

CITY OF HANCOCK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025
HANCOCK CITY HALL, 399 QUINCY STREET

Public Hearing at 6:00 pm – Sale of Spruce Haven Lots 22 & 23 & Sale of Sylvan Estates Lot 50.
No Comments

Regular Meeting 6:01 pm

Call to order and pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Kurt Rickard
Roll Call and verification of quorum
Present: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler
Absent: Lounibos

Also Present: Mary Babcock, Linda Kalinec, John Erickson, Tami Sleeman, Michael Markham, Ruth Gill, Kyle Forsman, Matt Eliason, Jonathan Miller, Thomas Fournier and other members of the public.

Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor Woodbeck to excuse Councilor Lounibos from tonight's meeting.

Yes: All
No: None
Motion Carried

Motion by Councilor McKenzie and seconded by Councilor Warstler to approve the agenda with the addition of New Business item # 11 to Consider approval of Resolution #25-16 Visit Keweenaw Application for Special Liquor License for June 21, 2025.

Yes: All
No: None
Motion Carried

Public Comment

- Ruth Gill – Crestwood Dr. – asked about a resolution regarding the Federal Government overreach like the one passed by the City of Houghton. Commented on Executive Order 14288 of April 28, 2025.

Communication

Century 21
UPPCO Notice of Hearing (2)
State Tax Commission 2025 audit program
Thank you from KEDA
Houghton County Veterans Service Office – Veteran Recognition Banner Program
Copper Country Community Arts Center Newsletter
Central States Pension
M&M Title Summer Celebration
The Barbara Kettle Gundlach Shelter Home Thank you
Seth Pasquale

Motion by Councilor Woodbeck and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to accept and place on file the communications received.

Yes: All
No: None
Motion Carried

Review and acceptance of meeting minutes

Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor Woodbeck to accept and place on file the Portage Lake Water and Sewer Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2025, and the Downtown Development Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2025, as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Review and approval of City Council meeting minutes

Motion by Councilor Woodbeck and seconded by Councilor Warstler to approve and place on file Regular Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2025, and the Budget Work Session April 22, 2025, as presented.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Reports

Staff:

City Manager, Babcock gave an update on the following:

- Juhannus Summer Solstice Celebration – June 20 – 22, 2025.
- Pitch In For Parks.
- Request for proposals (RFP) came in for the development of Mannerheim Hall, Nikander Hall, and the Wargelin Building. The proposals were reviewed by a group of people, which included the developer, they are in support of the proposal submitted by Marusich.
- The Copper Country Finns and Friends working on an application that would designate Hancock as a Finno-Ugric Capital of Culture. If awarded, Hancock would be the first North American Community with that designation.
- Bridgefest – this year's theme is "Children's Books & Stories"
- AMAR Assessing Audit passed.
- FEMA funds - \$100,000 is in the works for payment, moving forward on getting the \$230,000 balance of the advance funding for PW162 that we haven't received, and scheduling update meetings with FEMA and MSP every 2 weeks.
- Backflow preventer needed at the DPW garage, result of testing being done by HydroCorp.
- The Campground, Beach and Cemetery are now open.
- New businesses in Hancock include Shiba Café, Griffin Café is moving to Quincy St., an antique store will be going in at 102 Quincy St. and Uncle's Diner has opened.

Police Chief, Sleeman gave an update on the following:

- Statistics for arrests, reports, responses to calls, and warnings issued.
- Academy Recruits have started their schooling.
- Training updates.
- May 15th was law enforcement day.
- Officer Nanue Houle is going to the Sheriff's Office at the end of May.
- How to keep officers, what other benefits & opportunities can we offer.
- School Resource Officer, Olson, is at Camp Nesbit with the students.
- Challenge Coins designed and donated by Keith VanValkenburgh. His mentor, friend and Hancock Resident, John Haischer influenced his decision to choose the Hancock PD for his donation.

DPW Director, Erickson gave an update on the following:

- Street Sweeping.
- Street and curb painting.
- Sewer break by the campground.
- The new hire Bill Davis will be starting in about 2 weeks.

Clerk/Treasurer, Kalinec gave an update on the following:

- Utility billing past due notices went out for 76 accounts.
- Water shut offs will be Thursday, May 29th, there are currently 39 on the list.
- We will start to look at preparing for and the August election.

Committees:

KEDA

Councilor Woodbeck gave the following updates:

- New members, Mike Hauswirth from SNB and Eric Waara is representing the City of Houghton.
- Jeff Ratcliffe will be retiring in late 2026 or early 2027.

DDA

City Manager, Babcock gave the following update:

- Working on updating the Façade Grant program.

LDFA

Councilor Woodbeck gave the following updates:

- TIF captures approved for various projects.
- New SmartZone building.

