



213 S. Marquette St. Ironwood, MI 49938
Memorial Building, Conference Room #1, 2nd Floor

Economic Development Corporation Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Recording of the Roll
3. Approval of the Minutes of November 6, 2013
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit)
6. Citizens wishing to address the Corporation regarding items not on Agenda Items (Three-minute limit)
7. Items for Discussion and Consideration
 - a. Community Profile
8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting: February 5, 2014
10. Adjournment



**Proceedings of the Economic Development Corporation Meeting
Wednesday November 6, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Corporation was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. in the Conference Room #1, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Chair Wyssling called the meeting to Order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Recording of the Roll

MEMBER	Present		EXCUSED	NOT EXCUSED
	YES	NO		
Cayer, Joseph F.	X			
Lemke, Joseph	X			
Kobylinski, Devon	X			
Peterson, Jim		X	X	
Ramme, Dave		X		X
Ruppe, Mark	X			
Schneller, Tom	X			
Schonberg, Bob	X			
Wyssling, John	X			

In the audience were Director Brown as well as a reporter from the Daily Globe.

3. Nominations were opened for Chair with John Wyssling being nominated. **Motion** by Ruppe to nominate John Wyssling as Chair. **Second** by Schonberg. **Motion carried** to name John Wyssling as chair.

Nominations were opened for Vice-Chair with Bob Schonberg and Tom Schneller being nominated. **Motion** was closed by Cayer to nominate Schonberg as Vice-Chair. **Second** by Schneller. **Motion carried** to name Bob Schonberg as Vice Chair.

4. Approval of the September 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Cayer to accept the meeting minutes of September 4, 2013. **Second** by Kobylinski. **Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

5. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by Schneller to accept the Agenda. **Second** by Schonberg. **Motion Carried 7 to 0.**

6. Citizens wishing to address the Commission regarding Items on the Agenda (Three-minute limit)

None.

7. Citizens wishing to address the Commission regarding Items Not on the Agenda (three-minute limit).

None.

8. Items for Discussion and Consideration:

a. Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Regionalization Update: Director Brown explained that the Regionalization agreement was signed by the City and sent back to the State in September, 2013. The fully executed document has not yet been returned to the City. Director Brown has been attempting to find out the status of the document. Discussion was had regarding the role that the Economic Development Corporation would have in the process. Director Brown will find out who sits on the Regional Fund Board and let the EDC members know.

i. Old World Meats and Entrée Companions: Director Brown said the equipment of Old World Meats and Entrée Companion have been authorized by the City Commissioners for another sale, which will take place November 22, 2013. There has been some interest in the equipment. Schneller indicated he would like a copy of the bid items emailed to him.

Dr. Toohey has been making regular payments. Top Notch has made a few sporadic payments although they are still in business. Discussion was had regarding what to do with these loans. Director Brown said that the City Commission needs to look at the other defaulted loans and decide on a course of action. Schonberg asked if we could turn over all the loans the City is currently working on to Northern Initiatives. Director Brown stated that there would be a fee for doing so; however, he would have to find out what it is.

b. Mentoring Program Update: Since the last meeting, Director Brown met with Tim Erickson of the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce and discussed regionalizing this program with other cities in our vicinity; specifically Wakefield and Bessemer, through the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Erickson talked to his Board of Directors and they want to go ahead and support this idea. Director Brown will meet with Mr. Erickson and Mr. Jacquart next Wednesday to begin moving this project ahead. The Corporation would like the college involved as well.

8. Other Business:

Discussion was had about City infrastructure.

9. Next Meeting: To be determined if not **December 4, 2013**.

10. Adjournment. **Motion** by Ruppe to adjourn. **Second** by Schneller. **Motion Carried 7 to 0** at 10:33 a.m.

John Wyssling, President

Kim M. Coon
Community Development Assistant



Ironwood, MICHIGAN

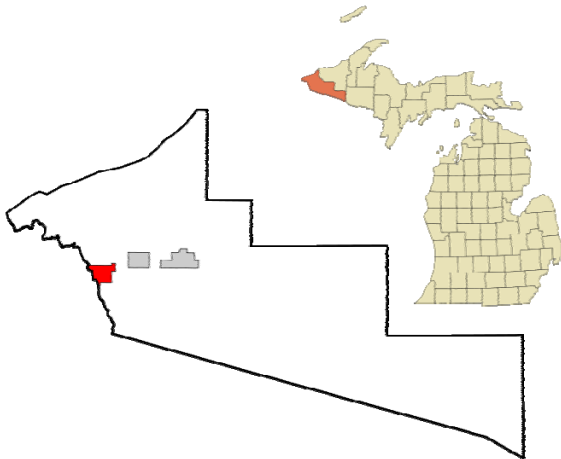
Community Profile 2014

Ironwood offers small town advantages within a beautiful region – come grow with us and LIVE WHERE YOU PLAY!

