

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 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.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present included Councilmen Virgil Thompson, Ray Coates, Roger Zanon, Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom, City Manager Rick Commenator, City Attorney Mark Tousignant and City Clerk Peggy Shamion. Tom Beber was on vacation.

George Treado, Tom Mayo, Mike Gatzow, Bernie St. Germain and Jere Fritsche also attended the meeting.

Additions to the agenda included under Old Business 10(b) MERS Resolution, (c) City Manager search; under New Business (c) Budget, (d) Financial Question and delete under Public Comment Warning Siren Presentation.

**APPROVAL
OF AGENDA**

Coates moved with Thompson supporting to approve the amended agenda as outlined. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on November 19, 2003 were accepted as presented on a motion from Thompson with Coates supporting. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**APPROVE
MINUTES**

There were no public comments at this time.

The Consent Agenda which consisted of the WICSA minutes of 10-27-03 and the Watershed Council minutes of 11-3-03 were accepted on a motion from Thompson and Zanon supporting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

Coates moved with Thompson supporting to approve the department reports for November. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**DEPART-
MENT
REPORTS**

FINANCIALS

Legal fees for November total \$945.00 and were approved on a motion from Coates and Zanon supporting.

LEGAL FEES

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

Pay estimate #23 for the water project was discussed next. Tom Mayo of STS Consultants reported that the contract work for Alliance

**I.R. WATER
PROJ PAY
EST. #23**

Construction is completed and there are just change orders left to approve. A committee was formed consisting of Tom Mayo, Rick Commenator, Mark Tousignant, Virgil Thompson and Char Soderbloom to meet to review retainage issues.

**I.R. WATER
WATER
PROJECT**

Mayo reported that STS Consultants is working on an “as built” map for every piece of pipe that was buried in the ground. All valves have a specific number and the number is listed in a book, which explains the exact location of the valve.

There is also a book compiled of sketches of curb stops for every house in Iron River, which shows all locations.

They are also working with the contractor on O&M manuals and when all information is collected the manuals will be turned over to the city.

Coates moved with Soderbloom supporting to approve pay estimate #23 for the Iron River Water Project.

**APPROVE
PAY EST #23**

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

Soderbloom moved with Coates supporting to approve invoice #251013 from STS Consultants for engineering for Nelson Field totaling \$1,791.25.

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

Coates moved with Zanon supporting to approve payment to STS Consultants for engineering services on River St/Allen St. project for \$7,865.00

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

Zanon moved with Soderbloom supporting to approve payment to STS Consultants for construction engineering and material testing on the 7th Ave. improvements for \$978.00.

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

Coates moved with Zanon supporting to approve payment to STS Consultants for engineering for the North Water District Application and revision for Rural Development for \$2,272.50.

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

OLD BUSINESS

As part of the water project, the city planned to purchase meters, meter parts and new meter reading equipment. When the change

**PURCHASE
METERS &
METER
READ EQUIP**

order was submitted to Rural Development for approval, it was rejected as not being reimbursable. (even though Stambaugh's water project allowed them to purchase the same equipment) Being close to the end of the project, the order was placed so it could be included in the project. We have received the equipment already, but could return it.

**I.R. WATER
PROJECT &
PURCHASE
METERS &
EQUIPMENT**

Commenator was proposing to take the money out of the former Stambaugh reserve account, which exceeds \$100,000.

Duane Reid of Rural Development is well aware of this money that was left over from Stambaugh's water project and he is claiming that we have a healthy water fund because of it.

Attorney Tousignant stated that he is not sure that the money can cross over the old corporate boundaries. Not under federal law but with state law when we go into consolidation, which required segregation of the debt. He asked for the opportunity to review the consolidation issues.

Coates moved to table any decision and let Attorney Tousignant review the consolidation issues regarding debt. Soderbloom supported the motion.

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

Coates moved with Zanon supporting to adopt the Benefit Program E from MERS for retirees.

**APPROVE
BENEFIT E
FROM MERS**

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

Thompson moved to starting advertising for a City Manager in the local paper and through Michigan Municipal League and Coates supported.

**ADVERTISE
FOR CITY
MANAGER**

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

NEW BUSINESS

Soderbloom moved with Zanon supporting to approve RV Park increase in rates. (see attached outline)

**APPROVE
RV PARK
INCREASE
IN RATES**

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

Thompson moved with Coates supporting to send a letter to individuals who already have reservations and offer to hold the old rates if they pay in full by January 15, 2004.

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

Terry Tarsi has expressed an interest in purchasing lots 14, 15 and 16 of Block 17 of the Plat of Riverside Addition, from the city. The city has no use for the parcel, which is served by city water and sewer. (lot 14 is the only available lot and that is the one he is interested in purchasing – Lots 15 & 16 are utilized for the U.S. 2 right-a-way)

**ADVERTISE
PROPERTY
IN PLAT OF
RIVERSIDE
BLOCK 17
LOT 14**

Commenator has not obtained a value form the City Assessor yet.

Coates moved with Thompson supporting to advertise the property with a value (from the Assessor) plus costs of deed and registration.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1 - Beber Motion carried.

Coates asked about the budget and requested that every 3rd meeting we get year to date figures on all major accounts. He would also like to go back one or two years and compare to where we are now (pick one month).

**REQUEST
FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

Soderbloom moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**Peggy Shamion, CMC
City Clerk**