

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
SPECIAL MEETING
IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, May 7, 2015
10 AM
Minutes**

Mayor Terry Tarsi called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., in the Council Chambers at the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Daniel Baumgartner, Rick Commenator, Jere Fritsche, Edward Marcell and Tarsi.

Absent: None.

Also present: Attorney Mark Tousignant, Manager Perry Franzoi, and Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance: Paul VanMinsel, Bill LaRock, Mike Manfrom, Frank Harris and Ben Smith (Iron County Doings).

APPROVE AGENDA: Commenator moved with support from Marcell to amend the agenda by removing under Old Business a.) Former Coast to Coast Building and replace it with New Business a.) Proposal for Settlement – Vajk. All in favor; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul VanMinsel commented that the City has budgeted \$10,000 for code enforcement, however, there is no code enforcement officer. His neighborhood, in his opinion, has many blighted properties and zoning violations and wants to know when it's going to be taken care of. He would like to see the same amount of monies spent in other areas and not just in the downtown of Iron River. He thanked Commenator for getting to the bottom of the bushes on the corner of River Avenue and Allen Street and having them removed.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposal for Settlement - Vajk: Franzoi explained that a proposed settlement agreement was received from William Vajk in regards to utility fees accruing on his house on Plum Street. He requests the City reimburse him for all utility fees since 2006 seeing as his attempts at recovering them through the legal process has failed. In turn, the City would not have to spend money defending his frivolous lawsuits as he would not sue the City any longer. Tousignant is going to turn the proposal over to the Prosecuting Attorney as he feels there is some type of extortion or criminal wrong-doing. Commenator moved with support from Fritsche to reject the proposal received from William Vajk dated May 4, 2015.

Roll Call: Ayes – 5: Baumgartner, Marcell, Fritsche, Commenator and Tarsi. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Fritsche moved to have Tousignant proceed with referring the proposal to the Prosecuting Attorney. Commenator seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes – 5: Baumgartner, Marcell, Commenator, Fritsche and Tarsi. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2015-16 Proposed Budget: Franzoi explained that this is a “bare bones” budget and there are no capital improvements projects in the works because of the lack of revenue. Major issues starting the new fiscal year is a roof replacement on City Hall, Bond Payment for the former Coast to Coast Building, Krist Oil Tax Tribunal, upcoming retirements and an arbitration hearing on retiree health insurance.

Commenator questioned the Code Enforcement Officer funding. Franzoi explained that the police department, Clerk Andreski and himself will be assuming those responsibilities and not funding the position.

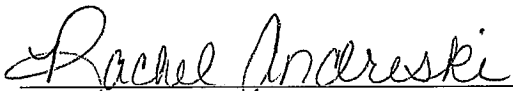
May 27, 2015, at 10 a.m. a public hearing will be held for the proposed budget followed by a Special Meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Baumgartner was approached by a resident that noticed the City’s street sweeper in the Iron River Township. He questioned why this is being done when our own streets haven’t been taken care of. Franzoi responded that as part of the MDOT maintenance contract, we provide sweeping services to Gibbs City Road and back and are reimbursed for doing so.

ADJOURNMENTS

Marcell moved to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. Baumgartner seconded. All in favor; motion carried.


Rachel Andreski, Clerk