WELCOME & BACKGROUND

If you are an existing or new business, thank you for your dedication and commitment to the City of Ironwood, Michigan, its residents and region. If you are considering locating your business in Ironwood, the City is excited to work with you on your endeavors. We encourage you to review the information contained in this brochure and contact us with any questions you may have or if you need further assistance. If you are looking for more specific demographic and economic data for the area, the City utilizes a service that is able to research additional information that may assist you in your business decisions called EMSI.

Ironwood is within Gogebic County, a city known for its high quality schools, high-tech manufacturing, quaint downtown festivals and concerts, proximity to Gogebic International Airport, walking trails, snowshoe trails, cross country ski trails, world famous skiing, family fun, and warm welcomes! Founded and incorporated in the 1880's, Ironwood is located 108 miles northwest of Duluth MN.



Ironwood is a city of approximately 5,387 people with an average household income of \$31,392. Within the 12 mile ring from downtown Ironwood are the towns of Bessemer (pop. 1,887), Wakefield (pop. 1,836), Ontonagon (pop. 6,598) and as well as Hurley, WI. (pop. 1,541). Within Gogebic County, MI and surrounding counties of Ontonagon, MI and Iron County, WI there is a population of 34,427.

Over 400 businesses call Ironwood home and enjoy our lower cost of doing business in a quality market of educated professionals and hardworking labor force. Our largest employers are Aspirius Grandview Hospital, Ironwood City Schools, Jacquart Fabrics, Extreme Tools, Ironwood Plastics, Burton Industries and both the Ottawa and Keweenaw lumber

companies as well as Super 1 Grocery, among other growing businesses.

Ironwood's character is found in its rolling hills, family-friendliness, graceful trees, recreational opportunities, and excellent schools. Open space and recreation abound with hundreds of acres of park land and greenways, a skate park, golf course, swimming pool, the Penoke Range and, historic downtown, Ironwood has motorized and non-motorized trails for the ATV's, bicyclers and snowmobilers. Ironwood has incredible winter sports – in fact, Ironwood is called BIG SNOW Country - from the peaks of Copper Peak for some of the best skiing around – including Mt. Zion, right in Ironwood (the grandfather of ski hills in the Upper Peninsula), to the SISU cross-country ski race, and many snow shoe and snow mobile



trails. Ironwood is one of the country's best kept secrets for outdoor fun. In addition to snow activities, Ironwood sits very near Lake Gitchigumie (Lake Superior); a short 18 miles from downtown Ironwood. There, boating, fishing, water skiing and exploration are in full swing every summer. Some of the world's best Agate hunting is on the shores of Lake Superior. All over the Ironwood area, from East to West, we have waterfalls galore – five cascading beauties at Black River Harbor, with at least 30 more in a 25-mile radius. One of our more historic figures Hiawatha, is the areas' most photographed exhibit.

The railroad arrived in the mid-1880s and with the arrival of the railroad to the area this opened the area for more extensive exploration of the vast iron ore deposits. Soon, several mines were discovered and opened, such as the Norrie, Aurora, Ashland, Newport and Pabst mines. The opening of mines and the lumber works in the area led to a rapid influx of immigrants both from other parts of the USA and directly from Europe until nearly 1960, iron ore was a major industry. (Note that there is over 159,831 acres of prime hardwood timberland in the Upper Peninsula today).

Ironwood citizens are actively involved in decision-making through a wide range of commissions and civic organizations. Our business climate is augmented and maintained through City partnerships with the Ironwood Chamber of Commerce, Ironwood Industrial Development Corporation, Ironwood Economic Corporation and volunteer work.



Ironwood, MICHIGAN

Community Profile 2014

With regularly scheduled festivals and events, downtown Ironwood is a place to connect with others, whether for lunch or dinner, shopping, or getting to see history firsthand. Stop in any business in town and you will know Ironwood is a welcoming place, offering many personal and professional opportunities. Our Civic Center hosts many activities throughout the year.

Home to excellent schools, library, and parks, we're a great place to raise children – and a town people are proud to say they live in and children love to grow up in.



Fun Fact: On June 19, 1965, Ironwood was declared the Flower Box City of the North. Lady Bird Johnson, President Johnson's wife, along with the Vice President's wife, Mrs. Hubert Humphrey, visited Ironwood in 1965, to meet and see the Flower Box City of the North. The entourage landed at Gogebic International Airport, right here in our town.

