

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
SPECIAL MEETING
IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
Friday, October 9, 2015
9 AM
Minutes**

Mayor Terry Tarsi called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., in the Alfred Perlongo Meeting Room at the West Iron County Fire Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Absent: None.

Also present: City Attorney Mark Tousignant and Interim City Manager/Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance: Jon Wierda, John Hull, Mike and Sheila Kapusta.

APPROVE AGENDA

Commenator moved, with support from Baumgartner, to amend the agenda with the following change: move Old Business c. Westphal's Inc. Lighting Quote to a. and change City Manager – Employment Contract (Executive Session) to b. and Krist Oil Tax Appeal (Executive Session) to c. All in favor; Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jon Wierda asked if Mr. Thayer was still the candidate the Council is entertaining to fill the City Manager vacancy. Tarsi noted he is. Wierda stated that a number of the people in the community have asked him about reviews and issues that Mr. Thayer's prior relationship with Grayling and how that's been handled by the City and if those issues have been resolved satisfactorily. He also wondered what the City's contingency plan is should Krist Oil be successful in their position as well as potentially other organizations in town that may take a similar position on their property tax. Tarsi went on record stating that all the members of the Council have reviewed Thayer's resume and reviewed things that were put on the internet, however, Tarsi is not a person who favors gossip on the internet. A thorough job was conducted by the attorney and himself by talking to people from his former communities. As for the Krist Oil tax tribunal issue, sure, it will affect the City's revenue, however, the City is at the mercy of the tribunal.

Sheila Kapusta added she has read up on keeping the "big box stores" from closing their location and deliberately not selling it to claim the tax break because of keeping competition out. For example, if Family Dollar builds and moves their store to a new location in Iron River, what happens to the building they are currently in?

OLD BUSINESS

Westphal's , Inc. Lighting Quote: Andreski explained that at September's Regular Meeting, a quote for upgrading the lighting in areas that were affected by water damage which was tabled to obtain quotes for LED. Commenator moved, with support from Fritsche, to accept Westphal, Inc.'s LED lighting quote in the amount of \$5,903.66.

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

Andreski gave an update on the City Hall Roof Replacement Project. Upon removal of the original roof membrane, approximately half of the material under the membrane is water damaged and deteriorating. Because there is no contingency money, a change order will have to be produced to change the contract amount. After an inspection with Craig Richardson of GEI Consultants, Rick Sheltrow and Andreski, it was determined to move forward with replacing the material. Another surprise was the parapet wall containing asbestos. Rather than disturbing the current material, it has been decided to go over the top of it as the membrane will not adhere to the material that currently exists.

Andreski also added that the flooring in the Council Chambers will be replaced with real hardwood, either oak or maple, and will not be installed until mid-November. Terazzo flooring subcontractors will start on Monday as well as the subcontractor to install the drop ceiling starting in the Council Chambers. The painting sub-contractor has been working around Westphal's schedule to perform their duties.

Roofing has started at Bachman Park, paint colors have been chosen for the restrooms as well as partitions.

The election is scheduled to be held in the Council Chambers. Blossom and Coolidge is scheduled for paving next week.

City Manager – Employment Contract and Krist Oil Tax Appeal (Executive Session):

Commenator moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:26 a.m. to discuss the City Manager Employment Contract and Krist Oil Tax Appeal. Baumgartner seconded.

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

The Special Meeting resumed at 10:12 a.m.

Roll Call: Baumgartner, Commenator, Fritsche, Marcell and Tarsi

Absent: None.

Also present: Tousignant and Andreski.

Public Present: None.

Commenator moved, with support from Baumgartner, to approve the current contract subject to the passing of the employment physical, drug test and background check.

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

Council Member Comments: None.

Adjournment: Commenator moved to adjourn at 10:13 a.m., with support from Fritsche. All in favor; Motion carried.


Rachel Andreski, Interim City Manager/Clerk