

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2002  
6:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Legion Room of the Iron River City Hall, with Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom presiding.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present include Ray Coates, Virgil Thompson, Tom Beber, Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom, City Manager Rick Commenator, City Attorney Mark Tousignant and City Clerk Peggy Shamion. Safford (absent)

Mark Polley, Glen Dobson, Arthur Sacheck, Bob Hagelin and George Treado also attended the meeting.

Beber moved with Coates supporting to amend the agenda to include under 9 (b) Attorney invoice and 7 (e) Iron County Planning Commission minutes of 2-18-02. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL  
TO AMEND  
AGENDA**

Thompson moved with Beber supporting to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 20, 2002 as written. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**APPROVE  
MINUTES**

There was no public comment at this time.

Beber moved with Coates supporting to approve the Consent Agenda which included the DDA minutes of January 21, 2002, WICSA minutes of January 28, 2002, Board of Commissioners U.S. 2 Resolution and Iron County Planning Commission minutes of February 28, 2002. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**APPROVE  
CONSENT  
AGENDA**

Mayor Soderbloom asked that the WICSA Board resignation of Terry Tarsi be discussed. There seems to be some confusion with interpretation of the new city Charter. When Tarsi resigned he stated that his reasons were under Section 2.03 where it states that the Mayor shall be a member of the City Council and shall preside at meetings of the council, represent the city in intergovernmental relationships, and he felt the Mayor should be on the board.

**RESIGNA-  
TION ON  
WICSA BY  
TERRY  
TARSI**

Soderbloom pointed out that in Section 2.05 under Prohibitions it states, "No council member during the elected term shall hold any compensated or appointive office or employment, on or with any intergovernmental agency or authority currently involved in a contractual relationship with the City". She said she wouldn't mind serving on the WICSA, but she felt due to this section of the Charter, she cannot serve on it.

Tousignant interjected that a question to be answered is, whether or not the Mayor is a member of the City Council. Under Section 2.02 (a) It states the City Council shall be composed of the Mayor and four members. Also under Section 2.03 it states the Mayor shall be a member of the City Council. Tousignant's interpretation is that under Section 2.05, the Mayor cannot service on any authority with a intergovernmental relationship with the city.

**MAYOR  
SERVING ON  
BOARDS  
ACCORDING  
TO THE  
CHARTER**

Thompson disagreed and stated that the Mayor is not a council member, he/she is the Mayor.

The board asked George Treado who was on the Charter committee if he could remember what the intent was at the time of collating the Charter.

Treado stated, "that the intent was that the Mayor was elected by all the people".

After some discussion, Coates moved to table the matter until the city can obtain a legal opinion whether it be from the Attorney General or a legal source from the Michigan Municipal League. Soderbloom supported the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

Beber moved with Soderbloom supporting to accept the resignation of Terry Tarsi from the WICSA.

Roll Call: Ayes: 2 Nays: 2 (Thompson & Coates) Absent: 1 – Safford. The vote failed.

**RESIGNA-  
TION OF  
TERRY  
TARSI FROM  
WICSA**

**REPORTS**

The Manager, Public Works and Police Dept. reports were all accepted, on a motion from Coates with Beber supporting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**DEPT.  
REPORTS**

Tousignant reported that Iron River Township has signed the document for the sewer interceptor charges.

**LEGAL  
REPORT**

The sewer situation with Sunrise Ave. is proceeding. Stambaugh Township and the city will be presented with a contract by the WICSA which would obligate them to the Sewer Authority and adopt ordinances.

Tousignant also suggested that the board review the sewer ordinance.

The February disbursements were accepted and placed on file on a motion from Beber with Coates supporting.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

**FEB DISBUR  
SEMENTS  
APPROVED**

Thompson moved with Beber supported to pay Attorney Tousignant's invoice of \$3,588.98.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

**ATTORNEYS  
BILL**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Commenator reported that he has been in contact with MDOT and has been advised that they are not widening the intersection of M189 and U.S. 2. this year. It's not in the project because they needed both sides of the intersection, and the project has already been let.

**4<sup>TH</sup> AVE.  
INTERSEC-  
TION**

However, they did inform Commenator that if the city could get the property straightened out and deeded over to them, they could say possibly next year with discretionary funds, redo just the intersection.

Regarding the curve on Maple St, this would have to be programmed into their construction and probably wouldn't be done for 5 or 6 years, because it is a more expensive process.

There are a couple of grants available, and the board asked Commenator to pursue funding for the former Jean's Floral building. (Brownfield funding and Michigan Economic Development Corporation Block Grant)

Due to the cost of demolition of the Cloverland Bar building and the common wall with the accounting office to the north, the project became to expensive for the DEQ to administratively approve, which they previously had. Due to the asbestos in the building, it would cost approximately \$500,000 to dispose of the building.

**CLOVERLND  
BAR  
DEMOLITION**

A Clean Michigan Initiative Brownfield Site nomination form was submitted in August of 2001, but the first round of funding was October 2001 and the city was no notified, so it's obvious we weren't selected. Commenator asked both Koivisto and Brown's Offices to investigate the status on the building.

Beber moved with Coates supporting to have Commenator prepare a resolution to the state regarding the safety hazard of the Cloverland Bar building. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Thompson moved with Coates supporting to table any discussion on the Iron River Township sewer interceptor agreement until a full board is present. A special meeting is set up for Friday, March 8, 2002 at 2:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion passed.

**I.R. TWP  
INTERSEPT-  
OR SEWER  
LINE  
AGREEMT**

**NEW BUSINESS**

The hospital would like to do a construction project this summer at a cost of \$3,200,000. They needed the city to establish a Hospital Finance Authority to issue the bonds for their project. There would be no liability to the city or it's residence. The project will have 3 phases.

**HOSPITAL  
FINANCE  
AUTHORITY  
ESTABLISH-  
ED**

Commenator has been in contact with the bonding attorney's and is assured there is no liability to the city.

Coates moved to accept the proposal & proceed with the paperwork. Appoint the City Manager, Clerk and Treasurer as the Hospital Finance Authority. Soderbloom supported the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

The RV Park Manager has asked permission to hire summer help at \$5.15/hr for 24 hrs per week. Commenator suggested that we increase the monthly management fee to reimburse this cost, would be an additional \$177.50/month.

**RV PARK  
SUMMER  
PART TIME  
HELP**

With that, Coates moved with Thompson supported to follow Manager Commenator's recommendation on hiring part time help at the RV Park for the summer and increase the monthly management fee to reimburse the cost.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

Beber moved with Thompson supporting to amend the Council Rules of Procedure. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**AMEND  
RULES &  
PROCEDURE**

Coates moved with Beber supporting to table any discussion on the time and temperature clock of the DDA's to obtain more facts and cost of maintenance.

**TIME &  
TEMP  
CLOCK-DDA**

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 – Safford Motion carried.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Thompson asked about the Iron River North area continuing on the Iron River Central water system. They have been on the central water system for about a week, due to repairs in the well at the township. Commenator answered that there is concern with fire volume rather than pressure.

Beber moved with Coates supporting to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Peggy Shamion, CMC