

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on August 11, 2008 at 5:30 P.M., along with a Public Hearing at 5:20 P.M. in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan

1. Mayor Noren opened the Public Hearing at 5:20 P.M.
2. Public Hearing: To introduce Ordinance No. 468, Book 4 an Ordinance to entirely repeal existing Chapter 34 (entitled "Zoning"), including Section 34-1 through 34-495 of the Code of the City of Ironwood, and to amend said code by adopting in place thereof new sections which shall be designated as Chapter 34, Sections 34-1 through 34-506, together with table of contents and all subsections thereof, and to be Chapter 34 (entitled "Zoning"), of the City of Ironwood Code of Ordinances.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission to review the changes and additions to Chapter 34 Zoning. After a brief discussion the City Commission requested another Public Hearing take place before the final adoption of this Ordinance in the very near future.

Steve Frank, of 212 E. Oak Street was very pleased with the way the City of Ironwood will be addressing sandwich board advertising and other items in the Zoning Ordinance.

3. Mayor Noren closed the Public Hearing at 5:35 P.M.

A. Mayor Noren called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:35 P.M.

B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Burchell, Laabs, Lamb, Toth, and Mayor Noren.

ABSENT: None.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.*

*1) Approval of Minutes – July 11th Special City Commission Meeting and July 28th Regular City Commission Meeting.

*2) Review and Place on File:

a) Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of July 24th.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Toth to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion was made by Lamb, supported by Burchell 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.

OLD BUSINESS

F. Discuss and Consider request from the Ironwood Theatre Board waiving the 2008 liability and property insurance cost of the Historic Ironwood Theatre.

Mark Silver (Grachek), representative of the Ironwood Theatre Board addressed the City Commission to request the waiver of the 2008 property insurance bill in the amount of \$2,686. Further discussion of this matter took place.

Motion was made by Burchell, seconded by Laabs and carried to establish a City of Ironwood \$500 match challenging other communities to support the areas Historic Ironwood Theatre.

G. Presentation of Downtown Blueprinting Process and proposed time line.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission regarding the Downtown Blueprint Process and the proposed time line. Dan noted the City of Ironwood was the only Upper Peninsula City to be selected this year for the Downtown Blueprint Process. The consultant that was selected to lead the process will be contacting the City in early January of 2009 to begin the data collection and discuss committee compilation. Director Petersen announced an informational meeting with the Downtown Businesses would take place tomorrow night at 5:30 P.M. in the Women's Club Room, Memorial Building on the second floor.

Community Development Director Petersen also stated the Facade Improvement Program is on hold until the MEDC hires and trains new staff.

NEW BUSINESS

H. Consider acceptance of \$10,000 donation for Skate Park Equipment from Ironwood/Hurley Rotary Club.

Motion was made by Burchell, seconded by Laabs and carried to thank and accept the generous \$10,000 donation for Skate Park Equipment from the Ironwood/Hurley Rotary Club.

I. Consider authorization of bid advertisement for skate park equipment.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Toth and carried to authorize the bid advertisement for skate park equipment.

J. Consider authorization of bid advertisement for utility trench street patches.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Laabs and carried to authorize the bid advertisement for utility trench street patches per staff recommendation.

K. Discuss and Consider adopting the City of Ironwood Emergency Operations Plan.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Laabs and carried to adopt the 2008 City of Ironwood Emergency Operations Plan as recommended by staff.

The City Commission thanked Director Erspamer and staff for their work in developing the City of Ironwood Emergency Operations Plan.

Director Erspamer noted that on Thursday afternoon weather siren testing would take place starting at noon.

L. Manager's Report

City Manager Scott B. Erickson verbally gave the manager's report noting the following:

- *Alfred Wright Blvd. project underground utility construction has been completed.
- *Greenbush reconstruction project will begin later this month.
- *Fire hydrant replacement project work will begin later this week and the City water crews have been busy cleaning out water valves and checking to make sure the water can be turned off at each hydrant.
- *Energenics will be updating the current water system SCADA software, along with upgrades to current computer systems to help manage the operations of the water pumping and distributions systems.

- *SEH is currently designing the water system improvements, which includes a new chlorine room at the pump station, new high lift pumps, new water meter and Mt. Zion water storage tank circulation improvements. The anticipated bid date is mid-September.
- *The Memorial building tuck pointing project has been moving along nicely.
- *Accurate Appraisals is continuing their work during the week and weekends.
- *Previously approved demolition of four buildings will take place in the next two weeks after disconnection of utilities take place.
- *A pre-season Comprehensive Deer Management Program Meeting will take place Thursday, August 14th at 5:00 P.M.
- *USDA check presentation for the City of Ironwood Patrol Car Grant will take place Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 10:15 CST.
- *Park & Recreation Committee to meet at an informational meeting on Tuesday, August 19th at 6:00 P.M.
- *The drainage concerns on Lowell Street are being addressed with Wayne Nasi Construction.
- *WUPPDR is working on the development of the City GIS base map.
- *MDOT will be conducting asphalt repairs this fall at the signalized intersections along US2.
- *Strassenfest is coming to Downtown Ironwood on Friday, September 12th. Ironwood Plastics is partnering with the Historic Downtown Ironwood Theater to bring this German Street Festival to Downtown Ironwood and the Gogebic Range.

M. Other Matters (Five Minute Limit).

The City Commission and staff congratulated former Community Development Director Pat Merrill for being hired as the new City Manager for the City of Fort Morgan, Colorado.

N. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda (Five Minute Limit).

Steve Frank, of 212 E. Oak Street addressed the City Commission with pictures of several blighted areas in the City including the City Garage area. Further discussion of this matter took place.

George Goerig thanked the City Commission, staff, and residents for their support of the recent millage of the Pat O'Donnell Civic Center.

City Manager Scott Erickson thanked George Georig for the time he took out of his busy schedule to attend a meeting downstate on the Downtown Blueprinting.

O. Adjournment.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Toth and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 P.M.

Bruce A. Noren, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk