

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on May 11, 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 April 27, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of March 17, 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 approve the agenda as presented.

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

Amy Nosal, spoke in favor of Agenda Item O.

Carol Erickson, HREC President, spoke in favor of Agenda Item O.

Cathy Floury, spoke in favor of Agenda Item O.

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 approving Change Order #23, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$109,190.64 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve Change Order #23, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$109,190.64 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

H. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #14, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$25,023.56 for the Water Treatment Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve Change Order #14, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$25,023.56 for the Water Treatment Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and consider approving Payment #18, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$376,577.11 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 Frank, to approve Payment #18, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$376,577.11 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 increasing the reimbursement amount for the City's Downtown Façade Improvement Program from \$3,000 or 25% (whichever is less) to \$5,000 or 50% (whichever is less) and adding roofs as an Eligible Activity.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to increasing the reimbursement amount for the City's Downtown Façade Improvement Program from \$3,000 or 25% (whichever is less) to \$5,000 or 50% (whichever is less) and adding roofs as an Eligible Activity. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- K. Discuss and consider approving the Zoning Ordinance Revision Scope of Work, contracting with HKGI, and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve the Zoning Ordinance Revision Scope of Work, contracting with HKGI, and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

- L. Discuss and consider authorizing City Staff to apply for technical support dollars to help fund the Zoning Ordinance Revision through the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to authorize City Staff to apply for technical support dollars to help fund the Zoning Ordinance Revision through the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program.

- M. Discuss and consider approving the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority Liability and Property Pool annual Insurance Coverage Proposal for \$211,973 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority Liability and Property Pool annual Insurance Coverage Proposal for \$211,973 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- N. Discuss and consider approving the Customer Agreement for BS&A Cloud Upgrade software and services and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to approve the Customer Agreement for BS&A Cloud Upgrade software and services and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- O. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #026-009, a Proclamation declaring June 2026 as Pride Diversity & Inclusivity Celebration Month in the City of Ironwood.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to adopting Resolution #026-009, a Proclamation declaring June 2026 as Pride Diversity & Inclusivity Celebration Month in the City of Ironwood.*

Yes (4): Commissioners Mildren, Dean, Korpi, and Mayor Corcoran.

No (1): Commissioner Frank.

***Motion** carried on a 4 to 1 roll call vote.*

Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Sam Davey and appointed Rick Semo to fill two 3-year terms on the Parks and Recreation Committee with their Terms ending July 1, 2028.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve the Mayor's reappointment Sam Davey and appointment Rick Semo to fill two 3-year terms on the Parks and Recreation Committee with their Terms ending July 1, 2028.*

P. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
 - *Oxidation ditch slide gates being installed.*
 - *Started up the polymer pumping system today.*
 - *Working on MCC change overs and wiring in building 40.*
 - *Working on prep for primary clarifier #1 now, including crane work*
 - *Insulating and painting piping in buildings 10, 35, 25*
 - *Prep'ing oxidation ditch exterior and interior walls.*
 - *Misc pump and equipment installs all around the site.*
 - *Million-dollar dryer system to be installed over next 3 months.*
- *MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant*
 - *Snow Country working done with digging infiltration basin.*
 - *Piping is connected to the Clearwell. Detention tank piping is complete.*
 - *16" overflow lines are being installed this week.*
 - *Topsoil seed and mulch still to be completed.*
 - *Garage is essentially complete except for apron slab and stoops outside.*
 - *Installing aluminum stairs on east side still in progress.*
 - *Chemical feed pumps are complete except for chlorine pump.*
 - *Electricians are working on runs to pipe gallery and chemical pump VFDs and connections in the mezzanine.*
 - *Filter media install will begin to be installed in the coming days.*
 - *Still on schedule for startup to occur mid-June.*
- *Phase 5B \$3.8MIL and Phase 5C \$1.8MIL water / sewer project*
 - *Right now they are raising manholes rims to final asphalt elevation so they can be ready for televising which will verify that the sewers are acceptable.*

