

**IRON RIVER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, October 5, 2020
9 AM
Minutes**

Call to Order – Mayor Dennis Powell called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m. in the Council Chambers of the Iron River City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call – Rodney Dood, Anthony Clements (9:06), Benjamin Garcia, Ronjo Leonoff and Powell.
Absent - None

Also Present – Interim City Manager/Clerk Rachel Andreski, Attorney Mark Tousignant, Deputy Treasurer Bernadette Coates and Treasurer Amanda Tukesbrey.

Public in Attendance – Jon Wierda

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Powell stated he was going to be more strict and only allow the three minute limit for public comment.

Jon Wierda asked Council what their plan is to address the rise of Covid-19 cases in Iron River. Andreski answered by stating there are businesses that have voluntarily closed their doors and/or limiting hours and with the recent Supreme Court overruling the Governor’s authority all rulings are on undecided.

OLD BUSINESS

Hiring a City Manager and Next Steps (possible executive session to discuss Confidential

Candidate: Discussion took place on whether to continue moving forward and interview candidates and/or advertise on a larger level. Clements motioned, with support from Leonoff, to authorize Andreski to advertise on Indeed, Detroit Free Press, NY times, CMU, U of M, MSU, WMU, EMU and NMU to run for one week with a deadline of November 1, 2020 and if reasonably priced allowing her to make a judgement call within her spending limits.

Roll call: Ayes – 3: Clements, Leonoff and Powell. Nays – 2: Dood and Garcia. Absent: 0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Snow Plow Blades Proposal: Andreski stated that the need for the blades is not immediate, however recommends purchasing the blades now as there is a five-week allowance for processing and shipping time. Dood motioned with support from Leonoff to accept H&L Mesabi’s bid and order the blades and nuts and bolts at a cost of \$5,360.38.

Roll call: Ayes – 5: Dood, Clements, Garcia, Leonoff and Powell. Nays – 0: Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jon Wierda suggested using online tools to expand the manager search outreach. Compensation needs to be discussed and needs to be clear on how much you are willing to spend including a moving and

compensation package. He stated he had been to a couple of meetings where comments were made about Andreski taking the manager position. He agreed that she would make a “heck of a candidate” and his suggestion to Council, if they were serious about offering her the job, would be to offer her a deal and enter formal discussions. He stated by not spending money on advertising, offer her a signing bonus and let her decide whether she wants to accept that position. He stated Council needs to be proactive and offer her a deal to consider.

Regarding the October 24th meeting with Council, DDA and the Planning Commission he would get with Andreski for his plans for facilitating and setup of room.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Garcia stated he emailed Andreski about Halloween and trick or treating. Will the City be promoting the event? Dood stated he is involved with Grace Covenant’s Trunk or Treat, and at this time, they will not be holding the event. Leonoff stated that every other event has been cancelled since March so this should be no different. Andreski stated previously the event times had come from the Iron County Sheriff’s Department. Andreski said she would put Halloween/Trick or Treating on the next regular meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Dood motioned with support from Garcia to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernadette Coates". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Bernadette Coates, Deputy Treasurer