

CITY OF HANCOCK  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023  
HANCOCK CITY HALL, 399 QUINCY STREET  
Public viewing available via ZOOM.com Meeting ID: 821 4402 1682

**Public Hearing – 6:00 PM** – MSHDA Closeout Grant MSC 2015-0657-HO – No Comments

**Regular Meeting at 6:01 PM**

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

Roll Call and verification of quorum

Present: Councilors McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Lounibos, Warstler

Absent: Councilor Blau

**Also Present in person:** John Zurcher, John Erickson, Michael Markham, Garrett Neese, Steve Walton, Andy Lahti, Alan Salmi, Chaundel Sammarco, Lora Frea, other members of the public.

**Also Present via Zoom:** Thomas Fournier, Mary's iPad, Steve Rosner, Michele Blau.

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to excuse Councilor Blau from tonight's meeting.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Review and approval of agenda** – Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve the agenda as amended moving item #7 to #10 and the addition of three (3) New Business items, #7 to consider approval of the purchase of a 2023 Western Star Sander Truck from UP Truck Center in the amount of \$192,002; item #8 consider approval to increase the Franklin-Quincy Township Water Authority's wholesale rate to \$2.48 to reflect the Adams Township Water Authority's \$.10 increase effective April 1, 2023; item #9 consider approval to apply for a MEDC Public Spaces, Community Places grant using a crowdfunding campaign with Patronicity in the amount of \$6,000 for the Ryan Street Garden Group.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment**

Reverend Alan Salmi of 121 E. Water St., expressed appreciation for the plaque and bench in honor of his late sister, Kathryn Salmi; thank you for memorializing her and her work with the beautification committee.

**Communication**

Grace – Byron Center 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class letter requesting information on the City of Hancock.

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly – Retirement Celebration for Kathy Kass-Aten and Mike Aten.

Copper Country Community Arts – Thank you for the donation.

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs – Wolvenwood Axe LLC, Liquor License issued.

Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance – 2022 Annual Report.

Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Warstler to accept and place on file the communications as presented.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

**Review and acceptance of meeting minutes**

Planning Commission January 30, 2023  
Planning Commission January 23, 2023

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 City Council meeting minutes**

Council/DDA/Planning March 1, 2023

Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve and accept the Council/DDA/Planning Joint meeting minutes of March 1, 2023 as presented.

Yes: All  
No: None  
Motion Carried

**Administrative Report**

City Manager Babcock, gave an update on the following:

- Adam Griffis completed the Michigan State University (MSU) Extension Master Citizen Planner (MCP) credential. Steve Walton & Susan Burack will be attending the upcoming planner course here in Houghton.
- Finlandia Updates
  - The Board of Trustee's voted to dissolve and have notified the Attorney General.
  - They will be holding a career fair for faculty.
  - They will be holding a college fair day for students to look at other colleges.
  - Finlandia National Foundation our of Pasadena is working with the University to help retain the Finnish American Heritage Center.
- Property Updates
  - We closed on the Arena on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, keys have not been changed as the non-profit Portage Lake Multi-Ed Services will continue the daily operations until June 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Purchase of the Quincy Green is still in progress, the bank is doing an appraisal for valuation purposes.
  - Upgrades to city hall are being done by the DPW workers when there is no snow removal. The upgrades include painting the council chambers and work on the front desk area.

- City hall has a new electronic access system, any old keys out there will no longer work to access the building.
- MEDC will be in the area April 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> , they will be assisting us with our Master Plan Public Meetings on April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.
- There are 3 new businesses that will opening in the new future in Hancock,
  - Ilo – an art supply store
  - Nisu Bakery – a bakery and café
  - Wolvenwood Axe – an axe throwing venue and bar
- We will be working on updating the Recreation Plan to include the Arena and the Quincy Green.
- Report from DPW Director, John Erickson – the DPW crew has been working on widening the streets, preparing the summer equipment. Deve Pihlaja will be retiring at the end of April, Todd Borke will take his place as the water system operator. We will post a position for a heavy equipment operator. And a brief update on upcoming bridge repairs.
- Report from Clerk/Treasurer, Linda Kalinec – approximately 800 AV applications for the May 2<sup>nd</sup> election were mailed out on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, we have received 86 back.

### **New Business**

1. Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Rickard to approve the current accounts payable in the amount of \$815,716.42.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Lounibos, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, McKenzie

No: None

Motion Carried

2. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor McKenzie to approve the amendment to the listing contract with Kristine Weidner for the 7 lots of the Spruce Haven development.

Roll Call

Yes: McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Richard, Lounibos, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

3. Motion by Councilor Freeman and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve Resolution 23-04 to update the campground daily rates.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Lounibos, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, McKenzie

No: None

Motion Carried

4. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve MJO Contracting payment application #1 for the Maasto Hiihto Trail Repairs in the amount of \$49,759.76.

Roll Call

Yes: McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Richard, Lounibos, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

5. Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Warstler to schedule a budget work session on April 5<sup>th</sup> following the regular City Council meeting.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

6. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor McKenzie to approve the 2023-2026 Capital Improvement Plan.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Lounibos, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, McKenzie

No: None

Motion Carried

7. Motion by Councilor Freeman and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve the purchase of a 2023 Western Star Sander Truck from UP Truck Center in the amount of \$192,002.00.

Roll Call

Yes: McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Richard, Lounibos, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

8. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve increasing the Franklin-Quincy Township Water Authority's wholesale rate to \$2.48 to reflect the Adams Township Water Authority's \$.10 increase effective April 1, 2023.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Lounibos, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, McKenzie

No: None

Motion Carried

9. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to approve applying for a MEDC Public Spaces, Community Places grant using a crowdfunding campaign with Patronicity in the amount of \$6,000 for the Ryan Street Garden Group.

Roll Call

Yes: McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Richard, Lounibos, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

10. Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor McKenzie to enter into closed session at 6:53 p.m.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Lounibos, Rickard, LaBine, Freeman, McKenzie

No: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Freeman to return to open session at 6:58 p.m.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment**

- Lora Frea – Scott Building, commented on the CIP plan, recycling plastics and the Heikenpaiva requests for volunteers.
- Chaundel Sammarco – 121 E. Water St. commented on recycling and banning the use of plastic bags.
- John Zurcher – Summit St. commented on frozen pipes and if the City had declared a Let Run and the cost of thawing frozen pipes.

**Council Member Comments**

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

Motion by Councilor Warstler and supported by Councilor Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

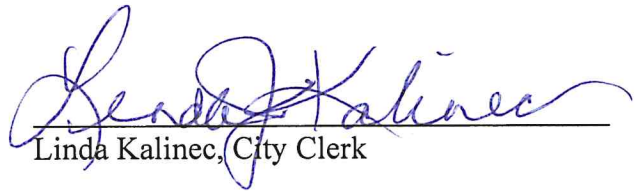
Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried



Paul LaBine, Mayor



Linda Kalinec, City Clerk

CITY OF HANCOCK

RESOLUTION #23-04

UPDATE CAMPGROUND RATES

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the City of Hancock to update campground rate schedules to cover costs associated with offering the services to the city residents as well as the general public

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the City of Hancock adopts the following fees:

50 amp sites - #4, 48, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 & 58	\$30/per day
Water service sites - #1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 18, 23, 24, 25, 41, and 46	\$30/per day
Waterfront Sites #47, 49, 50 and 51	\$30/per day
Remaining regular sites	\$25/per day
Tent sites	\$15/per day

Fee Schedule is effective on April 1, 2023.

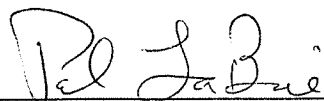
Motion offered at a regular meeting of the Hancock City Council on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 by Councilor Freeman and seconded by Councilor Warstler.

Yes: McKenzie, Freeman, LaBine, Rickard, Lounibos, Warstler

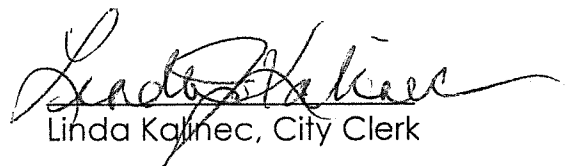
No: None

Absent: Blau

Motion Carried



Paul LaBine, Mayor



Linda Kalinec, City Clerk