

**CITY OF HANCOCK  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2019**

The regular monthly Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Deb Mann on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with the following members present: Devin Leonarduzzi, Bob Wenc, Andrew Lahti, Deb Mann, Jeffrey Kelley, John Slivon, Ron Blau and Barry Givens

Absent: Tony Wilmers

It was moved by Wenc and seconded by Slivon to approve the revised agenda to include Old Business item e. correspondence from Main Street Hancock.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

It was moved by Kelley and seconded by Leonarduzzi to approve the December 10, 2018 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

Public Comments: None

Updates/Information

- a. The Commission was updated on the Zoning Board of Appeals. An orientation session was held on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Current members include: Steve Walton, Kurt Ricard, Paul LaBine, Jerry Parker and Tom Vichich. The ZBA's first meeting will be held in early Spring to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair.
- b. The Commission was updated on the City Council's Ordinance Review Committee. Members of the committee include: Mary Babcock (City Clerk), Dan Seguin, Paul LaBine and Will Lytle. The first meeting will be held February 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the means and methods of updating the City's ordinances. The Commission was asked for feedback to provide to the Committee in regards to the zoning ordinances. Copies of the zoning ordinances will be provided to the planning commission members.
- c. An update was provided on the City's Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC) status. The RRC was an initiative under Governor Snyder's administration through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). MEDC staff will be meeting with the City Manager on February 6<sup>th</sup> to review the City's status. Participation in the RRC program is required to be eligible for MEDC grants and loans.
- d. The current FHWA flood repair cost local match requirement and status was discussed. Currently the City is responsible for twenty percent of the \$3.8 million dollars in total projects cost which amounts to just over \$750,000. The City

Manager is working with the Governor's Office, State and Federal legislators to assist in covering the City's matching funds.

- e. The City's PASER reports were reviewed as prepared by the Western U.P. Planning and Development Region. The PASER reports are a City-wide evaluation of the pavement condition of roads.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- a. The City was not selected for grant funding for the campground restroom building addition and renovation project. The MDNR scoring cut off for funding was 190 points and the City had a score of 180 points. Twenty one percent of proposals submitted were funded. The City plans to revise its application and resubmit.
- b. The list of current FEMA eligible flood repair projects was reviewed. There are over 80 flood damaged sites in the City and weekly conference calls are held with FEMA as projects are reviewed.
- c. The City's current FHWA flood projects were reviewed. There are currently (6) projects in the City with a total cost of approximately \$3.8 million. The Montezuma Street project is shut down for the winter and open to traffic with the remaining work to be completed in the Spring.
- d. Discussions with the MEDC, Finlandia University, the Developer, KEDA and the City continue on the project at the former Hancock Middle School. The project will include apartments on the top floor with Finlandia utilizing the remaining floors for their Health Science Program.
- e. Chairperson Deb Mann read a letter from Main Street Hancock, Inc. dated December 12, 218 indicating they have denied a request to contribute funds for the Hancock Tori and downtown events. Main Street, Inc. indicated they will invest in brick and mortar improvement projects in the City as low interest loans. Deb suggested two future brick and mortar projects include the Montezuma Street and City Hall fountain projects.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. The City Manager is submitting a grant application to the Michigan Energy Center to retrofit existing lighting at the DPW garage, Fire Hall, Transit garage and City Hall. The grant would be for \$25,000 with \$4000 in rebates from Efficiency United and a match of \$6000 from the city.
- b. The City Manger prepared a Small Urban grant application for fiscal years 2021 to 2023. Projects include upgrades to Hecla Street, Ingot Street and Ethel Avenue which have all been identified on the PASER reports as in need of repair.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Bob Wenc asked that with the new members on the commission the Master Plan should be reviewed at the next meeting.

John Budd, 127 Water Street, addressed the Commission in regards to snowmobiles in the City. He had concerns about snowmobiles at the Hancock/Tezccucco Street intersection, outdated snowmobile routes in the City's ordinances and enforcement.

It was moved by Wenc and seconded by Kelley to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry J. Givens, P.E.

City Manager/Secretary