- *Revegetation work will be starting in the coming weeks once topsoil stockpiles dry out a little bit more.*
- *Punchlist work on last year's work to be started in coming weeks. Mainly consists of some curb and sidewalk replacement and a couple of settlement areas to be fixed. Then second lift of paving mid to late summer 2026.*
- *Water done on Ridge from Hemlock to Lowell. Starting on sewer main in the same section today and plan on being done tomorrow. Then they will be working on service lines in the same section. After that block is done, they will need to shut Douglas (BR2) and Ridge Street intersection and set up a detour for that for 1 to 2 weeks.*
- *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: There is roughly \$200K remaining in budget for this job. We are working through the final list of addresses to see which ones can be done. In the next couple of weeks, Jakes will be installing the remaining lead service line repairs and some main water line valves in the downtown area of Ironwood. This will create a temporary detour of BR2 around the work but only a half a block will be fully closed at a time.*
- *The \$598,000 TMF grant with Jakes Excavating is complete for now. Jakes did a few dozen this spring already. We still have funds left if we need to use the funds to identify materials in the coming months.*
- *Library Community Spaces Grant Project: Ruotsala Construction is finalizing the last couple of punchlist issues and library will be closing out the project in the coming weeks.*
- *Newport Heights water future project: We turned down the loan only funding option in April 2026 and will be discussing things with USDA RD on what it will take to become grant eligible for this project.*
- *Phase 6 preliminary engineering report from Coleman Engineering is completed and we should soon be hearing from USDA RD about grant vs loan eligibility status, similar to Newport Heights.*
- *GIS Updates: Cemetery GIS site is up and running. Colligo staff modified their site interface to make things more user friendly and it turned out really wonderful!*
- *Most of the 29 sanitary sewer flow meters have been deployed with the remaining few to be installed yet this week once additional batteries come in.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – the demo of the old system has started. City staff has submitted drawings for the parking lot improvements.*
- *Old County Road and Rock Road Waterlines: Ruotsala work to start Mid-June. Ruotsala is working on paperwork before work can begin.*
- *FY 27 Small Urban MDOT Funding for Douglas Boulevard Sidewalks: Coleman Engineering is currently working on design of the project. The goal is to have this out to bid late fall 2026 for 2027 construction.*
- *Community Development is in the process of rehabbing up to 7 properties with the current MSHDA Round 1 Mi Neighborhood grant. 3 properties have signed contracts and 1 is awaiting signature from the contractor. One more property is going through environmental review and income verification. Work is continuing to secure the other properties.*
- *The application for Round 3 of MSHDA Mi Neighborhood is in and we are awaiting the results.*
- *\$50,000 Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Center grant for smoke testing: grant agreement has been signed, and project is on hold until June 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 for the summer vegetation growing season. This work is being paid for by a \$47,500 Invest UP site readiness grant.*
- *Projects that still need to be bid out this spring:*
 - *Road crack sealing (bids due May 20th)*
 - *Asphalt Improvements (bid due May 20th)*
 - *Asphalt parking area at Civic Center (out for DNR review)*
 - *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.*
- *Update to the City's Employee Policy and Procedure Manual is in progress.*
- *City administrative staff wage study is still in progress. Wage surveys from the other communities are in now and the consultant is compiling their results and final report.*
- *Spring City Cleanup/"dump day" was two weeks ago on May 1&2 at IPSD. We had more people participate than did so in the past number of years. We had 80 vehicles each day for a total of 160 loads of trash dumped off.*
- *Spring water main flushing is happening this week. If you encounter, dirty water, please coordinate with the water department to flush your house water system.*
- *A public informational meeting will be coming up next week on Wednesday May 20th at 5:30 PM in the Memorial Building Auditorium regarding our new water treatment plant coming online in mid-June. We will have engineers and health experts in attendance to discuss the water treatment process and the new addition to adding fluoride into the water.*
- *Opening of the Curry Park Campground will be May 20th. DPW is working to get everything prepared prior to that date. The Clerk's office currently has about 194 reservations for this upcoming season. Chris and Kathy will be returning as our hosts this summer.*
- *Our DPW staff continues to open up the parks. They plan to still need to open up the splash pad and Norrie Park which will happen this week. The Cemetery is now open with burials that began occurring last Friday.*
- *DPW will continue patching potholes, cleaning up plow damage sod repairs and cleaning streets and catch basins.*
- *IPSD is performing their spring blight inspections by starting to notify property owner of blight issues.*
- *The 2026 Downtown Ironwood Mural Festival has big decisions to make. DIDA received 27 artist applications and is meeting later this week to narrow it down to 5 artists. After that, the building owners will have the opportunity to apply for their buildings to be painted.*

Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented that, with the rising cost of everything, it is wonderful that Ironwood continues to offer so many recreational opportunities for families at little to no cost, including trails, the Splash Pad, First Friday events, and community entertainment opportunities.

Mayor Corcoran thanked everyone who helped with the clean-up effort and expressed special appreciation to the Ironwood Public Safety Department for helping spread the word about the event. She also thanked City staff for their work on the Riverside Cemetery GIS Project, noting that it is an

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amazing public resource, and shared gratitude to Lynne Wiercinski for her hard work at the Library and preparing the new space for the upcoming Grand Opening.

R. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 P.M.



Kim Corcoran, Mayor



Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk

