Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on September 14, 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 August 24, 2026.

2) Review and Place on File:
a. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2026.
b. Pat O'Donnell Civic Center Special Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2026.
c. Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2026.
d. Human Relations & Equity Committee Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2026.
e. Economic Development Corporation Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2026.
f. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2026.
g. Ironwood Carnegie Library Board Meeting Minutes of July 21, 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).
There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G. Discuss and consider awarding the bid for the 2027 Memorial Building West Wing Brick Restoration to Innovative Restoration, LLC in the amount of $374,766.00 and authorize City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, to award the bid for the 2027 Memorial Building West Wing Brick Restoration to Innovative Restoration, LLC in the amount of $374,766.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

H. Discuss and consider approving Payment #22, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of $382,949.06 for the City of Ironwood – Water Treatment Plant Phase 2 Project and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, to approve Payment #22, for C.D. Smith, in the amount of $382,949.06 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.*

NEW BUSINESS

I. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #026-029, a Resolution Governing the 2026 Comprehensive Deer Management Hunt in the City of Ironwood, Setting Rules, Standards, and Fees.

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, to adopt Resolution #026-029, a Resolution Governing the 2026 Comprehensive Deer Management Hunt in the City of Ironwood, Setting Rules, Standards, and Fees. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

J. Discuss and consider adopting Resolution #026-030, a Resolution authorizing Emergency clean-up costs associated with the abatement of 221 S. Suffolk.

Motion *was made by Korpi, seconded by Mildren, to adopt Resolution #026-030, a Resolution authorizing Emergency clean-up costs associated with the abatement of 221 S. Suffolk. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

K. Discuss and consider approving a Curry Park Campground 2026 and 2027 Fall Promotion for a free night's stay with reservations of two nights or more on 'electric only' campsites (Sites 1 -35).

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to approve a Curry Park Campground 2026 and 2027 Fall Promotion for a free night's stay with reservations of two nights or more on 'electric only' campsites (Sites 1 -35).*

L. Discuss the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR), Government Hazard Mitigation Survey to receive input on the Gogebic County Hazard Mitigation Plan 5-year update.

It was the consensus of the Commission to encourage responses and place on file, the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR), Government Hazard Mitigation Survey.

M. Discuss and consider approving the Agreement between the City of Ironwood and the Charter Township of Ironwood to set up a paid use structure of the City compost site for Ironwood Township residents and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.

Motion *was made by Dean, seconded by Frank, and carried, to approve an Agreement between the City of Ironwood and the Charter Township of Ironwood to set up a paid use structure of the City compost site for Ironwood Township residents and authorize the City Manager to sign all applicable documents.*

N. Discuss and consider accepting the property donation of 420 Iron King Road (Parcel #2752-24-102-700) to the City of Ironwood from First Property Holdings, LLC, and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents.

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Dean, to accept the property donation of 420 Iron King Road (Parcel #2752-24-102-700) to the City of Ironwood from First Property Holdings, LLC, and authorize the Mayor to sign all applicable documents. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

O. Mayor's Appointments.

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Tom Kangas to the Parks & Recreation Committee for a three-year term (terms expiring July 1, 2029).

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to reappoint Tom Kangas to the Parks & Recreation Committee for a three-year term (term expiring July 1, 2029).*

Mayor Corcoran appointed Madeline Zadell and Steven Anderson to fill two unexpired terms on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority for four-year terms (terms expiring June 30, 2027).

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to appoint Madeline Zadell and Steven Anderson to fill two unexpired terms on the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority for four-year terms (terms expiring June 30, 2027).*

Mayor Corcoran reappointed Simon Batu to the Economic Development Corporation for a six-year term (term expiring October 31, 2032).

Motion *was made by Mildren, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to reappoint Simon Batu to the Economic Development Corporation for a six-year term (term expiring October 31, 2032).*

P. Manager's Report.

City Manager Paul Anderson provided the following verbal updates:

Engineering Projects

- *Intersection Paving and Patching Project: Luppino has performed all the contracted with except they are paving the Lake and Ayer Intersection tomorrow. The City has notified the school and has put a notice out to the public regarding the 1-day detour.*
- *$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. Currently stating that the project is on schedule.*
- *$22MIL water treatment plant:*
  - *The water plant has been successfully filtering water for over two weeks now.*
  - *The fluoride pump needs to be replaced and so the fluoride will not begin being added into the system until October or November sometime.*
  - *Water flushing is scheduled for Sept 27 to Oct 2nd. Next summer, we are discussing doing three flushing's in order to work out sediment from our system.*
- *Phase 5B $3.8MIL and Phase 5C $1.8MIL water / sewer project*
  - *Ridge and Arch Streets: Final asphalt is going down today. Then the contractor will be spraying the seed and mulch today and tomorrow.*
- *The $3MIL Lead Service Line Replacement project with Jakes Excavating is being wrapped up today and tomorrow. At the next City Commission meeting I will be able to provide a final summary of how many lines were installed and taken off the list. It has been an extremely successful project. Devon, myself and Coleman Engineering are being asked to present on the project at the AWWA fall water conference in Escanaba next week.*
- *The 29 sanitary sewer flow meters have been deployed for the summer. We had a major 2.5-inch rain event on August 7th. We have read the sewer flow meters and are waiting on the consultant to process the data.*
- *Pat O Donnell Civic Center:*
  - *Civic Center Ice Making Plant Project – the temporary chiller system is in and Jay is making ice.*

  - *The BABA compliant system is supposed to be installed prior to snowfall.*
  - *Parking lot job with Ruotsala construction will be completed this week.*
- *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 continues to progress the MSHDA Round 1 Mi Neighborhood grant. 6 housing properties are under contract for rehabilitation. 2 of the six are currently being worked on by the contractor. One of those has only a couple issues to address before completion. We are unlikely to complete a seventh property due to the short construction season left in the year. The next housing rehab grant is being awarded to the City and the grant agreement will be coming sometime this fall. Staff is working closely with MSHDA staff to wrap up the current grant and to begin administering the next grant as soon as possible.*
- *$50,000 Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Center grant for smoke testing: the field work is now complete, and we are working on closing out the final paperwork.*
- *Industrial Park study: Coleman has completed this report. Final results are that the utilities and the road would cost $1.47MIL to develop four lots at ~5 acres each. To get rid of the tailings piles would cost another $3MIL to free up 2 of those 5 acre lots; that is if we have to pay to haul it out. This puts the need on the City to give away those mine tailings to Contractors that may want to use the material for building woods roads. Since the material does not meet any DOT spec, there isn't much value to it for road building of City Streets. Staff will be seeking grant opportunities to find funding to pay for developing these industrial lots.*
- *We have ordered the playground equipment for the Newport School site playground. It's expected to arrive around 9/25/26. Our DPW has leveled the site. A contractor for the City will be installing a fence this fall as well.*
- *Water tank cleaning: Contractor is scheduled to come in the week of Oct 5th or 12th.*
- *Memorial Building paint repairs: contract to be signed this week and performed in 2027.*
- *Projects that still need to be bid out yet this year:*
  - *Tub grinding wood chips at Compost Site (in progress)*
  - *Industrial site tailings.*
  - *Start measuring repairs for 2027 road repairs to be bid this winter.*

General Information

- *HKGI is starting the zoning code update process with our Community Development office. Last 1st Friday event they had a booth to obtain public input on the zoning and housing types in the community. Next steps are for them to put together mapping for updating the zoning districts. Previous planning commission meetings have been focused on updating the allowable use tables for each of the districts.*
- *Mural festival was competed with 5 new murals completed by DIDA and very kind donation from Travel Ironwood for $5000. The other $20K of the total $25,000 project was funded from the DIDA TIF fund (tax increment financing). Thanks to all the participating building owners who each put in $500 toward the individual projects. Also thank you to the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce for also donating towards the project. Thanks to Mukavitz Heating and Forslunds for donating a lifts and scaffolding to accomplish this work. The murals all look amazing and give great new energy to the downtown.*

- *Fall Clean Up – 147 Residents took part in the clean-up on Sept 11 and 12, slightly up from 140 residents who took part last fall. Thank you to Ironwood Public Safety, Republic Services, and the Volunteers who helped both days.*
- *Absentee Voter Ballots for the November 3, 2026, State General Election will be available next week. Registered Voters who have previously requested to receive a ballot for all future Elections will be mailed their absentee ballot on Thursday, September 24. Those wishing to vote Absentee can apply for an absentee ballot online at michigan.gov/vote or by contacting the Clerk's office. Reminder: A City Charter amendment proposal, approved by the Governor, is on the ballot to extend and stagger City Commissioner terms. The intent of staggering Commissioner terms is to provide greater continuity and stability of governance so that the entire Commission doesn't change over all at once.*
- *If the Resolution passes, the City's Comprehensive Deer Management Hunt is set to start on October 1. Details and information on the 2026 Hunt can be obtained on the City's website or by contacting the Clerk's Office.*
- *We have our DPW sewer assistant position officially filled with Brendan McCullough and the DPW floater position officially filled with Brant Swartz who came to us from Angelo Luppino Inc. Both hires are now working for us full-time and are already doing a great job.*
- *In the Ironwood Public Safety Department, Jamie Chiapuzio has been rehired (out of retirement) and started as the Temporary Assistant Director of the IPSD. Congratulations to Jamie and welcome back to the team.*
- *BS&A Update- the Payment window at the Ironwood Memorial Building will be closed from September 23 through September 28, 2026, for the transition to the BS&A Cloud update. Utility Payments will resume on Tuesday, September 29, 2026.*

Q. Other Matters.

Commissioner Mildren commented on the successful Mural Fest and latest First Friday event.

Commissioner Frank commented on the previous Blight, asking if abatements on any of the properties took place. IPSD Director Matt Sterbenz confirmed 2 properties were cleaned up and another was being scheduled to be cleaned up.

R. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Dean, seconded by Korpi, and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 P.M.*

Kim Corcoran, Mayor

Jennifer L. Jacobson, City Clerk

CITY OF IRONWOOD MICHIGAN