

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on July 13, 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 June 22, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:

a. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Special Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2026.

b. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2026.

c. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2026.

d. Ironwood Housing Commission Meeting Minutes of June 9, 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. 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).
Lydia Christensen addressed the City Commission regarding flock cameras.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider approving proposal for playground equipment for Jessieville Playground.

Paul Anderson indicated that the City was still waiting on additional information.

It was the consensus of the City Commission to not act on the Jessieville Playground equipment proposal until more information is received.

H. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #1, for Angelo Luppino, which is an increase of \$23,389.80 for the 2026 Asphalt Patching Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, to approve Change Order #1, for Angelo Luppino, which is an increase of \$23,389.80 for the 2026 Asphalt Patching Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

- I. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #8, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$161,853.64 for the Phase 5B Water and Sewer Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to approve Change Order #8, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$161,853.64 for the Phase 5B Water and Sewer Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- J. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$612,407.00 for the Phase 5C Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to approve Change Order #6, for Jake's Excavating and Landscaping, LLC., which is an increase of \$612,407.00 for the Phase 5C Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Water Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- K. Discuss and consider approving Payment #20, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$124,729.83 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 #20, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of \$124,729.83 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.*

- L. Discuss and consider approving Change Order #16, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$6,581.46 for the Water Treatment Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, to approve Change Order #16, for C.D. Smith, which is an increase of \$6,581.46 for the Water Treatment Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

NEW BUSINESS

- M. Discuss and consider granting a request for a "Special Water Rate" for the Gogebic County Fair from August 6, 2026 – August 9, 2026.

***Motion** was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, to grant the request for a "Special Water Rate" for the Gogebic County Fair from August 6, 2026 – August 9, 2026. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- N. Discuss and consider declaring the attached list of miscellaneous City office furniture and equipment as surplus property and authorize advertisement for bids to sell.

***Motion** was made by Korpi, seconded by Dean, to approve the attached list of miscellaneous City office furniture and equipment as surplus property and authorize advertisement for bids to Sell the surplus property with a minimum bid for each item set at \$1.00. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

- O. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *\$33MIL Wastewater Plant Project for GIWA:*
- *CD Smith is working on a wide variety of mechanical and electrical upgrade projects that make up this large project.*
- *I recently joined the construction meeting to follow up that the work is proceeding on schedule.*
- *\$22MIL water treatment plant:*
 - *Demonstration period (3 weeks) is supposed to be starting today. Assuming all goes well, then the plant and project will be turned over to the City at the end of July. There will likely still be a short list of punch list items to still be addressed.*
- *Phase 5B \$3.8MIL and Phase 5C \$1.8MIL water / sewer project*
 - *Ridge St and Arch Street all underground pipelines are complete. They are now rebuilding the roads with gravel and breaker run rock and have begun pouring sidewalks on Ridge Street.*
 - *Repairs on last year's work are now complete. Top lift of paving for last year's work is scheduled to start on Wednesday of this week. Jakes will be putting out flyers instructing homeowners on parking.*
 - *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 are still a couple of services to be completed downtown. There remains a line to replace at the Masonic Temple next to Co-op. Coleman and Jakes are coordinating the remaining list of approximately 40 remaining addresses. We hope to have that down to less than 20 addresses by the end of the project next month.*
- *The \$598,000 TMF grant with Jakes Excavating is complete for now. We still have funds left if we need to use the funds to identify materials in the coming months.*
- *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. The parking lot improvements are out to bid.*
- *Old County Road and Rock Road Waterlines: Ruotsala work to start today.*
- *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. Waiting on contractors to begin work.*
- *\$50,000 Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Center grant for smoke testing: Smoke Testing has been going on for 4 weeks already with approximately 1 more weeks to go.*
- *Industrial Park study: Coleman Engineering and a wetland consultant are 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 in progress already. This work is being paid for by a \$47,500 Invest UP site readiness grant. Survey and wetland work is complete; drilling work should be done in the next couple of weeks.*
- *Matt Sterbenz is coordinating some building maintenance projects at IPSD. This includes painting of the metal and garage door repairs, among other things.*
- *The City Manager has hired Angelo Luppino Inc to perform repairs to the Norrie Park Boardwalk for the section of the boardwalk that we heaved and "wavy".*
- *Crack sealing work was scheduled to start today. This is typically about 2 week's worth of work to perform. This year's project will focus on the south portion of Town.*
- *Projects that still need to be bid out yet this year:*
 - a. *Asphalt parking area at Civic Center (bids due end of July (30th))*
 - b. *Tub grinding wood chips at Compost Site (in progress)*

- c. Clean and inspect Mt Zion tank (no bids received, currently discussing with contractors)
- d. Memorial Building paint repairs

General Information

- IPSD is working through the blight letter process. Hundreds of letters have been sent out. The summer help is mowing the next round of the lawn blight list this week.
- Trees in the downtown: City staff will be doing an inventory of the trees in the downtown over the next week. Staff will discuss with DIDA but the current plan is to have DPW remove a couple of overgrown trees and replant them with a smaller species. Also to replace a couple of trees that have not taken properly.
- It has now been announced that both GOISD and Little Lights daycares will be closing this August. This represents a major hurdle for our community to get past. Tom Bergman has been having many meetings with the local and state entities involved on trying to find a solution for expanding childcare services in the very near future.
- This week is Festival Ironwood. I would like to thank all of the wonderful people and organizations that put a humungous amount of time into making this celebration happen. Last year we had temperatures that we well below average. This year we certainly don't have that problem. I hope everyone has a great festival. Stay cool and stay hydrated in this week's heat.
- The National Nurse's Association will be at Festival Ironwood giving free wellness checks. Anyone who would like a wellness check done, feel free to stop by their tent on Saturday.

P. Other Matters.

Commissioner Korpi extended a 'Thank you' to Donny Peterson volunteering to remove a felled tree on the Iron Belle Trail.

Commissioner Frank made comment regarding the placement of trees downtown and how they can contribute as obstacles for other activities, such as snow plowing.

- Q.** Consider going into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(d); purchase of real property up to the time an option to purchase that property is obtained.

Motion was made by Korpi, seconded by Dean, to enter closed session at 6:02 P.M. pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(d); purchase of real property up to the time an option to purchase that property is obtained. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

R. Return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to return to open session at 6:11 P.M.

S. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 P.M.



Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk