

**CITY OF HANCOCK
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF
JUNE 23, 2014**

The regular Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dan Lorenzetti on Monday, June 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Deb Mann, Ron Blau, Dan Lorenzetti, Bill Baxandall, Dave Lucchesi, and Glenn Anderson.

Absent: Lisa McKenzie, Bob Wenc and Tony Wilmers

Guests: Roland Burgan

It was moved by Baxandall and seconded by Mann to approve the agenda.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Blau and seconded by Baxandall to approve the April 28, 2014 minutes with one correction, change Westerly to Easterly in the World of Wood site plan write up.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

There were no public comments.

Updates & Information

-Heard Finlandia University is holding a Saturday, Sept. 20th concert on the Quincy Green.

-Noted that the August 5th Primary Election will have a 10 year 1.3690 road millage renewal on the ballot. The City gets to keep its share of the SEV millage for city roads.

-Noted the August 5th ballot will also have a proposal, called Prop. #1, which would reimburse municipalities some of the personal property tax money lost with the Phase out of the PPT.

-Heard that Arcadia Publishing will release John Haeussler book on Hancock under the series of America on Sept. 8th.

-Noted that Mike Rose is organizing a Keweenaw Mini-Cooper event August 14th to the 16th

-Heard the City will be hosting the Thunder Bay International Yacht Sailing Race August 5th & 6th.

-Reviewed the 2014 Canal Rock Band schedule for Porvoo Park.

-Reviewed the inaugural Key Ingredient Event scheduled for Friday, July 18th with music and food venues downtown.

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- Heard that the MTEC SmartZone will be sponsoring the inaugural Keweenaw Engineering & Science Festival August 3rd to August 8th, 2015 in conjunction with MTU's Alumni week event.
- Noted the City has 2 houses under construction, one a duplex at 860 Valley View Dr. and one at 2003 St. Ann Circle.
- Reviewed Houghton County's \$8.9 million unfunded pension liability (as of 2012).
- Learned that Houghton County reduced the asking price of the old DHS office building located at 200 Quincy St. from \$275,000 to \$249,000.
- Reviewed the Summer 2014 DEQ Newsletter of area projects written by Amy Keranen.
- Heard that Phi Kappa Tau is planning to reconstruct part of its porch this summer
- Learned that Hancock's 3 Peregrine Falcon chicks hatched over the Father's Day weekend, and the DNR will be banding them within 30 days.
- Heard that Houghton County has applied for a \$5 million energy efficient grant through Georgetown University.
- Heard that Lt. Governor Brian Kelley will be in town on Friday promoting the State's EB-5 Immigration Initiative.
- Agreed with Deb Mann to research engine brake ordinances.
- Discussed DA Glass's electric capacity issue with Ontonagon REA.

The Commission reviewed the State of Wisconsin's appeal to the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC) filed in April asking FERC to reconsider the Mid Continent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) decision to charge Wisconsin rate payers 92% of the stranded costs related to the Presque Isle Power Plant issue and the CCI Inc. opt out of the UP Electric market. The State of Wisconsin has recommended that Wisconsin only pay for 42% of the cost. If Wisconsin wins, it would be retroactive to April of this year.

The Commission reviewed the \$950,000 Quincy Street Streetscape Grant application to MDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) when, if funded, would be used in conjunction with MDOT's 2016 reconstruction project of Front, Reservation & Quincy Streets. Funds would be used for new decorative street lighting, intersection curb cross walks, bump outs, benches, bike racks and trees and shrubs.

The Commission reviewed 2 options for a water improvement project related to MDOT's 2016 project. The 1st option is for \$2.4 million and would reconstruct water mains and sewer laterals in the downtown area, and the \$3.8 million project would add several additional areas throughout the city. The city is working with Rural Development on financing, and is hoping for a grant component.

The Commission was briefed on Houghton County's Medical Care Facility \$8 million remodeling and upgrade project scheduled for 2015, including adding more single rooms, adding neighborhood kitchen areas to existing floors, and code upgrades.

It was moved by Baxandall and seconded by Blau to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

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AYES: All
NAYES: None
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson
Secretary