

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 9, 2021
9 AM
Minutes**

Chairman Jere Fritsche called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m., in the Council Chambers of Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Jim Wester, Pete Djupe, Dennis Powell, Michael Hoinowski and Fritsche.

Absent: Robert Byczek, Jr.

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

Public in attendance – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

APPROVE AGENDA

Djupe moved, with support from Wester, to approve the Agenda as presented. All in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Byczek.

APPROVE MINUTES

Djupe moved, with support from Powell, to approve the August 12, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. All were in favor; Motion carried. Absent: Byczek.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Master Plan -

Andreski said a meeting was held on September 2nd with her, Beckett & Raeder's John Lacoangeli, Terry Tarsi, DDA Chair, and Jere Fritsche, Planning Commission Chair, regarding the Master Plan. A draft was provided for review. Updates will be made based on their discussion and a new draft will be forthcoming for the Commission's review. John Lacoangeli also suggested a full re-write of the zoning ordinances, focusing on community growth and housing. A copy will also be sent to Christopher Germain (RRC).

Andreski is continuing to work with Jen Tucker, MEDC representative, on the Pocket Park Grant. The full application has been submitted and City is waiting for their response.

Andreski said the City received news they were a recipient of a \$100,000 Rural Development Grant. The money will be spent on the new 2021 International Plow Truck.

Andreski reported there is \$8,042,413 of unclaimed or turned down ARPA monies that will be redistributed between those municipalities that participated, including the City. She would update when new information is received.

Andreski said two marihuana retail facility applicants appealed their license denial. She said each was awarded extra points at the appeal hearing, however it did not change the overall placement of the top license awardees. She said since then, the City had received notice of litigation and Tousignant had suggested amending the ordinance to curb any future challenges.

Andreski said she had met with Rick Kinsey, (DDA Member and ICECA Trustee), and the ICECA will be spearheading the Wayfinding System including partial financing. The signs would be a cohesive design throughout the County.

Harvest & Haunt will be on September 25th at the RV Park.

Fall Clean Up is scheduled for September 18th, 8a.m. to Noon. There is no grant available this time, but 10 tires per household will again be accepted.

Andreski said she had discussions with Mark Bromley of the ICECA regarding upgrades to the RV Park. The three large culverts in the drive, that have heaved, will need to be replaced and they are looking to have a sewer line hooked up to an additional site.

Andreski said F.A. Industrial is done with the ditching and culvert work on Homer Road. Payne & Dolan will be starting the road work soon then F.A. Industrial will be back to do the bridge deck.

Andreski reported that K&D Service had relinquished his U-Haul business to Darren Mercier.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Hoinowski said he had been approached by City residents expressing their concerns with a marihuana retail facility in the Kentucky Fried Chicken building.

ADJOURNMENT

Djupe moved with support from Wester to adjourn at 10:13 a.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.
Absent – Byczek.



Bernadette Coates, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer