

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 8, 2020
9 AM
Minutes**

Chairman Jere Fritsche called the meeting to order at 8:56 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Jim Wester, Pete Djupe, Dennis Powell, Robert Byczek, Jr. and Fritsche.
Absent: None.

Also present: Interim City Manager/Clerk Rachel Andreski and Deputy Treasurer Bernadette Coates.

Public in attendance:
None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Powell moved with support from Byczek to approve the Agenda as presented. All in favor; Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Djupe moved with support from Fritsche to approve the September 10, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes with amending Powell as supporting Byczek's nomination of Fritsche as Commission Chair. All were in favor; Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Andreski informed the Commission of the lease agreement meeting that took place with representatives of River North Bar, Attorney Mark Tousignant, Mayor Powell and herself. McCarthy of River North Bar had proposed a 12-month lease beginning November 1st, property taxes to be paid and a payment of \$100 per month fee. She said a reverter clause will be included for noncompliance of plans and River North will be responsible for all legal fees. After the one-year lease, if River North is still interested in purchasing the lot, the sale would go up for bids.

Andreski stated the Habitat Re-Store had been partially demolished but no other information had been relayed from their representatives.

Andreski updated the Commission of the VFD from the last meeting. She stated that after getting quotes to install the drive, the costs were more than what was anticipated, therefore, the project would not be done.

Andreski said the fall brush pick up has been scheduled for the week of October 26th through the 29th. She also said the brush dump would close on November 2nd.

Andreski stated that Treasurer, Amanda Tukesbrey and Richardson of GEI would be participating in a webinar put on by the Michigan Department of Treasury. The topic will be on the Michigan Clean Water Plan and includes \$500 million worth of funding resources to help communities upgrade drinking and wastewater infrastructure.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Master Plan:

- **Action Plan** – After discussing the Corner Posts, it was decided to add to the list:
 - 2) d. Commercial Business Development
 - 3) d. New Business Development
 - 9) Education
 - a. Trade School Courses
 - b. College Courses
 - c. Heavy Equipment/Driving Courses
 - d. Marijuana Management

CIP CY20:

Andreski updated the Commission on the Nanaimo Park Pavilion Roof project and that the West Iron County Building Trades Class would be doing the roof. She said the group will be also probably be able to do the well house roof but not until spring. The City will not have to pay them labor costs but will have to pay for materials.

Andreski informed the Commission that the GMC dually pickup has suffered a major break down and may not be repaired. It has served its purpose and the City crew will be on the lookout for a replacement.

Andreski stated that Caspers Truck Equipment has picked up the haul truck for the box replacement.

CIP CY21: -

Andreski said she included in the meeting packets from Richardson, his opinion of probable construction costs for the 4th Street water loop system improvements. The City has received the MDOT Road Grant for the road portion of \$157,000. There is no contingency included and Richardson suggests 10%.

Andreski stated she also included Richardson's Probable Project Costs for 2021 street improvements, and she said she added Jasper Street, Garnet Street and Harding Avenue to the original list because of the amount of complaints she has received on them. She also said she included the Paser Study for reference when focusing on street improvements.

Andreski said she had received preliminary cost estimates for the Homer Road project. Estimate is \$211,000 for design, bidding, and construction. The bridge deck does not have the apron as speculated and upon Richardson's further review of the project, 80% will be paid by Federal STP funds and 20% State D Funds so there will be no extra expense to the City for the bridge. Preliminary expense estimate costs to the City will be about \$50,000 for design. Richardson is also researching other improvements to add to the project which would also fall under the State D Funds.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Byczek presented his drawing plans for two areas. One is Hunter/Franklin Housing Project and the other is US 2 Corridor. The Hunter/Franklin Housing project is a multi-hotel and business complex to be constructed between Hunter Road & Franklin Street and River Avenue & US 2, behind the existing Shopko Building. The US 2 Corridor project would run East and West from 17th Avenue City Limits to River Avenue. The route would utilize side streets for area truck traffic.

Djupe thanked Byczek for his efforts to grill for the City crew during the fall large item disposal.

ADJOURNMENT

Djupe moved with support from Byczek to adjourn at 10:57 a.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.


Bernadette Coates, Deputy Treasurer