QUICK FACTS

Geographic Location: Gogebic County
Area: 12.4 square miles
Counties: Gogebic
Date of incorporation: Village 1887
 City April 8, 1889

POPULATION

	1890	2000	Current 2010
City	7,500	6,293	5,387

Source: US Census 2010

Climate

Average Annual Temp	60 deg
Average January Temperature	21 deg
Average July Temp	79 deg
Average Annual Rainfall	32.8"
Average BIG SNOW COUNTRY Snow. FUN FACT: March 22, 1970, Announcement made that a new snowfall record was had.	188" 270.4"

Source: The Weather Channel.com

INCOME / HOUSEHOLDS

City of Ironwood	
Total Housing Units	2,520
Total Population	5,387
2010 Total HH	2,520
2010 Avg. HH Size	2.09
2010 Median HH	\$29,693
2010 Avg. HH (mean)	\$40,274
Per Capita	\$20,331
Married Household	38.5%
Bachelor's Degree	11.07%
Median Home Value	\$30,438
Median Rent	\$521

Source: U.S. Census Bureau- Fact Finder



Miner's Watching over Ironwood

Transportation: Distance and travel time to major cities

City	Hwy Miles	Hours by Truck
Duluth, MN	108	2.1
Wausau, WI	125	2.25
Marquette, MI	145	2.75
Greenbay, WI	218	3.75
Minneapolis, MN	259	4.5
Grand Forks, ND	371	6.5
Chicago, IL	401	7.25

Source: Google Driving Maps

Motor Carrier

Highways Serving Community:

2 US2 runs west to Ashland Wisconsin and Duluth Minnesota, and runs east to Iron Mountain.

2 BUS US2 serves the City of Ironwood.

51 S51 ends in nearby Hurley, Wisconsin and continues to Wausau, Wisconsin where it intersects with Interstate 39.

77 WIS 77 starts just across the state line in Hurley and travels southwest.



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United Parcel Services and Federal Express Contract Service Stores.

Over -the -Road Independent Carriers - 4

Airlines / Air Carriers

Nearest Com. Airport	Gogebic Airport http://flyfromironwood.com
Flights per year	1,378
Passengers/year	5,081
Longest Runway	6,500 ft. runway
Runway Lighted	Yes
Fuel Jet Available	Yes, jet and 100LL
Personal Aircraft & Corp. jets based on site?	Yes
Charter Service Available	No
Private Storage Available	Yes
Private Maintenance Available	Yes
US Customs on-site	No

Source www.gogebicairport.org

Other Airports:

Duluth International (2.25 hours)
 Central Wisconsin-Mosinee (2.25 hours)
 Minneapolis International Airport (7.5 hours)

Rail:

The Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad (E&LS) is a privately owned short line railroad company operating in Northeastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The E&LS has expanded from the original core line of 65 miles that was purchased in 1978, to over 235 miles of operating railroad in 2005. The E.&L.S.R.R. is headquartered in Wells, MI, with an additional office located in Green Bay, WI.

The 208 mile mainline of the E&LS stretches from Ontonagon, MI on the shores of Lake Superior to Green Bay, WI. In addition to the mainline, two key branches are the 6-mile Stiles Junction, WI to Oconto Falls, WI line and the 21-mile Crivitz, WI to Marinette, WI/Menominee, MI line. Other lines owned by the E&LS include Channing, MI to Republic, MI, and Channing to Wells. The E&LS operates on trackage rights over the Canadian National Railroad from North Escanaba, MI to Pembine, WI. The E&LS connects with the Canadian National at Green Bay, North Escanaba, Pembine, and Iron Mountain, MI.

Freight Service:

The E.&L.S.R.R. provides a minimum of 5 day per week service over the mainline from Ontonagon to Green Bay, and customizes service to meet shipper requirements in Oconto Falls and Marinette/Menominee. Seven road locomotives and 3 switch locomotives provide the power for operations over the

system. The E&LS owns and/or leases a substantial car fleet that includes: 781 boxcars, 77 bulkhead flatcars, 4 gondolas, and 15 RBL's for a total of 877 rail freight cars.

Customer Base

The E.&L.S.R.R. serves a multitude of paper, forest products, and other manufacturing companies in Michigan and Wisconsin. The commodities transported by the E&LS include: medium corrugated or pulp board, scrap paper, wood pulp, pulpwood logs, oriented strand board, lumber, wood bark, canned goods, steel, scrap metal, aggregate, chemicals, and agricultural items such as corn, grains, feed, and fertilizers.

