

**CITY OF HANCOCK  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
OF MARCH 26, 2012**

The regular Planning Commission meeting of Monday, March 26, 2012 was called to order by Chairperson Dan Lorenzetti at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall with the following members present: Dan Lorenzetti, Bill Baxandall, Bob Wenc, Dave Lucchesi and Glenn Anderson.

Absent: Terry Monson, Lisa McKenzie, Bill Laitila and Tony Wilmers

Guests: John Haeussler and Roland Burgan

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

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Lucchesi and seconded by Baxandall to approve the February 27, 2012 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried

Public Comments: None

Updates/Information

-Reviewed the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting notes of the US41/M26 Corridor Advisory Committee.

-Reviewed the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting notes of the PLLB Emergency Long Term Bridge Outage Committee.

-Noted the city council "Big" Louie Moilanen resolution and the local fund raising effort to fund a monument.

-Heard that the Yooper Sprint Triathlon will be held on June 17, 2012 in Hancock as part of the Bridgefest event.

-Noted that city sewer flows continued its decline for 10 months in a row.

-Discussed proposed House Bill #5342 that would allow, if enacted, the State to lease space on the 230 State Police 800 MHZ towers for private cellphone use, generating an estimated \$5 million a year of new revenue.

-Heard the city did submit a \$45,000 DNR PASSPORT grant application for beach dock improvements. The city would match the grant with \$15,000 cash and \$10,000 in-kind service.

-Heard the City Council did adopt ordinance #284, regulating the feeding of pigeons, effective on April 21, 2012.

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- Heard that the city had contacted Soren Dresch, about the condition of the building he owns at 228 Hancock St., the old Masonic Temple building.
- Received an update on the 2012 sewer rehab work that is left to complete.
- Reviewed plans for a storm sewer reconstruct at the intersection of Pine St. and Elevation St.
- Reviewed new MTU marketing materials, and information on current students.
- Noted that MTU's strategic goal for 2035 is 8,750 students, including 5,750 undergrad students and 3,000 graduate students. They also have a goal of 40 to 50% women students by 2035.
- Heard that Portage Township had accepted the old section of water transmission main still in use by the township now that the city is using the new main.
- Received an update on the Wal-Mart Store project to relocate fire suppression off the old transmission main and onto the City of Houghton's water system. Work is expected to be complete by the end of May, when the city will cut and cap the old water main near the Portage Township offices in June.
- Heard that the city transit exceeded 200,000 rides in February, after 9 years and 2 months of operations.
- Heard the city was planning to rehab and clean up the E. Hancock stairway

The Planning Commission reviewed the MDOT Ispeming TSC construction project for 2012, including repaving US41 from Lake Annie Road to Calumet, not including the airport passing relief lanes. MDOT is also doing a reconstruction of M-26 from Tamarack to Hubbell.

The commission reviewed the MSHDA grant award for \$245,000 to reconstruct 7 new apartments at the burned out 116 Quincy St. building now owned by Mike Lahti.

The commission made several final changes to the draft 5-year Strategic Plan. This plan has been revised 5 times since 1991, and this update will be the 6<sup>th</sup> time. It was moved by Lucchesi and seconded by Wenc to approve the 2012 to 2016 Strategic Plan update and recommend approval to the city council.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

The commission received a briefing on the proposed creation of the Green Forces Military and Technology cluster around the Houghton County Airport, and heard an initial steering committee meeting was held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Boeing Military, Lockheed Martin & General Dynamics participated in the meeting, including several local high technology businesses.

It was moved by Baxandall and seconded by Lucchesi to move the starting time to 6:00 p.m. for the April through September meetings.

AYES: All

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NAYES: None  
Motion Carried

It was moved by Baxandall and seconded by Wenc to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

AYES: All  
NAYES: None  
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson  
Secretary