

Proceedings of the Ironwood City Commission

A Regular Meeting of the Ironwood City Commission was held on January 14, 2008 at 5:30 P.M., in the Commission Chambers, Second Floor of the Municipal Memorial Building in the City of Ironwood.

A. Mayor Noren called the Regular Meeting to Order at 5:30 P. M.

B. Recording of the Roll:

PRESENT: Commissioner Burchell, Laabs, Lamb, Toth and Mayor Noren.

ABSENT: None.

C. Approval of the Consent Agenda.\*

\*1) Approval of Minutes – December 26th Regular City Commission Meeting and Work Session of December 17<sup>th</sup>.

\*2) Review and Place on File:

a) Ironwood Planning Commission Meeting of December 5<sup>th</sup>.

\*3) Approve Balancing Change Order (Final) for the Lowell Street Project.

\*4) Approve Resolution adopting Ordinance No. 463, Book 4, an Ordinance to Amend Article Section 34-32 – “Map” of Chapter 34 – Zoning Code of the City of Ironwood. The map herein is amended and changed to depict the following described property from R-1 (single family residential) to R-2 (multi-family residential), namely

- . 627 Pabst Street
- . 119 Hibbert Street
- . 123 Hibbert Street
- . 127 Hibbert Street

*Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Burchell to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Unanimously passed by roll call vote.*

D. Approval of the Agenda.

Mayor Bruce Noren requested item J1. Community Development Department be added to the Agenda

*Motion was made by Lamb, seconded by Burchell and carried to approve the Agenda as amended adding J1. Community Development Department.*

E. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items on the Agenda. (Three Minute Limit).

John Garske and Keith Johnson of Coleman Engineering reserved the right to speak under Item K.

OLD BUSINESS

F. Discuss and Consider awarding bid to Landmark Appraisal Company for the reappraisal of the City of Ironwood in the amount of \$214,500.

City Manager Scott Erickson stated that at the request of the City Commission a decision on this item was postponed until today's meeting to obtain further information from Staff. He noted that City Assessor Dennis Hewitt may have two additional companies who may be interested in submitting a bid – one firm is from Michigan and one from Wisconsin, however, there is no guarantee that Landmark Appraisal Company will re-bid. Because there is a potential to save dollars on this project, City Manager Erickson believes it is worth the gamble of Landmark not

re-bidding and is recommending that it be re-bid. It was noted that City Assessor Hewitt felt comfortable awarding the bid to Landmark Appraisal Company because of their experience in this field and because they are a Michigan based company.

*Motion by Laabs, seconded by Lamb to re-bid the reappraisal of the City of Ironwood.*

**ROLL CALL: Yes (3) Commissioner Burchell, Laabs and Lamb.  
No (2) Commissioner Toth and Mayor Noren.**

**Motion carried on a 3 to 2 vote.**

G. Discuss and Consider request from the Sports Hall of Fame Committee to utilize the Women's Club Room in the Memorial Building as a permanent Sports Hall of Fame Room.

Mayor Noren thanked the Sports Hall of Fame Committee for their proposal. While he respects what their organization does, he noted that the use of the Women's Club Room has elevated over the past couple of years. He suggested a compromise be met to satisfy everyone.

Ron Trethewey from the Committee stated that it was always the intent to have the room for themselves. Percy Smith had three questions for the Commission: 1) can the Committee use the room on a permanent basis; 2) can they hang plaques on the wall; and 3) what other terms and conditions need to be met.

City Attorney Dennis Cossi did not believe the City could give away public property on a permanent basis.

Other suggestions for the Sports Hall of Fame Room were the pool area or the entrance to the auditorium. It was agreed that the Committee would meet again with staff. No action was taken on this item.

#### NEW BUSINESS

H. Final report on the 2007 Urban Deer Management Hunt.

City Manager Scott Erickson indicated that there were 23 hunters this year and 70 antlers less deer killed. There was very little conflict this year and the results were a big impact with removing the deer. The group will meet to critique this year's hunt and will recommend changes for next year. He thanked Bob Miklesh and Ron Nygard for their help in testing the hunters. They have elevated their presence with the program. Erickson noted that no one got a buck.

I. Manager's Report.

City Manager Scott Erickson gave a verbal report on the following::

- \*Thanked all the volunteers who were involved with the very successful Sledfest event.
- \*Request for Proposals will be opened on January 15<sup>th</sup> for engineering services for the Jessieville water and sewer project. After review by staff, it will be brought back to the City Commission.
- \*Request for Proposals will be opened on January 16<sup>th</sup> for the water distribution system update.
- \*Public Safety and the Volunteer Fire Fighters will be touring the new Wal-Mart facility on January 16<sup>th</sup>. The PSD is under contract for fire service to the facility.
- \*Six candidates will be interviewed for the Community Development Director's position on Wednesday and Friday of this week.
- \*A meeting with the applicants of the Façade I and II grant program will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00, Memorial Bldg. This will be an informational update.
- \*Presidential Primary is on January 15<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Attended a MSHDA Conference on Downtown Redevelopment last week, along with a member of the DIDA. The programs will be reviewed with the DIDA at their next regular meeting.

J. Other Matters.

1. Community Development Department.

Mayor Noren thanked Community Development Assistant Jane Bowman and others for picking up extra work while in the interim of hiring a new Development Director.

K. Citizens wishing to address the Commission on Items not on the Agenda. (Five Minute Limit).

John Garske, President of Coleman Engineering and Keith Johnson their Business Development Director, both spoke on the importance of hiring local businesses for City projects. Many of their employees (which were in attendance) live in the City and are active within the community. They discussed how important the Jessieville water and sewer project was to them. They have been involved with the Jessieville project for the past five years (costs have been laid out) and believe they are the most qualified to complete the engineering work. Their fees were well within the cost per Rural Development's guidelines. Mayor Noren appreciated their comments.

Jim Albert commented on what was stated above. He believes the City should deal with local people because the money stays in the community.

L. Adjournment.

***Motion was made by Laabs, seconded by Toth and carried to adjourn this meeting at 6:35 P.M.***

Bruce A. Noren, Mayor

Jane Bowman, Deputy Clerk