

CITY OF HANCOCK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022
HANCOCK CITY HALL, 399 QUINCY STREET
Public viewing available via ZOOM

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, McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Warstler, Haeussler

Review and approval of agenda – Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor Rickard to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of New Business item #6 to consider approval of an extension of the agreement with Kristine Weidner as the real estate agent on record for the Spruce Haven vacant lots.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Also Present in person: Michael Markham, John Zurcher, John Erickson, Thomas Fournier, Glenn Anderson, community.

Also Present via Zoom: Dick Storm, Nicholas Wilson, Steve Walton, Kevin Kalinec, Allyson Jabusch

Public Comment- None.

Communications

Copper Country Community Arts Center Newsletter

Motion by Councilor Haeussler and supported by Councilor Freeman to accept and put on file the communications as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Review and approval of meeting minutes

Regular City Council meeting, March 2, 2022

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Haeussler to approve and accept the meeting minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of March 2, 2022.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Review and acceptance of meeting minutes/reports

US-41/M-26 Corridor Meeting, January 13, 2022

PLWSA, February 8, 2022

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

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Administrative Report

- Equipment update was given by John Erickson regarding various DPW pieces equipment that have been down due to repairs.
- Personnel update – there have been 3 applicants for the sexton position, currently plan on conducting interviews next week and would like the person to start mid-April. The police department is down 1 part-time officer, he accepted a full-time position with another unit in the area. We will be running a summer help wanted ad in the paper on April 1st.
- Photo Contest for the downtown street banners deadline is April 1st, we've received about 50-60 photos so far.
- We are hoping to get help with our retirement underfunded liability through HB 5054.
- The city will be sponsoring dog sled rides for kids this Sunday, March 20th from 1:00 p.m – 3:00 p.m. at Barkell Elementary.
- Reviewed the status of the RRC process, presented a list of incomplete/inactive tasks, active tasks, documents & resources.
- The joint meeting is March 28th at the Finnish American Heritage Center, dinner at 5:30 p.m, with the meeting to start at 6:00 p.m.
- Concerning air service at the Houghton County Airport, we would not be losing airline service, it may be a different airline and Glenn Anderson from the Houghton County Commissioners is here to address any questions.
- Express appreciation to the volunteer fire fighters with the Hancock Fire Department who have responded to 22 fires since January.
- The 40-year title search required for the Navy St. property acquisition through the MNRTF grant has been completed.
- We received a letter addressed to the Clerk from a student of a 3rd grade class at Byron Center Christian School requesting the history, other information and pictures of our city. John Haeussler will work with Linda to gather information to send, and suggested sending a copy of the *Hidden Gems and Towering Tales* book and his book *Hancock*.

New Business

1. Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor McKenzie to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$777,235.18.

Roll Call

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

No: None

Motion Carried

2. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve the application for Bridgefest Fireworks Display Permit.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

3. After some discussion the budget work sessions for the 2022-2023 budget were scheduled for April 6th, April 27th, and May 25th at 6:00 p.m. and the public hearing is scheduled June 15th at 6:00 p.m.
4. Motion by Councilor LaBine and supported by Councilor Rickard to approve the 2021/2022 amended budgets.

Roll Call

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

No: None

Motion Carried

5. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Haeussler to approve the CAM Grant Design Services agreement with OHM Advisors in the amount of \$12,000.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

6. Motion by Councilor Haeussler and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve the extension of the agreement with Kristine Weidner as the real estate agent on record for the Spruce Haven vacant lots.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

John Zurcher – Summit St. commented on a public bus stop downtown, possibly near the post office; also a thank you to John Erickson on the snow removal and congratulations to Lisa McKenize on returning to the council.

Council Member Comments

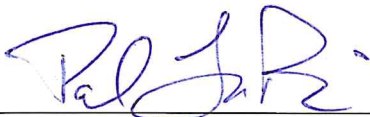
Time was provided for council members to promote, discuss and/or comment on items not on the agenda.

Motion by Councilor Freeman and supported by Councilor Warstler to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried



Paul LaBine, Mayor



Linda Kalinec, City Clerk