Water

Located at the western end of the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Seaway (GLSLS) is the farthest-inland freshwater seaport and one of the leading bulk cargo ports in all of North America. By far, the largest and busiest on the Great Lakes, the Port of Duluth-Superior handles an average of 40 million short tons of cargo and nearly 1,000 vessel visits each year...connecting the heartland of the U.S. and Canada to the rest of the world.

Public

Bus: Gogebic County Transit: Little Blue Bus
Airport Shuttle Services: from hotels
Limousine: 1 company
Taxi: 2 companies

Fire and Building Codes Adopted

The City currently enforces the 2009 International Building Code and related International Codes for Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas and the 2006 International Residential Code. The 2005 National Electric Code governs all electrical work. The City has adopted the ICCA117.1-2009 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities Standard for accessible design. The City has also adopted the ICC700-2008 Green Building Standards.



Ironwood Memorial Building 2013



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Municipal Services

Annual City Operating Budget	\$10,852,550.00
Municipal Zoning	Yes
Comprehensive Plan	Yes, in process of updating
Emergency 911 System	Yes
Rescue Squad	Yes
Police Department	Yes, 10 Full-Time and 2 Part-Time Employees
Fire Department	Yes, 10 Full-Time employees, 17 volunteers
EMTs	Required of each police / firefighter

Communications

Television: Dish Network, DirecTV, Charter Television
 Local Telephone Deliverer: Charter, Verizon, AT&T
 Digital Switching: Yes
 Fiber Optics: Merit Network
 Long Distance Carriers: Yes, Verizon, ATT
 Newspapers: Daily except Sunday

Utilities

Water and Sanitary Service

Provided by Ironwood Utilities
 For information, contact (906) 932-5050 x 111 or
www.Ironwoodutilities.org

Ironwood Utilities constructed and maintains 65 miles of water mains, one ground water treatment plant that can produce 3 MGD, groundwater wells that can produce 3 MGD, 2 treated water storage tanks totaling 2.6 million gallons of water, and 50 miles of sewer mains.

Water Rates

	Cost per 1,000 gallons/month
Inside Ironwood City Corporate Limits	\$23.56
Residential & Commercial	\$23.56
Senior	\$23.56
Outside City Limits	\$23.56

Electric Power

Provided by Xcel Energy For information, contact (800) 328-8226 or visit:
http://www.xcelenergy.com/About_Us/Our_Company/Service_Areas/Michigan_Communities_Served

Natural Gas Provided by Xcel. For information, contact (800) 328-8226 or visit: <http://www.michiganoilandgas.org>

MEDICAL / DENTAL SERVICES

Ironwood Hospitals	Grandview Aspirius 25 Beds
Hospitals w/i 120 mi	Duluth MN, Ontonagon MI, Iron River MI, Ashland WI
Urgent Care	1
Doctors in Ironwood	30+ w/app'ts. in Ironwood
Dentists in Ironwood	12+

Ironwood Employers

Company Name	Product/Service	# of Employees
Aspirius Grandview Hospital	Medical, Hospital, Clinic, Surgical	400
City of Ironwood	City Government	51
Ironwood City Schools	School District	106
Extreme Tools Mfg.	Models and Dies	80
Ironwood Plastics	Manufacturing	165
Jacquarts Fabric	Manufacturing	136
Walmart	Retail	240
KMart	Retail	65
Burton Industries	Manufacturing	66
Ottawa Forest Products	Forestry Products	44
Keweenaw Forest	Forestry Products	17
Coleman Engineering	Engineering	22 + 5
Precision Tool	Plastic Moldings	73
UPS	Freight	30
Enbridge	Pipeline	8
Westgate Nursing Hm.	Medical	62
Ironwood Daily Globe	Newspaper	20
US Forest Service	Forestry	ffff

Tax Structure

Property Tax

Ironwood's millage rate is 54.738 mills for 100% homestead properties, and 72.738 mills for non-homestead properties. The City of Ironwood collects taxes for not only the City but also for state education, intermediate school district, Ironwood Area School District, Gogebic Community College as well as Gogebic County taxes.

Taxes

Tax Type	Categories	Rate
Sales	General	6.0%
	Machinery	6.0%
	Automotive	6.0%
Use	General	6.0%
	Machinery	6.0%
	Automotive	6.0%



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Lodging	6% plus \$1 per room per night	
Liquor		13.24%
Gasoline		\$0.19/ gallon
Cigarettes		\$2.00/pk. 20

Recreation & Community Facilities

Hotels, Motels & B & Bs	20+
Restaurants /Banquet Fac.	20+
Banks & Branches	9
Churches	19
Health and Fitness Clubs	3
Skate Park	1
Ski Resorts	5
Parks	15 on over 200 ac.
Tennis Courts	1
Hockey Rinks	2

The Parks and Recreation Committee supports the design and location of great parks, biking trails, very in getting support such The



Ironwood, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, was honored with the Michigan Municipal League's 2013 Community Excellence Award on Sept. 20, 2013, at the League's Annual Convention in Detroit.

The city of Ironwood's place making effort is centered on the revitalization of a railroad depot into a park. The plan is to merge city blocks, add a pavilion, playground equipment, landscaping, volleyball courts, and other amenities in an effort to promote health, history, and recreation. The park will also serve as a trailhead for non-motorized and motorized trails crossing the region.

FUN FACT: March 1, 1970, First International Ski Flying Competition on Western Hemisphere held at Copper Peak. More than 30 years later, Copper Peak is re-opening for ski-jumping competition with the U.S. Olympic Team:

<http://www.skijumpingusa.com/copper/>
This is **EXCITING** news for Ironwood!



The nearby Historic Ironwood Theater hosts Broadway-type theater, dances and musicals. The Downtown Art Place (independent artists), is next to the Theatre.

Ironwood Recreation

Recreational programs, facilities, and open space for residents of all age groups and abilities. With Ironwood being strategically located within miles of the Ottawa National Forest and the Porcupine Mountains, it comes to no surprise that the Ironwood area is one of the best Hiking and Biking locations in the United States. You can View beautiful water falls, valleys, bluffs, ravines, giant hills and ancient forests which will give you a unique appreciation of the wilderness that surrounds the area. (15 parks totaling more than 200 acres), indoor aquatic and walking facilities, and many acres of open space add to the action, attraction and beauty here. Lake Superior is located 18 miles from downtown Ironwood. It supports fishing, water sports, and canoeing, kayaking and other water-activities and is the largest freshwater lake in the country and is the LARGEST of the 5 Great Lakes.



Looking down the jump at Copper Peak.



Ironwood, MICHIGAN

Community Profile 2014

Public Library

The Ironwood Carnegie Public Library is located in our downtown area. Ironwood County Public Library System and provides an extensive inventory of books, CD's, DVD's and other media. In addition to library offers clubs, and story time scheduled throughout the week for children and adults. The facility includes a room that can support up to 70 people and also has numerous computers available for use as well as free wireless internet access.



Education

Public Schools

The Ironwood Area School system is one of the top systems in the state, serving over 700 students. The school system consists of two elementary schools (K-2 and 3-5) and the middle school/high school (6-12). The system employs more than 960 students and certified staff members. Test scores on national standardized tests are above the national average at all schools. It is truly a shining star for the City – ranked in the top 1,500 of America's high schools by Newsweek in 2008 and 2009. In September 2013, the Luther Wright Middle-High School received a third place trophy for being one of the top – ten schools in America. The Michigan MEAP Merit Award is given to students who have exceeded Michigan standards. 41 of 86 2009 Graduates (47.6%) qualified for the MEAP and earned a \$2,500 scholarship by achieving a score of 1 or 2 on all areas of testing. In 2003, 76 of 105 Graduates (72.38%) qualified.

Norrie Elementary recently underwent a \$5million renovation.

Type of School	Enrollment
Elementary	410
Middle School	127
High School	258

2008 ACT Avg. Score: 23 (Nation 21.1)

Gogebic Community College (GCC), a 2-year Community College

With record enrollments in a number of their programs, GCC maintains a rare student-to-faculty ratio of 15:1. New programs, services, and faculty education continue to keep offerings current for today's workforce and address our world's ever-changing needs. GCC is also embracing partnerships and initiating discussions on new program ventures. GCC is rated in the top 10% of community colleges in the country.

Located on the campus of Gogebic Community College is Mt. Zion, the oldest winter recreation complex in "Big Snow Country". Owned and operated by GCC, Mt. Zion also serves as

a laboratory for the college's nationally recognized Ski Area Management Program.

Preschools: 2

Private Schools: 2

Legislative District

US Legislators

District 110: Scott Dianda

State Representatives

District 38: Tom Casperson

State Senators

Carl Levin (D)

Debbie Stabenow (D)



Luther L. Wright Middle-High School

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Director of Community Development

Mr. Michael J.D. Brown

brownm@cityofironwood.org

(906) 932-5050 x 126

www.cityofironwood.org

