

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 15, 2015
2 PM
Minutes**

Mayor Terry Tarsi called the meeting to order at 2 p.m., at the West Iron County Volunteer Fire 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 and Interim City Manager/Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance: Marilyn and Tom Peterson, John Hull, Leonard LaFayette, Josh Brindle, Tricia Mercier, Robb Anderson (GEI Consultants), Jennifer Farley (WIKB) and Nikki Mitchell (Iron County Reporter).

APPROVE AGENDA

Fritsche moved with support from Commenator to approve the agenda with the following addition: 8. Financials i) Mika Meyers Invoice - \$6,199.72 and 10. New Business g) Westphal's, Inc. Lighting Proposal. All in favor; motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Marcell moved, Commenator seconded to accept the July 22, 2015, July 28, 2015, and August 7, 2015 Special Meeting Minutes as written. All in favor; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marilynn Peterson wanted to clarify a Letter to the Editor in the Iron County Reporter by a resident, Darren Mercier. In Mercier's letter, he credited Peterson's comment for questioning donations to charitable organizations for nonprofit, but one of the words that he left out that Peterson included in her comment was those were private nonprofit organizations that she had questions with. Peterson wanted to make that distinction.

Tarsi also read that letter and he would like clarification in where the numbers came from as far as donations by the City of Iron River. When the "City" is referenced, does that include the DDA and TIF? Peterson answered that the data she obtained to arrive at that figure were the City's records for revenue and expenditures for the Council and the DDA and the distinction is made in her records. Tarsi, in getting back to the letter, the author broadly stated that the Council and other Councils have given away \$80,000 of the City's budget, which is not a true statement.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commenator moved; Tarsi seconded; all were in favor; to accept as written the Consent Agenda which included the following:

- a) August 25, 2015 WICSA Agenda Packet
- b) July 21, 2015 Iron River Housing Commission Annual Meeting Minutes
- c) July 21, 2015 Iron River Housing Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

REPORTS

Manager's Report: Andreski updated the Council that the three candidates that were chosen for interviews have been contacted and meetings are scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 3 p.m., and Friday, September 18, 2015 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Andreski had a handout for the Council showing the surplus from the Bond of the demolition of the former Coast to Coast building. Monies were left over as hauling fees were not nearly as high as originally predicted. The Bond cannot be pre-paid with left over monies, nor can it be re-invested, however, it can be used for improvements in the City. The amount left over from the original contract was \$62,587. This surplus could be used to pay off the Routsala DIG Grant Project which was "removed" from the original contract due to the demolition of the Coast to Coast Building. \$11,250 was held in escrow from the original contract, however, Routsala's bid came in at \$25,173. If the surplus was used to pay the remaining \$13,923, that would leave a surplus of \$48,664. Baumgartner asked seeing as the DDA is paying a portion of the bond, is the DDA eligible to receive some of the surplus monies. Tarsi answered; with confirmation from Tousignant, that the agreement in place was the DDA would have a say in how the remaining money was spent.

Confirmation was received from MSHDA's Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority that two more houses that they currently own are set to be demolished. One is located on the corner of Lincoln and Stambaugh Avenue and the second is on Ross Street.

Andreski asked the Council for input on their preference for flooring in the Council Chambers. Fritsche noted his dissatisfaction with the removal of the original hardwood. Originally, it was thought because there were three different types of flooring, we would have our choice, however, Mike Carey of Carey Contracting stated typically the last covering that was showing is what is replaced. If the Council would choose one of the other types of flooring, the MML Liability Pool would take it into consideration to place something else. Commenator was also upset when they removed the original flooring. The general consensus of the Council is to install hardwood (not laminate).

Andreski asked the Council to hold off on the sidewalk program that was advertised last Spring. Five residents and one business requested to receive quotes. Due to the time of year, contractors are not available. Commenator moved, Tarsi seconded to table the sidewalk program until next spring.

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

Commenator moved to approve the Manager's Report. Fritsche seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

DPW Director's Report: Commenator moved to accept the DPW Director's Report. Baumgartner seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

IRPD Chief's Report: Commenator requested Andreski have discussions with Frizzo regarding staffing as Officer Wicklund will be leaving for Lansing soon. Andreski will do that and see what the budget looks like to see if there is a possibility of hiring more part-time staff. Commenator moved, Baumgartner seconded to accept the IRPD Chief's Report. All in favor; motion carried.

Attorney: Tousignant gave a verbal account of his report. Unison Site Management sent a proposal to manage the City's leases with the various entities that utilize the water tank for their antennas. Tousignant will grant copies of all of the City's leases and get a firmer proposal as to guaranteed rents. Commenator moved to have Tousignant investigate Unison Site Management for water tank leases. Marcell seconded.

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

Tousignant added that Mr. Vajk's appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court was denied.

Commenator moved to accept the Attorney Report. Baumgartner seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

FINANCIALS

August 2015 Financials: Commenator moved, with support from Fritsche, to accept the August 2015 Financials. Tarsi questioned the General and Sewer funds that after two months into the fiscal year, the General fund is at 17% of Budget and Sewer is 28% of Budget. Andreski noted that discussions have been held with department heads for the General Fund, and the Sewer Fund is reflecting the SAW Grant project. The City has not yet been reimbursed for our labor yet.

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

August 2015 Check Register: Baumgartner questioned check number 35710 to Railroad Management Company in the amount of \$484.05. Andreski will look into what the charges are and report back to the Council. Marcell moved to accept the August 2015 Check Register. Commenator seconded.

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

Truck Equipment, Inc. Invoice: An invoice in the amount of \$1,441.60 was received from Truck Equipment, Inc. for two led beacon lights for the Vactor Truck (vehicle #182). Great Lakes TV Seal has the same lights mounted on their truck for safety. Sheltrou directed a dpw employee to look into these types of lights. In doing so, the employee ordered them. Andreski talked with both Sheltrou and the employee about returning the lights. There is a re-stocking charge (20-30% plus shipping) if the City sends them back. The invoice has not yet been paid. Commenator moved to table Truck Equipment, Inc. Invoice. Tarsi seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

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

Schultz Equipment, Inc. Invoice: Andreski explained there have been power issues with this vehicle for some time. Maximum speed unloaded is 35 mph. After numerous diagnostic tests, Schultz is confident they have fixed the issue with fuel pumps. Commenator moved to approve an

invoice in the amount of \$1,136.16 from Schultz Equipment, Inc. for repairing Truck #37. Tarsi seconded.

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

Rent-A-Flash, Inc. Invoice: Commenator moved with support from Fritsche to pay Rent-A-Flash, Inc.'s invoice in the amount of \$1,041.65 for street signs along US-2, which is a budgeted item.

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

MML Worker's Compensation Fund Renewal: Commenator moved, Baumgartner seconded to renew the Michigan Municipal League Worker's Compensation Fund Policy Premium for July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016.

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

USA Bluebook Invoice: Andreski requested the Council table this item due to recent developments. It will be discussed at the next meeting once more information is obtained. Fritsche moved, Commenator supported to Table the USA Bluebook Invoice awaiting more information.

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

Tousignant's Invoice: Marcell moved with support from Commenator to pay Tousignant's Invoice in the amount of \$5,991.35 for attorney's fees through August 31, 2015.

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

Mika Meyers Invoice: Andreski explained this invoice is for the City's labor attorney for the arbitration hearing for the Retiree Health Insurance. Before the arbitrator heard the case, the City reached a settlement agreement. Commenator moved, Baumgartner seconded to approve Mika Meyers Invoice in the amount of \$6,199.72.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Northeast Asphalt, Inc. Proposal: Andreski provided an updated proposal for paving of Coolidge Avenue which includes the approach/intersection with Blossom, and Blossom Street to Wilson Avenue intersection. The price has increased a little over \$1,300 since May's proposal. This could be done in conjunction with the paving by the Apple Blossom Apartments yet this fall. The DPW has already ditched both roads so drainage will no longer be an issue and the roads have recently been graded. Fritsche moved, with support from Baumgartner to approve Northeast Asphalt, Inc's proposal in the amount of \$33,440.50 for paving Blossom and Coolidge.

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

Former Coast to Coast Building Final Payment Application No. 3 and Final Change Order No. 3: Robb Anderson of GEI Consultants provided an update on the project and noting this is the final pay request and change order. Anderson explained that the final change order is a credit which

entails the deduction of quantity for demolition debris disposal and the addition of new pay item (cutting and finishing the common wall ends) and granting an extension of contract time to allow for the completion of restoration. Commenator moved to pay Associated Constructors in the amount of \$37,283.93 for Final Payment Application No. 3 and Final Change Order No. 3 in the amount of (\$24,787) along with time extension. Marcell seconded.

