

**CITY OF HANCOCK  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

The regular Planning Commission meeting for Monday, February 22, 2010 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Lorenzetti with the following members present: Dan Lorenzetti, Terry Monson, Bill Laitila, Bill Baxandall, Dave Lucchesi, Bob Wenc and Glenn Anderson.

Absent: Tom Gemignani

Guests: Roland Burgan

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

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Lucchesi and seconded by Wenc to approve the December 14, 2009 minutes.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

There were no public comments.

Updates/Information

- Learned that the city had secured 150 weather forecasters from Houghton County Emergency services for distribution to Hancock residents.
- Reviewed the January 21<sup>st</sup> and February 11<sup>th</sup> US 41/M26 Corridor Committee notes.
- Received an update on the MSHDA 09/10 rental rehab and homeowner rehab projects.
- Reviewed a land description of the old Middle School property that Hancock Public Schools plan to transfer to Finlandia University. Portions of Franklin St. were vacated by the city in 1949.
- Reviewed a grant application to the EPA for \$244,000 to address non point source pollution at the Hancock Beach located on M-203. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was funded for FY 10 for \$450 million. The EPA grant received 1,057 applications totaling \$946,532,505 of projects. Round 1 will have \$125,000,000 available.
- Heard that Franklin Township was exploring applying for funds to provide public sewer system for Ripley.
- Learned that the city was awarded a DELEG Bureau of Energy System grant of \$47,450 to fund a district heating study.

Page 2.

- Heard that the Quincy Mine Hoist Association was bidding out a \$400,000 restoration project for the round house building, funded by a MDOT Enhancement grant and a RD loan.
- Heard that Osceola Township will hold a May 4<sup>th</sup> election on the sewer project for Dollar Bay to determine if the township will go forward with the project funded with a 75% RD grant and 25% RD loan.
- Received an update on Houghton County's proposal to construct a new \$2.2 million, 3 bay garbage transfer station on property adjacent to Dan's Polaris.
- Heard that Houghton County has formed a new Citizen Jail Committee in hopes of securing a 1 mill, \$10 million bond issue on the November ballot to fund a new jail and district court facility adjacent to the current Courthouse.
- Heard that city bus ridership was up 3.97% in 2009 over 2008, the 7<sup>th</sup> year in a row ridership has increased.
- Reviewed 7 parking alternates for Quincy Street parking if the US41 highway gets moved to Hancock St.
- Received a briefing on Jay Ruohonen's new company, Talon Research, which has developed a new infrared software program to scan existing highway concrete bridge decks. Jay also owns Hawk Technology. Both companies have offices in Hancock.
- Heard that FU had OHM undertake soil borings for their Condon Field rehab project and that FU had retained the services of Hastings & Chivetta to help design the sports complex.
- Heard that both cities, MDOT, and the Bridgefest Committee were working on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the lift bridge.
- Heard that the Hancock Fire Dept. named the ladder fire truck in memory of Scott Dickson.
- Received an update on the possible relocation of the Seaman Mineral Museum.

The Commission discussed the proposal for the city to purchase the 29.64 acre parcel of property from Tonne Construction Company for \$135,000. The land is located just west and adjacent to Sylvan Estates. The property is zoned R-1 Single Family district.

It was moved by Lucchesi and seconded by Baxandall to recommend to the City Council to proceed with acquisition of the property.

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Motion Carried.

The Commission discussed the status of a 110' x 150' parcel of property located in Quincy Township which is the site of the now unused Sampson Street Concrete ground water tank. The concrete tank is 59' x 40', and was removed from water service in 2008.

It was moved by Monson and seconded by Wenc to recommend to the City Council to sell the old Sampson Street tank parcel as excess property.

AYES: All

Page 3.

NAYES: None  
Motion Carried.

The Commission discussed the proposal to relocate the Isle Royale National Park Headquarters to the Quincy Smelter property. Both city councils from Houghton and Hancock are planning to hold a joint meeting to vote on the proposal on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

It was moved by Wenc and seconded by Baxandall to recommend to the City Council to support the relocation of Isle Royale National Park Headquarters and boat facilities to the Quincy Smelter property in Franklin Township.

AYES: All  
NAYES: None  
Motion Carried.

It was moved by Monson and seconded by Baxandall to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

AYES: All  
NAYES: None  
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Anderson  
Secretary