

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, April 23, 2008
2:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Mayor Charlotte Soderbloom called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Council members Edward Marcell, Ray Coates, Thomas Beber, Roger Zanon and Soderbloom.

Also present: City Manager John Archocosky, City Attorney Mark Tousignant and City Clerk Kathy Anderson.

Public in attendance: Bill Leonoff, Rosalie King, Jim Gibula, Al Perlongo, Ralph Commenator, Julie Melchiori, Adam Steinbrecher, Ron Basso, Tim Hunnicutt, Jozeph Hommel, Bob Black, Jim Quayle and Reporters Allyce Westphal and Wendy Shimun.

Amendments to the Agenda: 11. (j) Complaint-City Property.
Marcell moved to approve the agenda as amended. Beber seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

APP
AMENDED
AGENDA

Zanon moved to accept the following Iron River City Council Minutes:

- March 19, 2008 Regular Meeting
- April 07, 2008 Workshop-Hospital Expansion
- April 16, 2008 Workshop-S2 Grant-Utility rate review

Coates seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ACC
IRCC
MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Iron County Commissioner Rosalie King stated the Iron County Medicare Facility and Victorian Heights is offering incentives for veterans.

The state has moved the county operation millage collection period up. The county will have to borrow money as cash flow will be a problem until taxes can be collected. Anyone with concerns or questions can contact her.

Lisa Spikings has concerns regarding blight and a possible safety issue near her home at 905 5th Avenue, south of the Iron River. She stated a rope swing is hanging from a dead limb over the river. She also has concerns about blight on city owned property across the Iron River just north of her property. Mayor Soderbloom advised that the city property complaint will be addressed later in the meeting.

CITY PROP
BLIGHT

CONSENT AGENDA

Coates moved to accept the consent agenda. Zanon seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Marcell, Zanon, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

ACC
CONSENT
AGENDA

FINANCIALS

Coates moved to accept the March 2008 Financials. Zanon seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Marcell, Zanon, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

**ACC
MARCH 08
FINANCIALS**

Coates moved to accept the March 2008 Check Register. Marcell seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Zanon, Marcell, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

**ACC
MARCH 08
CHECK
REGISTER**

Beber moved to accept the March 2008 DDA & TIF Report. Coates seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Marcell, Zanon, Coates, Beber, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

**ACC DDA &
TIF REPORT**

Coates moved to approve the April 23, 2008 Budget Amendments. Beber seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Marcell, Zanon, Beber, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

**APP
BUDGET
AMEND-
MENTS**

REPORTS

Tousignant advised that a settlement has been reached regarding the Hiawatha Country Estates litigation.
The revised Personnel Policy will have to be reviewed and adopted.
Zanon moved to accept the Attorney Report. Coates seconded. All were in favor.
Motion carried.

**ACC
ATTORNEY
REPORT**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A utility rate increase was discussed. Due to increases from WICSA and MDEQ ACO obligations, projected expenditures indicate an increase needs to be implemented in the sewer fund.

**SEWER
RATE
INCREASE**

Beber moved to increase the MDEQ Reserve flat rate \$1.00 and commodity rate \$.15 in the Iron River South and Central districts. The North district flat rate for MDEQ Reserve will increase \$3.00 and commodity rate will increase \$.80, to comply with the MDEQ ACO. The increase will be reflected on the July 01, 2008 monthly billing. Coates seconded. (See attached).
Roll Call: Ayes: 4: Marcell, Coates, Beber, Soderbloom. Nays: 1: Zanon.
Motion carried four to one.

Coates moved to increase the WICSA fund flat rate \$2.00 and commodity rate \$.65 in the Iron River South and Central districts. Should the WICSA budget not require the projected increase (6%); the rate may be revisited and readjusted. The increase will be reflected on the July 01, 2008 monthly billing. Marcell seconded. (See attached).
Roll Call: Ayes: 4: Beber, Marcell, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 1: Zanon.
Motion carried four to one.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim Hunnicutt of Hovey Companies gave a status report on the Central School. An application submitted to MSHDA has been accepted. The City and DDA have

been in contact with MDEQ and it appears they will assist in the some environmental cleanup costs. Then the application and planning stages can begin. The structure will remain the same to maintain historic value. The building will be converted into an 18 unit residential housing facility. Site cleanup is the most important concern at this time.

**UPDATE ON
CENTRAL
SCHOOL**

The Rodeo Committee would like to hold a street dance on Saturday, June 07, 2008, stated Wendy Shimun, a representative of the committee. It would be held on Genesee Street, which will require blocking the street from 1st to 3rd Avenue. Archocosky will speak to Police Chief Goriesky. Shimun will get back to us on the exact time.

**RODEO
COMM
STREET
DANCE**

The above street dance request was approved on a motion from Zanon. Coates seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Marcell, Coates, Zanon, Soderbloom. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

A Public Hearing on the 2008-2009 Budget is scheduled for May 21, 2008 at 1:45 p.m., before the regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

**PUBLIC
HEARING
BUDGET**

A request was received from the Iron Range Firefighters Association to use Bachman Park on July 19, 2008, in conjunction with Rum Rebellion Days. The softball tournament raises money for the Burned-Out Victims Fund.

Zanon moved to allow the park to be used by the Firefighters Association on July 07, 2008 for a softball tournament. Beber seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Coates, Marcell, Beber, Zanon, Soderbloom. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**IRON
RANGE
FIRE-
FIGHTER
REQ
BACHMAN
PARK**

Soderbloom appointed Roger Zanon and Allyce Westphal to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to fill existing vacancies.

**APPT TO
BROWN-
FIELD**

Jozeph Hommel, a junior at West Iron County (WIC) High School has requested to open a concession stand at Bachman Park for the summer months. Liability issues were raised.

Coates moved to direct Archocosky to try and work out an arrangement with Hommel. Zanon seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Marcell, Zanon, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**CONCESS-
ION @
BACHMAN**

A request has been received from the WIC Booster Club for a one day liquor license for June 21, 2008. The Athletic Department is hosting a fundraiser at the armory.

Marcell moved to approve a Resolution granting the request from the WIC Booster Club for a one day liquor license. Coates seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 4: Zanon, Coates, Marcell, Soderbloom. Nays: 0. Abstain: 1: Beber. Beber currently serves on the WIC Booster Club.

**RESOLU-
TION WIC
BOOSTER 1
DAY
LIQUOR
LICENSE**

The annual Michigan Municipal League (MML) membership renewal invoice (06-01-2008 – 05-31-2009) in the amount of \$2911.00 has been received.

Coates moved to pay the MML invoice in the amount of \$2911.00 Marcell seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Zanon, Marcell, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**APPROVE
MML
RENEWAL**

Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Chairman Jim Gibula outlined modifications to the Downtown Development and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan.

The Downtown Development and TIF Plan is being modified and restated by the DDA Board for the purpose of updating the plan with respect to certain improvements in the development area, and extending the term of the TIF Plan to 2043.

Marcell offered a Resolution of Intent to Modify the City of Iron River Downtown Development Authority Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan. Zanon seconded. (See attached).

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Coates, Zanon, Marcell, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.

Motion carried.

**MODIFY
DOWNTOWN
DEV & TIF
PLANS**

On August 12, 2004, the city entered into a license agreement with Larry and Gail Puckett, allowing them to store personal property and erect a movable storage shed on city owned property south of their property located at 1009 5th Avenue. A blight concern has been raised in regard to the city owned property. Photos of the property and a copy of the license agreement were reviewed. The agreement states the licensee (Puckett) shall in connection with its use comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations, and all health and fire codes. (Compliance with Laws, Page 1. item 5).

Coates moved to allow the licensee (Puckett) 14 days to clean up city property according to the license agreement or revoke the license. Zanon seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes: 5: Beber, Marcell, Zanon, Coates, Soderbloom. Nays: 0.

Motion carried.

**BLIGHT
CONCERN
CITY
PROPERTY**

Marcell moved to adjourn at 3:30 p.m. Beber seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Kathy L. Anderson, City Clerk