Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on May 26, 2026, at 5:30 P.M., preceded by a Public Hearing at 5:20 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

1. Mayor Corcoran opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 P.M. *(The work session prior to the public hearing ran long)*

2. Recording of the Roll.
   PRESENT: Commissioners Dean, Frank, Korpi, Mildren, and Mayor Corcoran
   ABSENT: None

3. Public Hearing: To receive public comment on the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget.
Paul Linn, Finance Director/Treasurer, presented the proposed Budget and provided a high-level overview of the Budget documents. Paul informed the public that the proposed 2026-2027 FY Budget and Fee Schedule are both available on the City's website for public review prior to being formally presented to the City Commission at their June 8, 2026, City Commission meeting for their consideration and action. No comments from the Public were received.

4. Mayor Corcoran closed the Public Hearing at 5:35 P.M.

A. Mayor Corcoran called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:35 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 May 11, 2026.

   2) Review and Place on File:
      a. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2026.
      b. Department of Public Works Updates.

***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 authorizing the City to seek bids for the 2026 Water Tank Cleaning and Inspection Project.*

E. Review and Place on File:
   1. Revenue & Expenditure Report.
   2. Cash and Investment Summary Report.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to receive and place on file the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures Report for the month ending April 30, 2026, and the Cash and Investment Summary Report for April 2026.*

F. Approval of Monthly Check Register Report.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to approve the Check Register Report for April 2026 as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

G. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).
Carol Erickson, President of HREC, spoke in support of Agenda item T., Mayor's Appointment, specifically expressing her support of appointing Carly Rusch, to the HREC.

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 awarding the 2026 Asphalt Patching, in the amount of $148,236.54, to Angelo Luppino, Inc.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to award the 2026 Asphalt Patching, in the amount of $148,236.54, to Angelo Luppino, Inc. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

J. Discuss and consider awarding the 2026 Bituminous Crack Sealing bid, in the amount of $79,107.89, to Fahrner Asphalt.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to award the 2026 Bituminous Crack Sealing bid, in the amount of $79,107.89, to Fahrner Asphalt. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

K. Discuss and consider approving Payment #25, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of $107,693.14 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve Payment #25, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of $107,693.14 for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

L. Discuss and consider approving Payment #10, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of $27,170.00 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve Payment #10, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., in the amount of $27,170.00 for the TMF Water Service Exploration Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

M. Discuss and consider approving Payment #2, for Rink-Tec International Inc., in the amount of $65,307.75 for the City of Ironwood – Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Ice Refrigeration System Project and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to approve Payment #2, for Rink-Tec International Inc., in the amount of $65,307.75 for the City of Ironwood – Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Ice*

Refrigeration System Project and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

N. Discuss and acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance Number 559, an Ordinance amending the City of Ironwood Code of Ordinances Chapter 31 Utilities, Article II, by adding Division 3. Mandatory Replacement of Lead Service Line.

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to acknowledge the introduction of Ordinance Number 559, an Ordinance amending the City of Ironwood Code of Ordinances Chapter 31 Utilities, Article II, by adding Division 3. Mandatory Replacement of Lead Service Line and schedule a Public Hearing for 5:25 p.m. on June 8, 2026.*

O. Discuss and consider authorizing staff to seek bids for the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center parking lot improvements project.

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to authorize staff to seek bids for the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center parking lot improvements project.*

P. Discuss and consider authorizing staff to seek bids for the Newport School Playground Equipment project.

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to authorize staff to seek bids for the Newport School Playground Equipment project.*

Q. Discuss and consider approving a service agreement with CivicPlus for a new Citywide automated notification system and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion *was made by Frank, seconded by Dean, to approve a service agreement with CivicPlus for a new Citywide automated notification system and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

R. Discuss and consider approving a Service Agreement with Michelle Rigoni-Sivula for Janitorial Services.

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to approve a Service Agreement with Michelle Rigoni-Sivula for Janitorial Services. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

S. Discuss and consider authorizing staff to seek bids for the 2026 Water Tank Cleaning and Inspection Project.

Motion *was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, and carried, to authorize staff to seek bids for the 2026 Water Tank Cleaning and Inspection Project.*

T. Mayor's Appointment.

Mayor Corcoran appointed Carly Rusch to the Human Relation and Equity Committee to fill an unexpired three-year term, ending July 31, 2027.

