

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKSHOP
THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2007
10:30 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Council Room of the Iron River City Hall, with Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom presiding.

Members present included Councilmen Roger Zanon, Ray Coates, Ed Marcell, Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom, City Manager John Archocosky and City Clerk Peggy Shamion. Tom Beber was absent.

No one else attended the meeting.

The Industrial Park sign was discussed. The board needs to determine whether or not they want to sell the sign, sell the sign plus the property, or lease the sign. If the city continues as they are, they need to establish some type of structure that would allow other business the opportunity to advertise on the sign.

**INDUSTRIAL
PARK SIGN**

Zanon wanted to know how much the sign generates in revenue and said he would hate to see the city lose money.

Clerk Shamion said the city generates just under \$2,000/yr.

Manager Archocosky suggested leasing the sign to a sign company (two of which are local). That way, the liability and maintenance would revert to the leased company and not the city.

There was a consensus of the board to take bids to lease the industrial park sign and have Attorney Tousignant work on specific details of a lease agreement.

Manager Archocosky will have information for the board at the next regular meeting.

The Sign Policy was the next issue to be discussed by the board.

**SIGN
POLICY**

After Clerk Shamion told the board what was being invoiced to those people who have signs on city property, Zanon felt the city should raise the rate, as the city is not making any money as the present rates stand. "If the individuals don't want to pay the flat rate fee, they can remove their sign", commented Zanon.

Manager Archocosky advised the board that if you have a policy in place, you can't exempt churches as non-profit, as it's not legal.

The board asked that Manager Archocosky work some figures up to charge a minimum on the smaller signs and larger amount on the bigger signs. He will have figures for the next city meeting.

Bates Township water rates are a concern. Bates Township residents are using three times more water than city residents are. Manager Archocosky feels they have leaks somewhere in their system. He informed the board that Bates may put in a new water line and not purchase the water from the city any longer. The revenue lost would be between \$12,000 - \$15,000/yr. When Archocosky met with Bates representatives, they wanted a cheaper rate from the city.

**BATES
TOWNSHIP
WATER
RATES**

Zanon felt that the city loses both ways.

Manager Archocosky felt it wasn't appropriate to sell water cheaper to Bates Township as they are already given a break in the maintenance.

Coates felt that Manager Archocosky should talk to Bates Township and find out if they are going to proceed with a new water line and what the time line is going to be. If it isn't long, then they can stay on the city line until their project is finished. Archocosky will get more information.

Marcell moved with Coates supporting to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 am. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Peggy Shamion, CMC
City Clerk