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

MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application – Ice Lake Park Improvements: Andreski explained that the City received notification that the City did not receive the grant. This is the first time that the MDNR has allowed applicants to make changes to the Application based on their comment. A Recreation meeting was held the previous night to discuss the Application. Some areas the City scored well, however, there was not enough points to put the City in the funding category. In order to gain more points, the City would have to increase its contribution by approximately \$60,000. It was thought that maybe the City could send letters to local businesses that would be willing to help financially. No action was taken.

Building Demolition Project Bid Award: Three bids were received for the Building Demolition Project of two houses located at 123 2nd Avenue and 1006 Minckler Street. The low bid was BAR Enterprises in the amount of \$33,300, MD Contracting/T&T was \$37,500 and Ryan's Excavating in the amount of \$37,240. Craig of GEI Consultants reviewed the bids and both he and Andreski recommend awarding the contract to BAR Enterprises. Commenator moved, with support from Baumgartner to award the Building Demolition Project to BAR Enterprises in the amount of \$33,300. Tarsi requested landfill tickets upon completion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Sale of City Lot: Andreski was recently approached by a resident that owns the house next to a City owned lot (formerly 122 East Boyington) and his interest in purchasing it. The Assessor valued the parcel at \$800. Commenator moved to sell the lot, formerly 122 E. Boyington, in the amount of \$900. Marcell seconded.

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

The IronLine – Josh Brindle: Brindle provided a Profit and Loss Statement from last year's event. The fatbike race was a big hit last year and the group is looking to make that event bigger and have two race courses. An added expense with that is the fact they have to rent timing equipment. Brindle is requesting City sponsorship in the amount of \$3,750 (and increase of \$500 from last year). Tarsi requested the item be tabled until the DDA and DDA Finance Committee can meet to see what funds are available. Fritsche seconded.

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

MDOT Specification – Driveway Openings & Approaches and Concrete Sidewalk Ramp and Detectable Warning Details: Andreski provided the most recent MDOT Specifications for the above referenced seeing as requests for replacement have been coming in. It is a good idea to have a standard and Andreski will be working with Fritsche to make a new Sidewalk Permit Application.

Commenator moved, with support from Baumgartner to approve the two MDOT Specifications provided. All in favor; motion carried.

Iron County Reporter – Fire Prevention Week: The Iron County Reporter is running an ad thanking the area firefighters for Fire Prevention Week. Rather than run an ad in the amount of \$42, Commenator moved to sponsor the West Iron County Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$42 for Fire Prevention Week. Marcell supported.

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


Winter Ice Control Sand Bids: Two bids were received for the City's winter ice control sand. FA Industrial bid \$5.25/ton loaded at their pit and James Spicer, Inc. bid \$6.05/ton loaded at their pit. After calculating mileage (Spicer is 2.7 miles from the DPW shop and FA is 8.7 miles), man hours and fuel, it was determined that Spicer has the lower price. Commenator moved, with support from Fritsche to award the Winter Ice Control Sand Bid to James Spicer, Inc. in the amount of \$6.05/ton. Roll Call: Ayes -5: Baumgartner, Marcell, Fritsche, Commenator and Tarsi. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

ACC Planned Service, Inc.: Andreski informed the Council that the City's HVAC temperature control system is outdated. The original system was installed in 1998 and is failing. ACC Planned Service is having difficulties finding parts to keep the system running. This new upgrade will allow technicians to view, monitor, and control our system from the internet, which will save the City money in the long run on service calls. This system will also allow the City to be interfaces with cameras for security control. Commenator moved, with support from Fritsche, to approve ACC Planned Service, Inc.'s proposal in the amount of \$11,680 for HVAC Temperature Controls Update. Roll Call: Ayes – 5: Baumgartner, Marcell, Fritsche, Commenator and Tarsi. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Westphal's Inc. – Lighting Proposal: Westphal's provided a quote to upgrade the lighting to the areas that were affected by the water damage. They recommend updating to a more energy efficient model from the T-12 to the T-8. After discussions, it was requested by Marcell and seconded by Marcell to table to obtain a quote for LED lighting. All in favor; motion carried.

Council Member Comments: Commenator commended Andreski on doing a good job as the Interim City Manager. Tarsi agreed.

Adjournment: Baumgartner moved to adjourn at 3:43 p.m. Commenator seconded. All in favor; motion carried.



Rachel Andreski, Interim City Manager/Clerk