weeks.*
 - *Working in the old pump house on demo to get ready for flowable fill and concrete. Waiting for the electricity to be finished.*
- *Phase 5B \$3.8MIL and Phase 5C \$1.8MIL water/sewer project:*
 - *2025 work wrapped up for the season and on hold for the winter.*
 - *Punchlist work on this year's work to be performed in summer 2026. Then second lift of paving mid to late summer 2026.*
 - *In the summer of 2026, utility and road work will be performed on all of Ridge Street and the westerly portion of Arch Street between Hemlock and Lowell Street. All Phase 5 work has a funding deadline for Final Completion of September 1, 2026.*
- *The \$3MIL Lead Service Line Replacement project with Jakes Excavating: On hold for the winter. There is roughly \$600K remaining in budget for this job. Once the asphalt plant opens again in May, Jakes plans on installing lead service line repairs in the downtown area of Ironwood. This will have a temporary impact on traffic flow around the businesses. We are pricing out the installation of two or three valves for the downtown water system while Jakes has detour setup. We plan to run this as a Change Order under this project.*

- *The \$598,000 TMF grant with Jakes Excavating is also on hold for the winter. Roughly \$100K budget remains on this job. On hold for the winter.*
- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: Ruotsala Construction has completed the block and brick work. They are now working on final punch list items including soffits and facia, caulking, site cleanup and a few minor issues inside the building addition. Some minor restoration may remain in the spring.*
- *Newport Heights water future project: Waiting on USDA Rural Development to finalize our application now that the government is back open. Also have an EGLE funding application in for the next fiscal year.*
- *Phase 6 preliminary engineering report from Coleman Engineering is completed in draft form and we are working on the final steps to submit the application.*
- *Our 24 sanitary sewer flow meters On hold for the winter.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – The bid specifications are now out to bid with bids due on 2/27/26.*
- *Downtown entrance sign at BR2/US2: sign is now installed with electrical hooked up as of a week ago.*
- *Old County Road Waterline: we are working through the steps with the State of Michigan Community Development Block WRI Grant for this \$900K project for waterline work on Old County Road east of Country Club Road.*
 - *We are out to bid with bids due on 3/12/26.*
 - *We are also bidding out a waterline on Rock Road (just south of Aurora Club) as a bid alternate in case contingency funds are available for this project.*
- *Community Development is in the process of rehabbing up to 7 properties with the current MSHDA Round 1 Mi Neighborhood grant. Environmental Reviews have been completed for most of the properties and Income verifications are being wrapped up on those. 4 of the projects are anticipated to go out for bid in the next few weeks.*
- *The application for Round 3 of MSHDA Mi Neighborhood funding has been applied for. This application was for \$200,000 to rehabilitate 8 houses up to \$25,000 per property. The grant agreement is anticipated for April 2026.*
- *Status of project bids:*
 - *Road striping bid due on 2/27.*
 - *Road crack sealing (on hold until snow melts in early spring).*
 - *Cemetery mowing bid due on 2/24.*
 - *Parks mowing bid due on 2/24.*
 - *Getting prices on Memorial Building door lock security system.*
 - *Getting prices on floor finishing recoat for the gym and the auditorium.*

General Information

- *The City's Recodification of all City Codes Project is still in process. A Work Session will occur in February once the updated draft Code is available for review. This is about a 2-year project to bring all the City's existing Codes to be current.*
- *The 10-year Comprehensive Plan is out for public comments.*
- *Big Brothers/Big Sisters is holding a fundraiser at the Big Shots bowling alley on 2/28/26 at noon.*
- *With the warm weather today, we are sending our graders out tonight for the Norrie and Jessieville locations to peel off the softened mat.*

Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Frank expressed concern that it is hard to see highway traffic when attempting to turn off Douglas Boulevard.

R. Consider going into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(d); purchase of real property up to the time an option to purchase of that property is obtained.

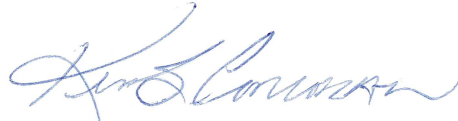
***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to enter closed session at 6:01 P.M. pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(d); purchase of real property up to the time an option to purchase of that property is obtained. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

S. Return to Open Session.

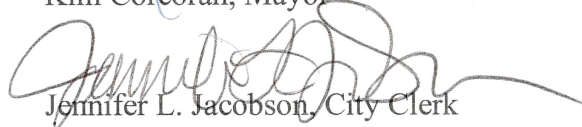
***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to return to open session at 6:16 P.M.*

T. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 P.M.*



Kim Corcoran, Mayor



Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk