

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on January 26, 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 12, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025.

b. Ironwood Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2025.

c. Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of December 3, 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. Review and Place on File:

1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.

2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

***Motion** was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, and carried, to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending December 31, 2025, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for December 2025.*

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Check Register Report for December 2025 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).

Curt Martell requested that the City widen the intersections and streets by Oak and Shamrock and consider cutting the banks down.

I. Presentation: Certificate of Appreciation to Andrew DiGiorgio.

City Manager Paul Anderson wished to publicly thank Andrew DiGiorgio, Ironwood Public Safety Director, for his twenty years of dedicated service to the Public Safety Department, the City of Ironwood, and the Residents. An appreciation plaque from the City Commissioners was read and will be presented to Andrew.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Discuss and consider placing on file the City Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. (**CITY AUDIT REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025, IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ON THE CITY WEBSITE <https://ironwoodmi.gov/government/documents/> **).

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to receive and place on file the City Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Discuss and consider authorizing the distribution of the draft 2025 City of Ironwood Comprehensive Plan.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, and carried, to authorize the distribution of the draft 2025 City of Ironwood Comprehensive Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Discuss and consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Professional Police Association regarding the Public Safety Officer Recruit position.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Ironwood and the Ironwood Professional Police Association regarding the Public Safety Officer Recruit position. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Discuss and consider approving the sale of Director Andrew DiGiorgio's service weapons to him for the sum of \$1.00 so they may be presented to him upon his upcoming retirement.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, and carried, to approve the sale of Director Andrew DiGiorgio's service weapons to him for the sum of \$1.00 so they may be presented to him upon his upcoming retirement.

N. Discuss and consider the purchase of a new motor grader from McCoy Construction and Forestry for an amount up to \$374,500.

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

O. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #26, in the amount of \$49,739.48 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Dean, to approve approving the Rural Development Pay Package #26, in the amount of \$49,739.48 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase 1 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

P. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
 - a. *Work continues throughout this winter, for controls, painting, electrical and all associated work.*
 - b. *The million-dollar Chinese sludge dryer is coming in about three weeks. Last week it passed through the Panama Canal in route to New York. From NY, it will travel by train and truck to get to Ironwood. This is the biggest hangup on the whole project.*
 - c. *Care continuing regarding project deadline of 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.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. We are working on approval from EGLE for the design of converting our chlorine gas to liquid chlorine out at the Big Springs well field.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant*
 - a. *Working on garage door, electrical issues.*
 - b. *Completed with clear well structural slabs, working on demo of shoring and bracing under slabs.*
 - c. *Painting of the process piping and detention tank.*
 - d. *Piping in the pipe gallery and air lines.*
 - e. *Completed rubbing of interior walls in garage, finish filter bays and ready for process installation.*
 - f. *Working on exterior service doors for garage in the next couple of days.*
 - g. *Electricians working on permitted power and lighting and receptacles and working on stuff in garage.*
 - h. *HVAC on site and install radiant heater in garage and make up air unit.*
 - i. *Install duck work three weeks out on that.*
 - j. *Painters working on initial coat on backwash pump.*
 - k. *Ongoing work for controls, Automated Systems working on PLC and will be back on Feb 2 for antenna swap out and working with Bill.*
- *Phase 5B \$3.8MIL and Phase 5C \$1.8MIL water / sewer project*
 - a. *2025 work wrapped up for the season and on hold for the winter.*
 - b. *Punchlist work on this year's work to be performed in summer 2026. Second lift of paving to take place mid to late summer 2026.*
 - c. *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.*
- *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 fascia, 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 have been taken out for the season, and we are currently analyzing results from our vendor to plan for reinstallation this spring. They will likely be installed again in March or April.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – The bid specifications are now out to bid with bids due on 2/27/26.*
- *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.*
 - a. *The State is under final review of all contract documents, and we expect to be cleared for bidding in the coming days.*
 - b. *We plan to bid the project in late January/early February for construction in summer 2026.*
 - c. *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.*
- *Downtown entrance sign at Gogebic Range Bank: Stratford Sign Company plans to install the sign and associated planter base after the deep freeze clears. More details in coming days/weeks.*
- *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. Four 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 submitted. This application was for \$200,000 to rehabilitate 8 houses up to \$25,000 per property. The grant agreement is anticipated for April 2026.*
- *City of Ironwood Staff are working on Bidding Documents for:*
 - a. *Road striping work.*
 - b. *Road crack sealing (on hold until snow melts in early spring).*
 - c. *Cemetery mowing.*
 - d. *Parks mowing.*

- e. Getting prices on Memorial Building door lock security system.
- f. 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 current.
- The 10-year Comprehensive Plan continues as discussed earlier in the meeting.
- Staff are working on the annual newsletter that will go out with the assessment notices in the next couple of weeks.
- Curry Park Campground Reservations opened for the 2026 Camping Season in early January. 59 reservations have been made to date for this season.
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters is holding a fundraiser at the Big Shots bowling alley on 2/28/26 at noon.
- Blight cleanup at 209 Ridge Street is scheduled to happen tomorrow 1/27/26 with DPW and IPSD.
- We are in the middle of our typical two-week spell of below zero temperatures. We hope it doesn't last any longer than it needs to! The water department has reached out to customers with shallow water lines to have them run water. We recommend they continue running water until the water department notifies them that it is safe to stop. We are fortunate to not have nearly as many water breaks now given all the work that has been done on our system. We still have had a few leaks, and we thank the water department for their service for working in the harsh conditions.
- Our sympathies go out to those recently affected by the fires in Wakefield and Montreal, especially Ross Peterson who has done a lot of work for the City of Ironwood over the years.

Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren spoke of the TV6 Discovering episode that recently featured Miner's Park, which was a positive highlight for Ironwood.

Commissioner Frank thanked the City for staying on top of the Ridge Street blight and commented on the complaint of snow being plow into the roadway being investigated.

Mayor Corcoran thanked staff and the Commission for their input on goals and shared that she received positive feedback for Ironwood's assistance at the Wakefield fire.

R. Adjournment

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 P.M.



Kim Corcoran
Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobsen
Jennifer L. Jacobsen, City Clerk