

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on March 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 February 23, 2026.

b. Closed Session City Commission Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2026.

b. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026.

3) Approve Sale of:

a. Ironwood American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #5 – Poppy Sales Fundraiser on the days of May 14 and 15, 2026.

b. Ironwood American Legion, Unit #5 – Flag Day Sale Fundraiser on June 12, 2026.

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 amend the agenda to add New Business, item S., Discuss and consider approval of the Purchase Agreement to acquire the west 165 feet of Block 18 Village of Jessieville for \$37,290 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

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 awarding the 2026 Parks Mowing bid, in the amount of \$5,685.00, to Superior Lawn Care, LLC.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to award the 2026 Parks Mowing bid, in the amount of \$5,685.00, to Superior Lawn Care, LLC. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- H. Discuss and consider awarding the 2026 Cemetery Mowing bid, in the amount of \$8,700.00 per cut, to Bessemer Small Engine.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to award the 2026 Cemetery Mowing bid, in the amount of \$8,700.00 per cut, to Bessemer Small Engine. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and consider awarding the 2026 Pavement Marking bid, in the amount of \$47,514.75, to P.K. Contracting, Inc.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to award the 2026 Pavement Marking bid, in the amount of \$47,514.75, to P.K. Contracting, Inc. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- J. Discuss and consider authorizing the Mayor to execute Engineering Amendment Number 5 for Phase 1 Water Treatment Plant transferring \$1,950.73 to contingency and extend the contract completion date from August 31, 2025, to March 31, 2026.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to authorize the Mayor to execute Engineering Amendment Number 5 for Phase 1 Water Treatment Plant transferring \$1,950.73 to contingency and extend the contract completion date from August 31, 2025, to March 31, 2026. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- K. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #13, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$19,425.18 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Change Order #13, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$19,425.18 for the Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- L. Discuss and consider approving the Rural Development Pay Package #8, in the amount of \$22,991.75 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 5B Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve the Rural Development Pay Package #8, in the amount of \$22,991.75 for the City of Ironwood – Phase 5B Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- M. Discuss and consider rejecting the current bid and authorize staff to go back out to bid the Ice Refrigeration Replacement project at the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to reject the current bid and authorize staff to go back out to bid the Ice Refrigeration Replacement project at the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- N. Discuss and consider approving an Early Voting Agreement with Gogebic County and authorize the City Clerk to sign the Agreement and serve as the County Clerk's designated back up Early Voting Coordinator.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Frank, to approve an Early Voting Agreement with Gogebic County and authorize the City Clerk to sign the Agreement and serve as the County Clerk's designated back up Early Voting Coordinator. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider authorizing Staff to submit applications for Congressional Discretionary Spending grants.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to authorize Staff to submit applications for Congressional Discretionary Spending grants.

- P. Discuss and consider authorizing Staff to seek bids for the 2026 Asphalt patching and paving project.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, and carried, to authorize Staff to seek bids for the 2026 Asphalt patching and paving project.

- Q. Discuss and consider authorizing the DPW to purchase 700 tons of early salt and 200 tons of back-up salt for the 2026-2027 winter season as part of the MiDeal Road Salt Agreement with the State of Michigan Department of Transportation.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to authorize the DPW to purchase 700 tons of early salt and 200 tons of back-up salt for the 2026-2027 winter season as part of the MiDeal Road Salt Agreement with the State of Michigan Department of Transportation. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- R. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #026-004, a Resolution related to Solicitation of Funds and Donations received.

It was the consensus of the Commission to table any action on Resolution #026-004.

- S. Discuss and consider approval of the Purchase Agreement to acquire the west 165 feet of Block 18 Village of Jessieville for \$37,290 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to approve of the Purchase Agreement to acquire the west 165 feet of Block 18 Village of Jessieville for \$37,290 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

T. *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 has arrived from China and is now onsite in Ironwood. The Contractor and Engineer will be inspecting it prior to assembly in the coming weeks.*
 - *At the February meeting, the GIWA Board approved the time extension request by the Contractor to bring the project deadline from June 2026 to November 1, 2026, Substantial Completion and December 31, 2026, for Final Completion.*
- *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project continues with CD Smith Construction. Next week the conversion will occur from chlorine gas to liquid chlorine injection out at the Big Springs well field. This is the last item to be paid for under Phase 1 funding.*
 - *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant:*
 - *Painting valves*

