

**CITY OF IRON RIVER
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 18, 2011
2 PM
Minutes**

Mayor Roger Zanon called the meeting to order at 2 p.m., in the Council Chambers at the Iron River City Hall.

Roll Call: Thomas King, ~~Michael Brozak~~, Ray Coates, Edward Marcell and Zanon.

Absent: Michael Brozak

Also present: Manager John Archocosky and Deputy Clerk Rachel Andreski.

Public in attendance: Craig Richardson, Rosalie King, Keith Hamel, Mike Manfrom, Dave Sankey, Ben Smith (Iron County Doings) and Reporter Marian Volek (WIKB/Iron County Reporter).

APPROVE AGENDA

Amendments to the agenda: NEW BUSINESS: 10. f) Sale of former Hawke's Shoe Shop.

Marcell moved to approve the agenda as amended. Coates seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

Coates moved; Marcell seconded. All in favor. Motion carried to accept the following Iron River City Council Minutes:

- April 19, 2011 Regular Meeting
- May 4, 2011 Special Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Sankey addressed the City Council about his displeasure with the Zoning/Planning Board. He would like to construct a new addition to his existing building on Washington Avenue that does not conform to the current Zoning Ordinance. Sankey can go to the Zoning Board of Appeals if his permit application is denied.

County Commissioner Rosalie King updated the Council on County issues such as the Michigan State University (MSU) Contract for Economic Development. In the new proposed contract, MSU is proposing to do away with the Economic Developer position. Iron County is currently sharing Economic Developer Julie Melchori with multiple counties. The 4-H Program may also be in jeopardy. King also addressed the Council with the hold up of the proposed Iron County Medical Care Facility expansion. There has been some discussion that the delay in the expansion stems from the litigation with the County and the City of Iron River, however, Chester Pintarelli provided a letter from bond council that indicates this is not true.

Keith Hamel questioned why the Strawberry Hill Water Tank is being removed as he is already experiencing low water pressure. Archocosky explained with the design of the new water system it is no longer needed and the tank is currently empty. Craig Richardson of GEI Consultants noted that tank has been off-line for approximately three years and that when the tank went off-line, the pressure of the new water system was set to match the pressure of the tank. Richardson explained the City, per law, has to maintain a certain level of pressure at street level. Richardson will perform a pressure test and provide Hamel with the level of minimum pressure amount.

Hamel also expressed interest on holding a position on the Board of Review as he was a member prior to consolidation. Archocosky asked him to submit his request in writing and would he consider sitting on other Boards.

Mike Manfrom expressed concern with the condition of the asphalt on the Apple Blossom Trail. Several places along the route near the Americinn there is erosion. Where the trail crosses Genesee Street, there are two small yellow lines where the curb cuts are. People are parking in front of these curb cuts and blocking the trail. Archocosky will look at the maintenance agreement. He also noted there are new ADA Standards for handicapped parking in parking lots and would appreciate it if the City would comply with bringing it up to current standards.

Ben Smith inquired about the Merit Network and if the City is going to take advantage of their offerings. Archocosky confirmed that Merit is coming through our area and have submitted an permit application to the City for DSL Service. It is on the agenda under New Business and more will be addressed at that time.

Hamel asked for an update of the Central School project. Archocosky reported that things were moving along now, but has been struggling because of the lack of ability to sell tax credits which are purchased by businesses which is used to offset profits. There has been such little profit (state and federal levels) so tax credits aren't selling. Now tax credits started selling and the State of Michigan last week abolished tax credits. There are serious investors interested and things are moving along.

CONSENT AGENDA

Coates moved; King seconded, to receive and file the Consent Agenda which included the following:

- a) March 21, 2011 DDA Minutes
- b) April 1, 2011 DDA & City Council Joint Meeting Minutes
- c) April 2011 DDA/TIF Financials
- d) March 17, 2011 EDC Minutes
- e) April 4, 2011 Iron County Watershed Coalition Minutes
- f) April 5, 2011 Iron County Airport Committee Minutes
- g) April 26, 2011 WICSA Packet
- h) April 2011 Iron River Police Report
- i) May 18, 2011 Pending Issue List
- j) May 18, 2011 Manager Report
- k) April 14, 2011 Planning Commission Minutes
- l) April 14, 2011 Housing Commission Public Hearing Minutes
- m) April 14, 2011 Housing Commission Minutes

All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Attorney: After review, Coates moved to receive and file the May 2011, Attorney Report. King seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIALS:

April 11 Financials: Reviewed and accepted on a motion from King. Coates seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, Coates, King, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

April 11 Check Register: Marcell moved to accept and file as written. King seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Coates, King, Marcell, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Tousignant Invoice: King moved to approve City Attorney Mark Tousignant's invoice in the amount of \$5,565.80. Zanon seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Coates, Marcell, King, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Adopt 2011-12 Budget: King moved to adopt the 2011-012 Budget. Coates seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, Coates, King, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Merit Network – Metro Act Permit: Metro Network, Inc. is a non-profit organization committed to providing Internet access (including Internet2 access) to educational, governmental, health care, and research needs of the State of Michigan. The proposed route starts on E US-2 at the City Limits, it comes into W. Hunter Road west until it hits River Avenue and follows until it hits the Armory, runs west until it hits 6th Avenue back to US-2 and heads back out of the City at the corporate limits. Richardson made a recommendation that wherever they are doing buried lines, Merit should put it as close to the right-of-way lines as possible to leave room for future utilities.
Coates moved to approve the Merit Network Metro Act Permit. King seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, King, Coates, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

West Side Veteran's Council Sponsorship: Coates moved to approve the sponsorship for the West Side Veteran's Council in the amount of \$250. Marcell seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: King, Marcell, Coates, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

GEI Consultants RD 2009 Water/Sewer System Improvements Projects Controls Bid Award Recommendation/Resolution: Richardson explained that these are two separate projects, however, to save City money, they bid the controls portion of the projects as if it were one. When the construction portion goes out for bids, the selected contractor must utilize the City's selected Control's Integrator. Based upon GEI's review, it is their recommendation that the Contract for Controls Integration for both the RD Water System Improvements 2009 and RD Sewer System Improvements 2009 projects be awarded to Energenecs, Inc. in the amount of \$125,640.

Coates moved to approve Energenecs, Inc. to perform the Controls Integration for both the 2009 RD Water and Sewer System Improvements projects in the amount of \$125,640. King seconded.
Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, King, Coates, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

GEI Consultants Proposal for Homer Road Resurfacing-MDOT Local Task Force: Richardson noted that as part of the RD Sewer Project, a new on-site treatment system located across from Forbes Road will be installed. New sewer and forcemain lift stations will also be installed to bring that sewer into the City's collection system. Because the right-of-way is currently full, the new underground piping will have to be installed in the roadway. The current road is in rough shape and Archocosky approached the MDOT Local Task Force and was able to obtain monies to be able to resurface the entire road width. In order to get the MDOT Grant, the project has to be engineered.

King moved to approve GEI Consultants Design and Construction Proposal for Homer Road Resurfacing-MDOT Local Task Force not-to-exceed \$13,000. Coates seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, Coates, King, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

GEI Consultants Proposal for US-2 and M-189 Sanitary Sewer Design for Incorporation into MDOT Reconstruction Contracts: Archocosky informed the Council that US-2 and M-189 are going to be re-constructed by MDOT in 2012-13. The City has a substantial amount of infrastructure that needs to be addressed and before they re-surface the road, the City should take advantage of this opportunity to realize a significant cost savings by performing replacement of the sanitary sewers in conjunction with MDOT’s reconstruction projects. The proposal also includes design engineering services for potential replacement of the existing sanitary sewer in the Virgil Location north of Allen Street.

Coates moved to accept GEI Consultants Proposal for US-2 and M-189 Sanitary Sewer Design for Incorporation into the MDOT Reconstruction Contracts not-to-exceed \$35,000 for design and construction. Marcell seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes – 4: King, Marcell, Coates, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Hawke’s Shoe Shop Sale: Archocosky explained an individual expressed interest in purchasing the former Hawke’s Shoe Shop. After discussions with the City Assessor, the property was determined to be worth \$4,000.

Coates moved to advertise the sale of Hawke’s Shoe Shop with a minimum bid of \$4,000 or best offer. King seconded.

Roll Call: Ayes – 4: Marcell, King, Coates, Zanon. Nays – 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Coates moved to adjourn at 3:13 p.m. King seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Rachel Andreski, Deputy Clerk