

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, July 2, 2025
9:30 AM
Minutes**

Mayor Rodney Dood called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Dennis Powell, Anthony Clements, Benjamin Garcia (arrived at 9:31 a.m.), Ronjo Leonoff and Dood.

Also Present: City Manager Rachel Andreski, City Clerk Tyana Elenbaas and Interim City Attorney Hannah L. Goodman.

Public in attendance: Wendy Graham (IC Reporter), Adam Polley and Mark Polley.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Polley asked if there will be just a discussion or if the Council plans on making a decision on the Global Response Building.

Dood stated that discussions will be held and contingent upon the conversation, a decision will be made.

NEW BUSINESS

Global Response Building

Andreski reported that she was contacted by Michael Shooster of Global Response regarding a building and the surrounding property. Mr. Shooster indicated that if the property does not sell by July, he would like to donate it to the City. It is now July and no offers have been accepted.

Powell inquired about how big the parcel is, to which it was determined to be about half block.

Andreski noted that Mr. Shooster has retained a local attorney to assist with the transition should the City choose to accept the donation. She further stated that there are five tax bills associated with the property, totaling approximately \$6,700. Additionally, she confirmed that all utilities for the property are current.

Garcia stated that the building is in good condition and noted that there has been prior interest from potential buyers. He mentioned that a previous offer was made, but it was rejected for being too low. He expressed that if the City were to acquire the building, it should be sold promptly to any interested parties.

Powell recommends bonding funds to demolish the building if needed, following prior legal advice from Mark Tousignant.

Garcia added that the building was winterized and has been heated. The basement is said to have Radon, but there has been a system to remove it.

Leonoff added that building would make good apartments, which our City needs.

Dood noted that one boiler is bad, but the heaters are around 4-5 years old.

Attorney Goodman stated that this is potentially a good thing. There are people interested in building. She recommended that the City investigate the radon issue and see if it has been remediated. She noted that if the City did inherit the building, we would need to sell it quickly. She suggested that Attorney Tinti might be the attorney representing Shooster. She suggested that the Council earmark the funds when the building is sold. She agreed with Powell on the bonding. Leonoff moved with support from Garcia to accept the donation of the Global Response Building. Roll Call: Ayes- 4: Powell, Clements, Garcia, Leonoff and Dood. Nays -0. All in favor; Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Polley stated that the City is not in the Real Estate business. He suggested that the Council take more time to hire an independent inspector to look over the building and evaluate it before acquiring it.

Adam Polley stated that the City Council members are not realtors. He suggested that Mayor Dood should have abstained from voting because he is in direct conflict of interest. He added that he feels as though the Council is being frivolous with taxpayers' money and doesn't have the City's best interest at heart.

Attorney Goodman stated that she understands public concern and reiterated that the City is not in the real estate business but this is a unique opportunity. She noted that the key to this acquisition is to turn around and sell it as quickly as possible to make sure the City doesn't end up with bigger issues later.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Leonoff suggested selling the generator and the building to offset the costs of the remodel of the Reporter. He noted that the Council members are trying to do their jobs and suggested that the Polley's "be quiet" until the Council members can figure out a solution.

ADJOURNMENT

Dood motioned with support from Garcia to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m. Motion carried.



Tyana Elenbaas, City Clerk