

**CITY OF HANCOCK  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2018**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Worksession**

- An offer was presented for Lot 26 of Spruce Haven.
- 25k Grant application submitted to Portage Health Foundation for Terrace Park upgrades.
- Chief Butler requested to attend the International Association of Chiefs of Police October 6-9, 2018.
- Request was submitted with supporting documentation to MDOT for the sewer repair work on Front Street.
- Houghton County Fair Association is interested in purchasing the 1.7 acres of property at the Fair grounds that the City owns.
- Glenn Anderson will be on vacation April 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> .
- The new voting equipment has arrived that was purchased by the State of Michigan. The State spent 40 million on new voting equipment statewide.
- Master Plan edits have been completed and the plan will go to the Planning Commission for review.
- A special meeting will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> to review the City Manager Candidates. This will be a closed session for applicant's privacy.
- 2 accident claims have been reimbursed by the in full by other parties insurance companies.
- Chief Butler is on Military Leave the week of March 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Mary Babcock will be attending the MMTA training in April.
- A new investor is looking at purchasing the trailer park on M203
- Need to review the blight ordinance options for the Masonic Temple property. The property was built in the 1860's and is in disrepair. Next steps are to contact the City Attorney for legal options, funding. The property is currently secure.
- Planning Commission applicants; Andrew Lahti, Jeffrey Kelley and Susan Burack.

**Special presentation to Houghton-Hancock High School Varsity Girls Division II State Ski Champions.**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Public Hearing**

The public hearing for the proposed exchange of real property was called to order at 7:50 P.M.

CITY TO ACQUIRE

- a. 1.29-acre parcel located in the NE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 23, T55N, R34W, located contiguous and North of the City's Department of Public Works facility, 1601 Tomasi Dr. currently owned by Paul Tomasi.

CITY TO EXCHANGE

- a. 1.29-acre parcel located in the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 23, T55N, R34W located on the West side of Portage Drive just North of 1626 Portage Drive (Edgewood Senior Independent Living Apartments) currently owned by the City of Hancock.

No Public Comments

The public hearing for the proposed exchange of real property was closed at 7:51 P.M.

**Regular Meeting**

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call and verification of quorum

Present: Councilors Blau, LaBine, Belej, McKenzie, Seguin, Bauman, Haeussler  
Absent: None

Review and approval of agenda

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to approve the agenda with the addition of item 13 to discuss the proposed property sale.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Communications

State of Michigan Notice of hearing – UPPCO requests Michigan Public Service Commission to review its renewable energy plan.

Blue Key Honor Society – Thank you for 2018 Winter Carnival support.

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to accept communications and keep on file.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

### Public Comment

No Comments

### Review and approval of previous minutes

Motion by Councilor Bauman and seconded by Councilor Belej to approve the February 21, 2018 meeting minutes.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

### Reports

Portage Lake Water and Sewer Authority 2/13/2018

Motion by Councilor Bauman and seconded by Councilor Belej to approve the meeting minutes and reports as presented.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

### Administrative Report

- DNR approved plans, specifications and bidding documents for the beach dock project.
- Beach dock construction project bids due 4-10-2018 with a substantial completion of September 28, 2018. The projected cost for the project is \$330,000 to \$350,000.
- Tax Cuts and Job Acts creates big incentives for Opportunity Zone Investments to delay paying tax on capital gains. Core of downtown Hancock and Houghton are included in the eligible districts.
- Houghton County building permits issued in 2017 were 52 new home and 316 total permits.
- UP Water and Sewers comparison is provided by the DEQ every 5 years. Hancock figures are competitive with others. There has been 22 million dollars of improvements to the water and sewer infrastructure since 2006.
- 2001 John Deere Grader is in poor condition and not work repairing. Currently using the back up grader for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of winter. A new grader will need to be obtained before next winter. Bill Marlor will be looking into the options of purchase vs. lease. A new grader would be approximately \$225,000.

- 1994 Chevrolet Diesel Dump truck has been decommissioned. This will need to be replaced in the next year. We use the dump trucks year round. A used 2004 is \$50,000 and a new one would be approximately \$120,000 to \$130,000. There is a garbage truck that can be traded in for a new truck.
- Michigan Treasury Department announced 110 of 490 local units of government are underfunded for retirement obligations. The City is not included in this list.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to approve the current accounts payable in the amount of \$1,177,650.93.

Yes: Blau, LaBine, Belej, McKenzie, Seguin, Bauman, Haeussler

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Haeussler and seconded by Councilor Belej to adopt the Resolution 18-04 honoring Houghton-Hancock High School Varsity Girls Ski Team Division II State Champions

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Blau to approve the exchange of real property between the City and Paul Tomasi for 1.29-acre parcels.

Yes: Blau, LaBine, Belej, McKenzie, Seguin, Bauman, Haeussler

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to approve the 2018 Spring Clean-up schedule.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Haeussler to approve the SAW grant payment #18 in the amount of \$16,163.65.

Yes: Haeussler, Bauman, Seguin, McKenzie, Belej, LaBine, Blau

No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Bauman and seconded by Councilor Belej to approve the 2018 Bridgefest committee/Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce firework permit.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Bauman and seconded by Councilor Belej to approve the FY 18 federal transit operational funds of \$13,277 MDOT agreement.

Yes: Blau, LaBine, Belej, McKenzie, Seguin, Bauman, Haeussler  
No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Bauman and seconded by Councilor Belej to accept the resignation with regret of David Lucchesi and Stephanie Swartzendruber from the Planning Commission.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Haeussler and seconded by Councilor Belej to appoint Jeffrey Kelley for the Planning Commission with term ending 2021.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Haeussler t to appoint Susan Burack for the Planning Commission with term ending 2019, there was not a second to the motion.

Motion Failed

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to appoint Andrew Lahti for the Planning Commission with term 2019.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to approve resolution 18-05 to waive fees for non-timely filing property transfer affidavit.

Yes: Blau, LaBine, Belej, McKenzie, Seguin, Bauman

No: Haeussler

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to accept the resignation of Jason Parker from the Recreation Commission.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Haeussler to schedule the budget work session on Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to make a full price counter offer to Andy Lahti for the lot in Spruce Haven.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Comments:

Paul LaBine – Citizens have contacted him about the placement of the trees on the Front Street wall.

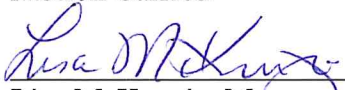
Lisa McKenzie – Add discussion item for next month's agenda for the Spruce Haven property listings.

Motion by Councilor Belej and seconded by Councilor Bauman to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

  
Lisa McKenzie, Mayor

  
Mary Babcock, Clerk

**CITY OF HANCOCK RESOLUTION #18-04  
HONORING THE HOUGHTON-HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL  
VARSITY GIRLS SKI TEAM STATE DIVISION II CHAMPIONS**

WHEREAS, The Houghton-Hancock Varsity Girls Ski Team coached by Brian Henderson, completed an exemplary 2017-2018 ski season, and

WHEREAS, The ski team won the 2018 Upper Peninsula Championship at Mount Ripley on February 22, and won the 2018 MHSAA Division II State of Michigan Championships at Schuss Mountain in Bellaire on February 26<sup>th</sup>, overtaking Notre Dame Prep, and

WHEREAS, The Houghton-Hancock High School has a proud tradition of successful Skiing, including winning the Girls State Championship in 2010, and having six runner-up finishes at the State Ski Finals in 2001, 2002, 2005, 2008 and 2014 and 2016, and


WHEREAS, The Houghton-Hancock High School Ski Team exhibited hard work, unparalleled skiing talent, tenacity, sportsmanship, class, energy and commitment throughout the ski season, and

WHEREAS, The Houghton-Hancock High School Ski Team, coaching staff, and supporters were truly ambassadors of Houghton and Hancock throughout the State;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Lisa McKenzie and the City Council of the City of Hancock does hereby congratulate the Houghton-Hancock High School Girls Varsity Ski Team on winning the 2018 MHSAA Division II Championship, and further acknowledges the inspiration and pride the ski team has been to the City of Hancock and surrounding areas, and further congratulates the team and coaches for a fantastic championship season.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Babcock, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa McKenzie, Mayor

RESOLUTION # 18-05 OF THE CITY OF HANCOCK CITY COUNCIL  
TO WAIVE PENALTIES FOR THE LATE FILING OF PROPERTY  
TRANSFER AFFIDAVITS

WHEREAS MCL 211.7a(10) requires a buyer, grantee, or other transferee of property to notify the appropriate assessing office in the local unit of government where property is located of any transfer of property within 45 days of the transfer of ownership; and

WHEREAS MCL 211.27b provides for penalties if the buyer, grantee, or other transferee does not notify the appropriate assessing office in accordance with MCL 211,27a(10); and

WHEREAS MCL 211.27b(5) allows the governing body of the local tax collecting unit to waive by resolution the penalty levied under MCL211.27b(1)(c) or (d); and

WHEREAS The City of Hancock City Council desires to waive the aforesaid penalties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The City of Hancock City Council hereby resolves in accordance with its rights under MCL 211.27b(5) to waive any and all penalties levied under MCL 211.27b(1)(c) or (d).

It being further resolved that The City of Hancock City Council does not waive its rights to levy and enforce penalties under MCL 211.27b(1)(a) and (b).

Adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2018



Mary Babcock, City Clerk



Lisa McKenzie, Mayor