

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2003
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.

Members present included Ray Coates, Tom Beber, Virgil Thompson, Roger Zanon, Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom, City Manager Rick Commenator and City Clerk Peggy Shamion.

Others attending the meeting included Fay Frailing, John Fish, Lynn Aho, Glen & Donna Dobson, Mark Gasperini, Roy Polich, Mike Gatzow, Lyndsey Saigh, Jane Bonetti, George Treado and several local skateboarders.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

Thompson moved to accept the agenda as outlined and Beber supported the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 20, 2003 were accepted as presented on a motion from Beber with Thompson supporting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There was no public comment at this time.

**APPROVAL
OF
CONSENT
AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda which consisted of the WICSA minutes of 7-28-03, DDA minutes of 7-21-03, Zoning Board minutes of 7-24-03, and the August check register, was approved on a motion from Thompson with Zanon supporting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**JOAN HALL
BUILDING
RESTRICTION
LIFTED
ON LOTS**

Coates moved with Thompson supporting to lift the previous building restriction granted to Joan Hall on the lots she purchased last year, so she can incorporate them into a single parcel (as outlined by Manager Commenator). Hall will pay for the legal costs to remove the restriction.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

**READVERTISE
WICSA
BOARD
MEMBER
POSITION**

Manager Commenator informed the board that he has not received any applications to fill the expired term of Terry Tarsi on the WICSA. The Board directed Commenator to readvertise the position.

**MANAGER
REPORT**

Beber moved with Coates supporting to accept the Manager's report. All were in favor. Motion passed.

The Police and Public Works reports were accepted on a motion from Thompson with Beber supporting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Because most of the audience consisted of skateboarders, Mayor Soderbloom moved the skateboard park discussion next.

SKATE-
BOARD
PARK

Manager Commenator made final arrangements to have a contractor pour the pad for the skateboard park. When the area was reviewed by a parent, they contacted the Mayor with concerns that the pad was going to be too small (24' x 64') and the kids wouldn't use the site.

Manager Commenator stated that when he was City Manager of Constantine, they installed a pad 80' x 100'. Fay Frailing, one of the concerned parents, felt that size would be a more useable one. Mrs. Frailing and her group also felt a need for a "half-pipe" to make the site more challenging.

The increase in size of the site would require additional concrete and fencing. The group was asking for additional time to allow for more planning and fund raising. Mrs. Frailing said that they have people who have committed themselves to various ways to help fund the project, such as engineering and cement work.

Councilmen Thompson felt the Recreation Board should be made aware of this and find out what is included in their 5 year plan. Also the "Friends of Nelson Field" have a plan in place that should be checked into.

There has been some discussion about locating the site at the former Franklin Garage. Another option would be to put the site at the tennis courts area at Bachman Park. Then in turn, the tennis courts would be moved to Nelson Field.

The group was asking for additional time to allow for more planning and fund raising. Mrs. Frailing said that they have people who have committed themselves to various ways to help fund the project, such as engineering and cement work.

Manager Commenator informed the board that he spoke to a contractor about redoing the tennis courts at Bachman Park. All of the concrete border and fence around the tennis courts would have to be removed, in order to get the equipment inside.

Thompson moved to allow the group more time to raise money and reconvene the Recreation Board and Friend of Nelson Field to find out what their plans are. Beber supported the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

The board agreed to allow Fay Frailing get a group together to get more information on the project.

Roy Polich was present on behalf of Mark Gasperini in reference to lots 8, 9 & 10 of the Hammer Plat. Polich had sent Attorney Tousignant a letter the first week of August and to date, has not had a response.

**MARK
GASPERINI
BILLBOARD
LOTS**

They had concerns about statements made at a previous meeting regarding Mr. Gasperini not being forth right in property ownership where the billboard signs are located and also that their may be a violation of the signs.

Secondly, they want it clarified if there is a violation at the site after the city's inspection of the site. Gasperini will not proceed with the landscaping of the project, if the city intends to proceed with a violation at the site.

Polich then referred to the June 5, 2003 minutes where the city was asked to purchase the state's interest in 5 parcels. He questioned why the city would purchase this particular land as a good part of it is right-of-way, and has no value to anyone.

There seemed to be confusion as to what Mr. Gasperini was granted the variance on. Whether it was the property the billboard is on or the entire parcel, still has yet to be determined.

Mr. Gasperini would also like to purchase the other lots, next to his billboard from the city.

The board agreed that as soon as Attorney Tousignant gets back from vacation, the issue gets resolved.

Beber moved to appoint Bob Mattson to the Stambaugh Housing Authority (resident member). Coates offered support. All in favor. Motion carried.

**APPT BOB
MATTSON
TO STMBO
HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

FINANCIALS

Engineering invoice from STS Consultants for North District Water Application of \$1,154.07 was approved for payment on a motion from Beber and Thompson supporting.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Thompson moved with Beber supporting to approve STS Consultant bill of \$11,032.01 for engineering services and material testing for 7th Ave. Improvements.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

STS Consultant invoice for sewer improvements of \$2,341.48 was approved for payment on a motion from Coates with Soderbloom supporting.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Beber moved with Soderbloom supporting to approve pay estimate #20 for the Iron River Water Project, with joint checks to be issued to the subcontractors.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

Attorney fees for the month of August 2003 for \$1,074.00 were approved for payment on a motion from Coates with Beber supporting.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion passed.

**ATTORNEY
FEES
APPROVED**

NEW BUSINESS

The Lease and Management Agreement with the Chamber of Commerce expired on July 1, 2003. Correspondence has been received from the Chamber indicating their willingness to enter into a 3 year agreement.

**CHAMBER
AGREEMENT
WITH THE
CITY**

The Chamber presently pays the city \$250/month for rent and the city pays the Chamber \$250/month plus 20% of the gross receipts to manage the RV Park.

The Chamber also pays \$75/month for utilities, which are paid by the city. Last year the utilities averaged \$173/month.'

Commenator suggested a committee be appointed to meet with the Chamber's Budget Committee to discuss this before finalizing a new agreement.

Mayor Soderbloom and Councilmen Beber will be on the committee and meet with Chamber officials to discuss a new agreement.

**ACCEPT
JODY
TARSI'S
RESIGNI-
TATION
ZONING/PLA
NNING**

Beber moved with Soderbloom supporting to accept with regret Jody Tarsi's resignation from the Zoning/Planning Board and allow Manager Commenator to advertise the position. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Coates moved with Beber supporting to have Manager Commenator investigate the cost of a new siren in conjunction with the WIC Fire Dept. (on top of City Hall) and report back to the board.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

**CITY HALL
SIREN**

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mayor Soderbloom welcomed Councilmen Roger Zanon.

Beber moved with Coates supporting to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Peggy Shamion, CMC
City Clerk**