

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on June 23, 2008 at 5:30 P.M., along with Board of Zoning Appeals at 4:55 P.M., 5:05 P.M., and Public Hearings at 5:15 P.M. and 5:25 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood, Michigan.

1. Mayor Noren called the Board of Zoning Appeals to Order at 4:55 P.M.
2. Recording of the Roll.

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

ABSENT: None.

3. Mayor Noren opened the Public Hearing at 4:55 P.M.
4. Public Hearing: To hear comment relative for a use variance to construct a 24' x 32' garage requested by Gerald and Debra McGrath, 646 VanBuskirk Rd., Ironwood for parcel number 27-52-52-23-482-040.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission regarding the use variance request from Gerald and Debra McGrath, 646 VanBuskirk Rd. He noted Mr. & Mrs. McGrath own a parcel of land across the road from their home on VanBuskirk Road and would like to construct an accessory building without building a home. Mr. Petersen also mentioned he received only two written comments from nearby neighbors in favor of the request. Community Development Director Petersen recommends the use variance request be approved stating it is a rare circumstance. Further comments were received.

5. Mayor Noren closed the Public Hearing at 4:57 P.M..
6. Consider action on the Gerald & Debra McGrath Dimensional Variance.

Motion was made by Mayor Noren, seconded by Lamb to grant Gerald and Debra McGrath, 646 VanBuskirk Rd. (parcel #27-52-23-482-040), use variance request to construct a 24' x 32' garage without first building a home. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

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1. Mayor Noren opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 P.M.
 2. Public Hearing: To hear comment relative for a dimensional variance to construct a 24' x 25' cement pad with an accompanying roof to accommodate a 10 dog kennel requested by Hope Animal Shelter.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission regarding Hope Animal Shelter's dimensional variance request. Mr. Petersen stated due to the roofline and cost they would like to extend out from the front of the building. Further comments were received from others and the neighbor Jerry Bratu, Hardwood Interiors.

The City Commission requested to postpone this matter until the next regular meeting to allow time to view this site.

3. Mayor Noren closed the Public Hearing at 5:14 P.M.
4. Consider action on the Hope Animal Shelter Dimensional Variance.

No action was taken at this time.

5. Mayor Noren adjourned the Board of Zoning Appeals at 5:14 P.M..

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1. Mayor Noren opened the Public Hearing at 5:15 P.M..
 2. Public Hearing: To introduce Ordinance No. 467, Book 4 an Ordinance to vacate that portion of Cleveland Street North of Florence Street that bisects the property located at 1700 Florence Street of Assessor's Plat No. 13.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission regarding Mr. Thomas A. Shepard's request to vacate that portion of Cleveland Street North of Florence Street that bisects the property located at 1700 Florence Street of Assessor's Plat No. 13. Mr. Petersen noted there is a drainage ditch between these properties and would recommend the City of Ironwood retain an easement for the maintenance of the drainage ditch. Community Development Director Petersen further stated he did not see a problem with granting this vacation pending the approval of the drain commissioner. Further comments were received.

3. Mayor Noren closed the Public Hearing at 5:23 P.M.

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1. Mayor Noren opened the Public Hearing at 5:25 P.M.

Public Hearing: To hear comment relative to the results of Infrastructure Project Number MSC205046-ICE (North of US-2).

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission stating this Public Hearing is required with proper notice to close out the grant on the above infrastructure project. No comments were received.

2. Mayor Noren closed the Public Hearing at 5:26 P.M.

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- A. Mayor Noren called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P.M..
 - B. Recording of the Roll.

PRESENT: Commissioner Burchell, Laabs, Lamb, Suzanne Toth, and Mayor Noren.
ABSENT: None.

- C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.*

- *1) Approval of Minutes – June 9th Regular City Commission Meeting.
- *2) Review and Place on File:
 - a) Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency Meeting Minutes of May 15th and Special Meeting of May 29th.
 - b) Downtown Ironwood Development Authority Meeting Minutes of June 12th.
- *3) Accept \$10,000.00 Tony Hawk Foundation Grant for the development of the Hiawatha Rotary Skateboard Park, and authorize Mayor and City Clerk to sign same.

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

- D. Receive and Place on File from Finance Director.
 1. Statement of Revenue & Expenditures.
 2. Monthly Cash Reports.

Motion was made by Toth, seconded by Lamb, and carried to approve the Statement of Revenue & Expenditures for month ending May 2008 and to receive and place on file the Monthly Cash Report.

E. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion was made by Lamb, supported by Burchell and carried to amend the Agenda as presented to include item F1. Update of Blight Enforcement and F2. Consider adopting a Proclamation Congratulating Neil Sauter for completing his walk across the State of Michigan to raise Cerebral Palsy awareness.

F. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).

There were none.

F1. Update of Blight Enforcement.

Blight Enforcement Officer Travis Smeed updated the City Commission on Blight Enforcement in the City of Ironwood.

F2. Consider adopting Proclamation congratulating Neil Sauter for completing a walk across the State of Michigan on stilts to raise Cerebral Palsy awareness.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Burchell and carried to adopt a Proclamation congratulating Neil Sauter for completing a walk across the State of Michigan on stilts to raise Cerebral Palsy awareness.

OLD BUSINESS

G. Public Hearing: To hear public comment relative to the proposed hiking trail from Longyear Park through Riverside Cemetery North along the Montreal River.

A public hearing took place regarding the proposed hiking trail from Longyear Park through Riverside Cemetery North along the Montreal River. Recreation Committee Member Sam Davey offered to answer any questions. The question was asked if dogs would be allowed and Mr. Davey noted the current rules of the Riverside Cemetery states that no dogs are allowed, and no dogs allowed signs would be constructed from the Michigan Welcome Center through the Cemetery. Further discussion took place.

H. Consider authorizing construction of Part A of Phase 1 of a proposed hiking trail from Longyear Park through Riverside Cemetery North along the Montreal River.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Burchell and carried to authorize the construction of Part A of Phase 1 of a proposed hiking trail from Longyear Park through Riverside Cemetery North along the Montreal River.

I. Consider awarding the bid to Signature Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Jeep, Eagle in the amount of \$20,731.00 for a new Police Package Crown Victoria for the Public Safety Department upon approval from USDA.

Motion was made by Burchell, seconded by Lamb to award the bid to Signature Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Jeep, Eagle in the amount of \$20,731.00 for a new Police Package Crown Victoria for the Public Safety Department contingent upon approval from USDA. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

J. Consider awarding the lowest bid to Wayne Nasi Construction in the amount of \$53,000 for Memorial Building Facade Improvement.

Motion was made by Toth, seconded by Lamb to award the lowest base bid to Wayne Nasi Construction in the amount of \$53,000 for the Memorial Building Facade Improvement. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

K. Update on MSHDA Facade Grants.

Community Development Director Dan Petersen addressed the City Commission updating them on the Phase I, II, and the possibility of a third phase of the MSHDA Facade Grants.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Consider Resolution amending General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

Motion was made by Burchell, seconded by Lamb to adopt a Resolution amending the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.

M. Consider approval of change order #1 for Fire Hydrant Replacement Project 08-02-W1.

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Burchell and carried to approve change order #1 to extend the contract completion date to September 30th for the Fire Hydrant Replacement Project 08-02-W1.

N. Manager's Appointment.

Manager Erickson recommended re-appointment of Shirley McDonald of 152 W. Pewabic Street to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a 5-year term (term expiring June 30, 2013).

Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Toth and carried to accept City Manager Erickson's appointment of Shirley McDonald to the Ironwood Housing Commission for a 5-year term (term expiring June 30, 2013).

O. Mayor's Appointments

Mayor Noren re-appointed Louise Demasi and Steven Frank to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority for a 4-year term (term expiring June 30, 2012).

Motion was made by Toth, seconded by Laabs and carried to approve the Mayor's appointments of Louise Demasi and Steven Frank to the Downtown Ironwood Development Authority for a 4-year term (term expiring June 30, 2012).

P. Manager's Report

Manager Erickson verbally gave his manager's report noting the following items:

- *City Wide revaluation will begin July 1st.
- *Hospice Dedication at Longyear Park is tomorrow at 6:30 P.M. in Longyear Park.
- *Emergency Operation Plan's tabletop exercise will take place July 9th.
- *Bid openings for GIS will be July 3rd.
- *City of Ironwood entrance sign was destroyed and perhaps the City of Ironwood should look at an entrance sign.

Q. Other Matters (Five Minute Limit).

There were none.

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

Louise Demasi, of 400 Silver Street questioned City Staff regarding sirens. She was informed a demonstration of sirens would be scheduled in the near future.

S. Adjournment.

***Motion** was made by Toth, seconded by Lamb and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 P.M.*

Bruce A. Noren, Mayor

Karen M. Gullan, City Clerk