

# City of Iron River

*Where You are Always Home!*

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## Veterans Memorial Restoration Project Community Fund Raising Campaign

Since 2009, the West Side Veterans Memorial Association have maintained the City Honor Roll Park that houses the Veterans Memorial. In 2013, they realized it was time to have a full restoration of the monument and put in motion efforts to achieve that goal. The plan, then and remains today, is to restore the memorial with the existing 1570 names of those that served in World War I and World War II. They compiled a list of those names on the monument and verified their correct spelling and accuracy. The Association reached out to a company in Eau Claire, Wisconsin for an estimate of cost and help moving forward. The estimate was staggering and placed the project on hold until a way could be figured out how to raise the necessary funds.

This last September, the Association's President, Ron Zeller, approached the City for assistance. The City pledged to help find the required funds going forward. The City also agreed to handle the administrative tasks, to hold the funds in trust, and act as trustee for any disbursements.

The City reached out to Lifetime Memorials, of Eau Claire, to get a current quote for the cost to restore the names on the Monument. We have now negotiated a cost of \$37,785 to have the names sandblasted on five Jet Black Granite panels. The engraving will take about 90 to 120 days. Before they can purchase the granite and begin, they need a deposit of \$20,000. Site preparation and monument restoration, including some stone tuck pointing and application of a sealant, will cost about \$3,000.

Our area Veterans Associations are taking the lead in organizing a Community Fundraising Campaign with a targeted goal of \$40,000. Contributions can be made to the American Legion, VFW, West Side Veterans Council, AmVets, West Side Veteran's Memorial Association, or directly to the City of Iron River. Please designate your donation for the memorial. Your donation is tax deductible.

The group has set a dedication date for the revealing of the restoration project for Memorial Day, 2019. To make that date, given the preparation days involved, we need to send the deposit to Lifetime by December 15, 2018. Our community has raised to occasion in the past when the rodeo was saved. I trust we will do so again with this project. Once the restoration is completed, the monument will continue to honor those that have served for another hundred years.

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