- Well water intake is painted.
- Working on painting in clear well overflow pipes and valves.
- Snow Country on Monday installing floor valves in exterior of clear well.
- Electricians are working on misc. items in garage, exterior lighting, running conduits and preparing for door entry access and cameras.
- Plumbers working on gas pipe and domestic water pipe inside building and installation.
- Ductile pipe in clear well and pipe gallery piping.
- HVAC work and install exhausted vent in mezzanine.
- Heater and make up air unit in the garage is hooked up and started.
- Set pipe support stands in the clear well.
- August Winters is working on air piping and piping to the back wash pump, chemical pumps and systems in the next couple of weeks.
- HDR engineers are on site today and tomorrow.
- CD Smith is working on sealing leaks in north wall detention concrete tanks. This has been made to be a difficult task due to the block being put on the building in Phase 1 prior to the rest of the tank being constructed in Phase 2 where it could then be water tested.
- 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.
- The \$598,000 TMF grant with Jakes Excavating is also on hold for the winter. Roughly \$100K budget remains on this job. Might start up in coming days.
- Library Community Spaces Grant Project: Ruotsala Construction has completed the block and brick work. They now have almost all the punch list work done which just leaves them with some brick repairs and minor restoration in the spring.
- Newport Heights water future project: Waiting on USDA Rural Development to finalize our application. Also have an EGLE funding application in for the next fiscal year.
- Phase 6 preliminary engineering report from Coleman Engineering is completed and Coleman is addressing USDA comments.
- GIS Updates:
 - Cemetery GIS site is drafted, and staff is working through things with Colligo staff.
 - Streetlights: we recently created a GIS layer with all our streetlights to confirm that our billing with Xcel is up to date and accurate. Jeremy from DPW took a week to go around town and confirm each pole location.
- Our 24 sanitary sewer flow meters will be deployed soon. We are actively working on mapping out our plan.
- Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – discussed earlier in meeting; we will be rebidding.
- Old County Road Waterline: 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.
 - Decision will need to be made after bid time on how much work we do that is past the grant budget, if any. This will be on a future Commission meeting agenda.
- FY 27 Small Urban MDOT Funding for Douglas Boulevard Sidewalks: Coleman Engineering is

currently working on coordinating the environmental review process. The hope is to have this out to bid this late fall 2026 for construction in 2027.

- Community Development is in the process of rehabbing up to 7 properties with the current MSHDA Round 1 Mi Neighborhood grant. 4 of the projects accepting bids/proposals.
- 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.
- The gym and the auditorium floors were recently refinished by a local contractor and the gym lights were replaced with a LED system so our power usage will be down significantly with that change. We have Efficiency United looking into getting us an incentive rebate for this investment into lowering our power usage. We are getting TON of positive feedback from our users of the gym.
- \$50,000 Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Center grant for smoke testing: grant agreement has been signed and project is on hold until summer conditions arrive at which time Coleman Engineering will perform the smoke testing of our sanitary sewer system.
- Industrial Park study: Coleman Engineering and a wetland consultant will be performing a study on the City's 70 acre property that is at the corner of Old County Road and South Davis Road. That work is under contract and on hold until summer conditions arrive. This work is being paid for by a \$47,500 Invest UP site readiness grant.
- Status of project bids:
 - Road crack sealing (on hold until snow melts off roads)
 - Civic Center Ice System rebid due on 3/17.
 - WRI water line project bid due on 3/12.

General Information

- The City's Recodification of all City Codes Project is still in process. We provided our comments to the consultant, and they are working on finalizing the document.
- The 10-year Comprehensive Plan is out for public comments.
- Board of Review met last week and heard 23 cases. They are working through the paperwork process for each of those cases.
- I will not be in attendance for the 3/23/26 City Commission meeting but will aim to have a manager's report prepared on Friday 3/20/26 for the meeting.

U. Other Matters.

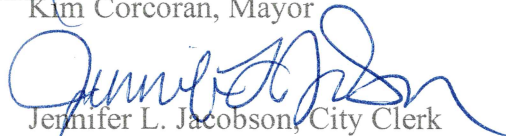
Commissioner Frank discussed the blighted property at 209 W. Ridge Street, asking if there is any way to force garbage collection at the property? City Manager Paul Anderson did indicate that he and Utility Manager Devon DeRosso are looking into establishing a garbage account for the property.

V. Adjournment.

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



Kim Corcoran, Mayor



Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk