

**CITY OF HANCOCK  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 399 QUINCY ST.**

**Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM**

Call to order and pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Paul LaBine

Roll Call and verification of quorum

Present: Councilors Blau, Lytle, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Warstler, Haeussler

Absent: None

**Also Present:** Phillip Johnson, Chief Wayne Butler, Chief John Donnelly, Josh Visser, Thomas Fornier, Andrew Lahti, Michael Markham, Nick Roberts, Mike Lahti, other members of the public

**Review and approval of agenda** – Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve the agenda with the removal of New Business item #4.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Communications**

Range Communication – August 23, 2021

Assessor Update

Motion by Councilor Haeussler and supported by Councilor Warstler to accept and put on file the communication as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment-** None

**Presentation**

Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University gave an update on Finlandia enrollment, programs and COVID policies/requirements and cases.

Houghton Police Chief John Donnelly gave a presentation on the structure and activity of UPSET West. Answered questioned presented by council members

**Review and acceptance of meeting minutes**

Planning Commission May 24, 2021

Planning Commission July 26, 2021

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to receive and put on file the meeting minutes as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Review and approval of meeting minutes**

Regular City Council 8-18-2021  
Regular City Council 9-1-2021

Motion by Councilor Warstler and supported by Councilor Lytle to approve and accept the meeting minutes of the August 8, 2021 and September 1, 2021 with addition of the identification of each Council Member in both meeting minutes to the Yes/No votes when there was not a unanimous vote.

**Administrative Report**

Hancock Dog Park – will have approximately \$44,000 raised from Patronicity by donors and the MEDC match  
Farmer’s Market - Blood Drive to be in conjunction with the Farmers Market on September 16, 2021  
DPW Director Position – Closed on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, received 12 applications – Councilor Ron Blau and Councilor Whitney Warstler will be on the interviewing/hiring committee  
Campground Bathhouse Renovations – On schedule, will finish in October  
Bridges Out of Poverty – Project training Mary attending in San Antonio  
MNTRF Preliminary Scores – current score is 400, average is around 200  
Ingot Street – at the request of the public comment at the last council meeting plans presented to fix road condition at Ingot and Elevation  
US41 & M203 – plan drawings presented by a master gardener with suggested plantings to clean up green spaces by the Krist Oil gas station  
NEP 6 – 100 White Street will be sided as part of the grant program and 511 Tezcucu St will be painted  
Houghton County Arena - walk through with county commissioners and administrator on Friday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm, will post as a public meeting.  
Community Night Out – was a success  
Zoning Ordinance Review – Articles 1-3 complete, look at bringing to the Council in December  
City Picnic – went well

**New Business**

1. Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve the accounts payable in the amount of 4,110,995.04.  
  
Roll Call  
Yes: Haeussler, Warstler, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, Lytle, Blau  
No: None  
Motion Carried
  
2. Motion by Councilor Haeussler and supported by Councilor Freeman to accept Kyle Maki’s resignation from the Planning Commission.  
  
Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried
  
3. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Lytle to approve LJJ Construction LLC payment application #3 for the Hancock Campground Bathhouse Renovation in the amount of \$37,405.80.  
  
Roll Call  
Yes: Blau, Lytle, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Warstler, Haeussler  
No: None  
Motion Carried

- Motion by Council Blau and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve the purchase agreement with Robert and Loretta Ruonavaara for Lot 26 of Spruce Haven Estates with a purchase price of \$20,000.

Roll Call

Yes: Haeussler, Warstler, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, Lytle, Blau,

No: None

Motion Carried

- Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor Rickard to approve a stipend increase for the Hancock Fire Department to \$1670.00 per month from \$1320 for the Fire Chief stipend

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, Lytle, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Warstler, Haeussler

No: None

Motion Carried

- Motion by Councilor Freeman and supported by Councilor Blau to approve \$5,000.00 per year to Portage Health Foundation to support Upset West program.

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to amend the motion

Yes: 6 (Haeussler, Warstler, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, Blau)

No: 1 (Lytle)

Motion Carried

Amended motion by Councilor Freeman and supported by Council Blau to approve a \$5,000 donation for FY 2022 and pledge \$5,000 a year for the next 4 years.

Roll Call

Yes: Haeussler, Warstler, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, Blau,

No: Lytle

Motion Carried

### **Public Comment**

Nick Roberts – Houghton resident, police officer for the City of Houghton – commented on UPSET West request for pledge and drug issues in the community.

### **Council Member Comments**

Councilor Blau – Shottle Bop GUTS frisbee team won World Championship held in Livonia, MI, first time local team has won since 1978

Councilor Haeussler – MTU varsity hockey opener October 15<sup>th</sup> against Notre Dame, he will be making a History of Notre Dame Hockey presentation on October 14<sup>th</sup>, specifics TBD

Councilor Warstler – Welcome to new salon in town, Mood Spa. Thank you to all involved with the Movies on the Green.

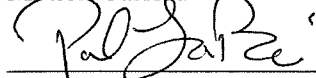
Councilor Freeman – Reminder of 9/11, over 3,000 lives lost, continue to remember

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

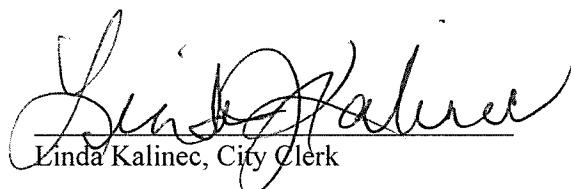
Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried



Paul LaBine, Mayor



Linda Kalinec, City Clerk