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve the Mayor's appointment of Carly Rusch to the Human Relation and Equity Committee to fill an unexpired three-year term, ending July 31, 2027.*

U. Manager's Report.
City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *$33 MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
  - *Working on primary clarifier. Using crane to work on roof panels.*
  - *Oxidation ditch in progress*
  - *Painting when weather is bad.*
  - *Slide gates and bar screen in progress.*
  - *Electricians mapping and preparing MCC's.*
  - *Million-dollar dryer system to be installed over next 3 months. Currently proving new polymer system.*
- *$11 MIL Phase 2 of the water treatment plant*
  - *Some failing 16" butterfly valves need to be replaced in late June.*
  - *Filter media is still in the process of being installed. Mostly done by end of this week. Then backwashing process happens after filling with filter media.*
  - *Topsoil seed and mulch still to be completed.*
  - *Garage is essentially complete except for apron slab and stoops outside. Will be completed in the next week.*
  - *Installing aluminum stairs on west side of pipe gallery and north mezzanine next couple of weeks.*
  - *West side of clearwell being emptied for final acceptance process.*
  - *Detention tank final testing in process.*
  - *Painters still working.*
  - *Chemical feed pumps still being finalized.*
  - *Electricians are working in the mezzanine, detention tank, chemical pump wiring.*
  - *Still on schedule for startup to occur mid-June.*
- *Phase 5B $3.8MIL and Phase 5C $1.8MIL water / sewer project*
  - *Ridge St water and sewer mainline is in from Hemlock to Douglas. Working towards Greenbush in coming days.*
  - *Water and sewer services on Ridge St are about 25% complete with 2 crews working on services.*
  - *Topsoil and hydroseeding are still in process. Coolidge and Harding are complete with a crew still working on the remainder. Watering is by the contractor.*
  - *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.*
  - *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: We are working through the final list of addresses to see which ones can be done. On June 8th, Jakes will be doing a nighttime waterline valve installation in front of Domino's. Mailers have been sent out to all of the downtown businesses. There will be a detour for that week as the road gets paved back.*
- *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: Grand opening is Friday May 29th starting at 11:30AM. Please come out to celebrate with some food and drink from a private donor.*
- *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.*
- *The 29 sanitary sewer flow meters have been deployed for the summer.*
- *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – the demo of the old system is complete. New concrete slab being poured in coming weeks. City staff has submitted drawings for the parking lot improvements to MDNR for review.*
- *Old County Road and Rock Road Waterlines: Ruotsala work to start Mid-June. Contract signing is happening tomorrow.*
- *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.*
- *Pavilion at Norrie Park is getting painted this week. This was long overdue as the paint was chipping and peeling away.*
- *Projects that still need to be bid out yet this year:*
  - *Asphalt parking area at Civic Center (out for DNR review)*
  - *Tub grinding of wood chips at Compost Site*
  - *Clean and inspect Mt Zion tank*
  - *Newport School playground*
  - *Memorial Building painting*

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.*
- *Thanks to Travel Ironwood and the Ironwood Tourism Council for hosting the UP Beat music festival this past weekend. The music was free for all to enjoy and was attended by approximately 500 people each day.*
- *The splash pad is operating now in all its glory with 80 summer temperatures here this week.*
- *Ironwood Area Schools's Meet Up and Eat Up Free Summer Lunch Program will begin serving lunches to area children ages 18 and under at the Depot Pavilion on weekdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., beginning Monday, June 8, through Friday, August 14. No lunches will be served on July 3 or during Festival Ironwood week.*

- *IPSD is in the process of sending out blight letters.*

V. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren spoke on his excitement that there will be a playground in all neighborhoods with the addition of the Jessieville Playground.

Mayor Corcoran wished to publicly thank all the staff and volunteers who helped make the Music Festival and the Memorial Day Program successful events.

W. Consider going into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) to discuss Attorney – Client privileged memo.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to enter closed session at 6:11 P.M. pursuant under section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from disclosure by statute, namely, a written opinion by the City's legal counsel not disclosable under section 13(1)(g) of FOIA. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

X. Return to Open Session.

***Motion** was made by Korpi seconded by Mildren, and carried, to return to open session at 6:26 P.M.*

Y. Consider grievance settlement.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to approve settlement of the Scott Carlson grievance as recommended by our attorney, and direct the City Manager to coordinate with her and the union to carry out the settlement. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

Z. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 P.M.*

CITY OF IRONWOOD MICHIGAN 1889

Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk