

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on March 23, 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 March 9, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

- a. Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2026.
- b. Ironwood Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2026.
- c. Ironwood Carnegie Library Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026.
- d. Ironwood Carnegie Library Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026.
- e. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2025.
- f. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2025.
- g. Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of December 11, 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 Korpi, seconded by Mildren, 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 February 28, 2026, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for February 2026.

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Check Register Report for February 2026 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).
There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- I. Discuss and consider issuing a Notice of Award to Ruotsala Construction for the Old County Road Water Main Replacement project in the amount of \$540,431.00, contingent upon MEDC funding and execution of an agreement between MEDC and City of Ironwood.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Frank, to approve issuing a Notice of Award to Ruotsala Construction for the Old County Road Water Main Replacement project in the amount of \$540,431.00, contingent upon MEDC funding and execution of an agreement between MEDC and City of Ironwood. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- J. Discuss and consider awarding the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Ice Refrigeration Replacement Project bid to Rink-Tec International, Inc., in the amount of \$675,430.00, contingent upon Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) approval.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to award the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Ice Refrigeration Replacement Project bid to Rink-Tec International, Inc., in the amount of \$675,430.00, contingent upon Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) approval. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- K. Discuss and consider approving Payment #26, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$10,414.11 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 Payment #26, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$10,414.11 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.

- L. Discuss and consider approving Rural Development Pay Package #27, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$ 10,414.11 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 Mildren, to approve Rural Development Pay Package #27, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$ 10,414.11 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.

NEW BUSINESS

- M. Discuss and consider approval of a \$9,400 funding request to the Gogebic County Council of Veteran Affairs.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve a \$9,400 funding request to the Gogebic County Council of Veteran Affairs. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider approving Resolution #026-005, a Resolution to decertify sections of eight local streets and one major street from the City's Michigan Department of Transportation Act 51 Mileage Certification Map.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to approve Resolution #026-005, a Resolution to decertify sections of eight local streets and one major street from the City's Michigan Department of Transportation Act 51 Mileage Certification Map. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

O. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following written updates:

Engineering Projects

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
 - *Same report as 2 weeks ago: 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.*
 - *\$11MIL Phase 1 of the water plant project is now complete and final closeout paperwork being done. Some warranty issues are still being addressed by the Contractor.*
 - *\$11MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant*
 - *Work continues as per construction schedule.*
 - *Leaks in north wall detention concrete tanks: contractor believes they have the leaks fixed and will be filling it up the week of 3/23/26.*
 - *Setting and grouting the gravity filters and underdrains in the filter base*
 - *75 % done*
 - *Set by end of this week and grouting through next Monday (sit until bubble test)*
 - *Outside on garage framing – continue pending weather*
 - *Fill clearwell on east side and start water test early part of next week*
 - *Electricians holding patten – attic space for garage is next*
 - *Parts for backwash pump and air blower*
 - *Snow County install valves on north side of new clear well*
 - *Installed ladders and access hatches on clearwell*
 - *August working on pipe gallery and ductile*
 - *Install air header pipe*
 - *March 30th start the backwash piping*
 - *Then painting on ductile*
- *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 last 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 \$400K 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: may start up once roads are melted off and weather is consistently above freezing. Roughly \$100K budget remains on this job.*
- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: Ruotsala Construction now has almost all the punch list work done which just leaves them with some brick repairs and minor restoration in the spring. They are in the middle of installing hand railings right now.*
- *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 once temperatures are above freezing. We are actively working on mapping out our plan.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – discussed earlier in meeting; contract is being executed.*
- *Old County Road Waterline: bids came in very favorably. Agenda item earlier this meeting suggested award to Ruotsala. Work to start after road restrictions are off.*
- *FY 27 Small Urban MDOT Funding for Douglas Boulevard Sidewalks: Coleman Engineering is currently working on coordinating the environmental review process and is starting into design. Lighting will not be part of this project. That can be added in future project and bored under the sidewalks. The goal 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.*
- *\$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 condition arrive. This work is being paid for by a \$47,500 Invest UP site readiness grant.*
- *Newport School property acquisition: closing documents have been emailed to the owner. Once everything is received, we will be wiring him the purchase amount (less taxes and agreed upon fees). We expect to have this completed over the next two weeks or so.*
- *Projects that still need to be bid out this spring:*
 - *Road crack sealing (on hold until snow melts off roads)*
 - *Asphalt Patching*
 - *Asphalt parking area at Civic Center*
 - *Tub grinding of wood chips at Compost Site*
 - *Clean and inspect Mt Zion tank*

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.*
- *Update to the City's Employee Policy and Procedure Manual is in progress.*
- *City administrative staff wage study is still in progress. Wage surveys to other communities were due back on 3/20/26 but will likely require more time for the consultant to track them down as many are still not returned.*
- *Spring City Cleanup "dump day" will be May 1&2 at IPSD.*
- *Spring water main flushing will be May 11th - 15th.*

March 23, 2026

- **Mayor Corcoran noted two reminders:**

- *Spring Clean Up will be held on Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd at the Ironwood Public Safety Department parking lot.*
- *Water Main Flushing tentatively set to happen between the dates of May 11th and May 15th.*

P. Other Matters.

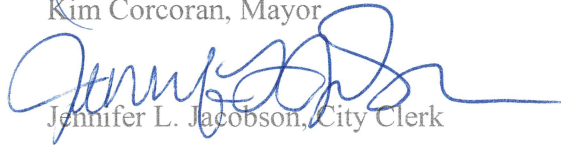
There were none.

Q. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 P.M.



Kim Corcoran, Mayor



Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk