

CITY OF HANCOCK
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2022
HANCOCK CITY HALL, 399 QUINCY STREET
Public viewing available via ZOOM- Meeting ID: 821 4402 1682

Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM

Call to order and pledge of allegiance by Mayor, Paul LaBine.

Roll Call and verification of quorum

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Michael Markham, Margo Pizzi, John Zurcher, Zack Osborn, Sadiq, Thomas Fournier, Steve Patchin, Garrett Neese and other members of the public.

Via Zoom: Mary's iPad, Michele Blau, Eric Goulet.

Review and approval of agenda:

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor McKenzie to approve the agenda.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

John Zurcher of Summit Street commented on a covered bus stop on Quincy St., lighting on the RV trail, congratulations to those running for the open council positions, and adding more gazebos to other parks in the city.

Presentation

Steve Patchin, Hancock Public Schools Superintendent presented information about the 2 bond proposals on the November 8th ballot. Bond Proposal Fact sheets were provided which highlighted the proposal amounts and tax impact as well as how the funds can be spent and repair/maintenance projects that will be addressed with the funds. He also spoke about teaching program updates including additional STEM resources and Hancock High School is an enrolled school in the SME PRIME Schools Initiative. Also reviewed a list of various grants the school system has received and will be applying for.

Correspondence

State of Michigan – Public Service Commission – U21267

State of Michigan – Public Service Commission – U-21294

Sharon Juntunen – Signage request letter to MDOT representative Ben Carrigan and a letter from Sharon to the council with response she received from MDOT.

Motion by Councilor Rickard and supported by Councilor Warstler to accept and put on file the communications as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Review and acceptance of meeting minutes

Planning Commission

September 26, 2022

Motion by Councilor Haeussler and supported by Councilor McKenzie to approve and place on file the minutes as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Review and approval of City Council meeting minutes

Regular Meeting

October 19, 2022

Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Freeman to approve and accept the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of October 19, 2022.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Administrative Report

City Manager Babcock gave an update on the follow items:

- Make A Difference Day was October 22nd approximately 60 individuals helped including groups from Finlandia, OHM, Superior National Bank, MTU Husky Helpers and the Beautification group. Projects included cleaning up of Lourn-Grove, Memorial Park, Terrace Park, winterizing the city downtown flower pots, assisting at St. Vincent DePaul and raking leaves at homes of elderly residents.
- No one was injured in the recent fire at Geminagni's restaurant. Water was pulled from 3 hydrants and caused low water pressure for a short time in the area. There was a water main break on Ethel Avenue that has been repaired, cement will be placed tomorrow. A second break occurred on Hancock Street which will cause closure of a lane for a minimum of 2 days.
- The final FEMA project, the Maasto Hiihto trail project is the has been approved for \$815,230, the project was awarded to MJO Contracting, they are looking to possibly starting work on the Bridge Abutments in the near future.
- Payne & Dolan will be starting on the Business & Technology Park on November 8th and will be working with the archeologist at the same time.
- The MSHDA MIHope program is being administered by WUPPDR for this area. They received \$500,000 with up to \$25,000 available per applicant to assist with roofing, doors, windows, insulation and other items. The applicant portal opened on October 28th.
- The Sustainability Demonstration House is holding an open house Friday, November 4th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- A Match on Main grant application was submitted on October 28th for Fifth & Elm to assist with a patio addition. This grant was possible due to our Redevelopment Ready Certification.
- On Tuesday, November 1st the city submitted an intent to apply for the Drinking Water State Revolving fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund grant program. These grants are for overburdened communities and the basis for the work comes from our Water and Sewer Assessment Management Plans.

- Jed Wuebben has purchased approximately 820 acres from Paul Tomasi. He is looking at putting a housing development on the property located in Quincy Township. We are in the initial stages of working with Quincy Township on a 425 Agreement that will allow the City to make infrastructure improvements.
- A certified letter was sent to the family of the owner of 1034 2nd Street at the last known address. That letter was returned to us and the house has been cleaned out and is ready for market. We are working with Brian Rimpela and will be asking \$75,000 with a deed restriction to be a single-family owner occupied for 5 years. Councilor Warstler asked if those restrictions could be permanent? We would consult with the attorney.
- The Driving Park Garage is nearly completed.
- The Christmas Walk will be November 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. we will be closing Quincy St. for the event.
- Met with MDOT yesterday, it looks like we have approval to move forward with the new Salt Barn. Cost for this project will be an 80/20 split with MDOT based on a 5-year average salt use and billing to MDOT.

New Business

1. Motion by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor Haeussler to appoint Dean Woodbeck to the Recreation Commission with a term expiring September 2023.

Yes: All
 No: None
 Motion Carried

2. Motion by Councilor McKenzie and supported by Councilor Rickard to schedule the organizational meeting for Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Yes: All
 No: None
 Motion Carried

Public Comment

City Manager, Mary Babcock wanted to extend a thank you to John Haeussler for his many years of service to City as a City Council member and the many other various committees and commissions he has served on over the years.

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 7:00 p.m.

Yes: All
 No: None
 Motion Carried



Paul LaBine, Mayor



Linda Kalinec, City Clerk