New Business

1. Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to approve the current accounts payable in the amount of \$392,270.24.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Woodbeck, Rickard, Givens, McKenzie, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

2. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor Givens to approve Resolution #25-14 Liquor License Application Approval for Milly's Hancock LLC.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

3. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor Woodbeck to approve Resolution #25-15 to apply for MDOT Category B funding for Center Street between Front Street and Cooper Avenue in the amount of \$250,000.
 - a. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to add, "*and Michigan Street between South Lincoln Drive and Summit Street*" to the motion.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

4. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to provide a Notice of Award to U.P. Environmental Services Inc. for work to be completed for the TMF LSLR Grant for the Base bid amount of \$416,400.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Woodbeck, Rickard, Givens, McKenzie, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

5. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to approve request from Kyle Forsman to split and sell parcel of land owned by the City of Hancock, located in Quincy Township and described as Lot 69 and Part of Lot 70, of Assessor's Plat of Franklin Mine.

- a. Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor Woodbeck to table the motion.

Yes: None

No: All

Motion Failed

Roll Call

Yes: None

No: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

Motion Failed

6. Motion by Councilor Woodbeck and seconded by Councilor Givens to approve Portage Lake Water & Sewer Authority 2025-2026 budget as presented.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Woodbeck, Rickard, Givens, McKenzie, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

7. Motion by Councilor Warstler and seconded by Councilor McKenzie to approve the proposal submitted by Northern Lights Architecture in collaboration with Marusich Architecture and Nathaniel P. Jurmu (Structural Engineering) for the Architect and Engineer work for Mannerheim and Nikander not to exceed \$38,513.

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

8. Motion by Councilor Woodbeck and seconded by Councilor Blau to approve Spruce Haven Lot 22 sale to Curtis and Karen Lampinen for consideration of the sum of \$18,500.00.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Woodbeck, Rickard, Givens, McKenzie, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

9. Motion by Councilor Woodbeck and seconded by Councilor Givens to approve Spruce Haven Lot 23 property transfer to the Copper Country Independent School District to build a single-family home.

Roll Call

Yes: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

No: None

Motion Carried

10. Motion by Councilor McKenzie and seconded by Councilor Warstler to approve Sylvan Estate Lot 50 offer in the amount of \$32,000.00 to Jane and Mark Wightman.

Roll Call

Yes: Warstler, Woodbeck, Rickard, Givens, McKenzie, Blau

No: None

Motion Carried

11. Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor Warstler to approve Resolution #25-16 Visit Keweenaw Application for Special Liquor License for June 21, 2025.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment

- Matt Eliason, Attorney representing Kyle Forsman – commented on Kyle's request to split and purchase a parcel of land owned by the City of Hancock located in Quincy Township.


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

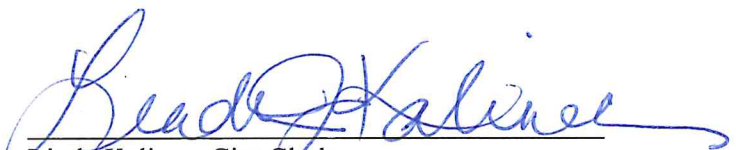
Motion by Councilor Blau and seconded by Councilor Warstler to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried


Kurt Rickard, Mayor


Linda Kalinec, City Clerk



Local Government Approval

(Authorized by MCL 436.1501)

Resolution #25-14

Instructions for Applicants:

- You must obtain a recommendation from the local legislative body for a new on-premises license application, certain types of license classification transfers, and/or a new banquet facility permit.

Instructions for Local Legislative Body:

- Complete this resolution or provide a resolution, along with certification from the clerk or adopted minutes from the meeting at which this request was considered.

At a Regular meeting of the Hancock City Council council/board
(regular or special) (name of township, city, village)
called to order by Kurt Rickard on May 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm
(date) (time)

the following resolution was offered:

Moved by Councilor Warstler and supported by Councilor Givens

that the application from Milly's Hancock LLC

(name of applicant - if a corporation or limited liability company, please state the company name)

for the following license(s): New Tavern License issued under MCL 436.1521(a)(1)(b)

(list specific licenses requested)

to be located at: 108 Quincy Street, Hancock, MI 49930

and the following permit, if applied for:

☐ Banquet Facility Permit Address of Banquet Facility: _____

It is the consensus of this body that it recommends this application be considered for
(recommends/does not recommend)
approval by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

If disapproved, the reasons for disapproval are _____

Vote

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and is a complete copy of the resolution offered and adopted by the City of Hancock
council/board at a Regular meeting held on May 21, 2025 (name of township, city, village)
(regular or special) (date)

Linda Kalinec

Print Name of Clerk



Signature of Clerk

May 21, 2025

Date

Under Article IV, Section 40, of the Constitution of Michigan (1963), the Commission shall exercise complete control of the alcoholic beverage traffic within this state, including the retail sales thereof, subject to statutory limitations. Further, the Commission shall have the sole right, power, and duty to control the alcoholic beverage traffic and traffic in other alcoholic liquor within this state, including the licensure of businesses and individuals.

Please return this completed form along with any corresponding documents to:

Michigan Liquor Control Commission
Mailing address: P.O. Box 30005, Lansing, MI 48909
Overnight packages: 2407 N. Grand River, Lansing, MI 48906
Fax to: 517-763-0059

CITY OF HANCOCK

RESOLUTION #25-15

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A REQUEST FOR FUNDING, DESIGNATE AN AGENT, ATTEST TO THE EXISTENCE OF FUNDS AND COMMIT TO IMPLEMENTING A MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR RECONSTRUCT PROJECT OF CENTER STREET BETWEEN FRONT STREET AND COOPER AVENUE AND MICHIGAN STREET BETWEEN SOUTH LINCOLN DRIVE AND SUMMIT STREET FUNDED BY THE TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND CATEGORY B PROGRAM.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hancock, Houghton County Michigan, held in the Council Chambers, 399 Quincy Street, Hancock, MI, in said City, on May 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Councilors: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

Absent: Councilors: Lounibos

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Councilor Warstler and supported by Councilor Woodbeck

WHEREAS, the City of Hancock is applying for \$250,000 in funding through MDOT from the Transportation Economic Development Category B Program to reconstruct a portion of Michigan Street and Center Street.

WHEREAS, MDOT requires a formal commitment from the public agency that will be receiving these funds and will be implementing and maintaining these infrastructure projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City has authorized Mary Babcock, City Manager, to act as agent on behalf of the City to request Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B Program funding, to act as the applicant's agent during the project development, and to sign a project agreement upon receipt of a funding award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City attests to the existence of, and commits to, providing at least \$250,000 toward the construction costs of the project(s), and all costs for design, permit fees, administration costs, and cost overruns.

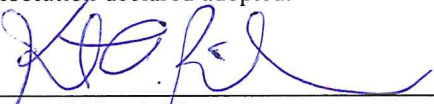
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City commits to owning operating, funding and implementing a maintenance program over the design life of the facilities constructed with Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B Program funding.

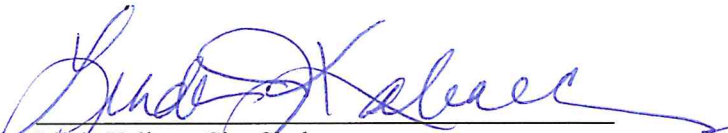
Yes: Blau, McKenzie, Givens, Rickard, Woodbeck, Warstler

No: None

Absent: Lounibos


Resolution declared adopted.


Kurt A Rickard, Mayor


Linda Kalinec, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Linda Kalinec, Clerk of the City of Hancock, do hereby certify that the above Resolution #25-15 is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted and passed at a regular meeting held on May 21, 2025.


Linda Kalinec, City Clerk



Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Liquor Control Commission (MLCC)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30005, Lansing, MI 48909
Toll-Free: 866-813-0011 - www.michigan.gov/lcc

Business ID: _____
Request ID: _____
(For MLCC Use Only)

Resolution #26-16

Certified Resolution of the Membership or Board of Directors Authorizing the Application for Special License

(Required under Administrative Rule R 436.576 - Not Required for Candidate Committee)

At a ☒ Regular ☐ Special meeting of the ☐ Membership ☐ Board of Directors

called to order by Kurt Rickard on May 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm
(Date) (Time)

the following resolution was offered:

Moved by Councilor Blau and supported by Councilor Warstler

that the application from Visit Keweenaw
(Name of Organization)

for a Special License to serve alcohol on June 21, 2025
(Event Date or Dates)

to be located at 417 Quincy St., Hancock, MI 49930 - (aka The Quincy Green)
(Physical Address - Include Location Name, Street Address, City, State, & Zip Code)

It is the consensus of this body that the application be recommended for issuance.
(Recommended or Not Recommended)

Approval Vote Tally

Yeas: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 1

Certification by Authorized Officer of Organization:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and is a complete copy of the resolution offered and adopted by the

☒ Membership ☐ Board of Directors at a ☒ Regular ☐ Special meeting held on May 21, 2025.
(Date)

Linda Kalinec, City Clerk/Treasurer

Print Name & Title of Authorized Officer



Signature of Authorized Officer

May 21, 2025

Date