

**MINUTES
CITY OF NEGAUNEE REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Negaunee City Council was held on Thursday February 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Negaunee Senior Center.

Members Present: Mayor Haines, Council Members Menhennick, VanStraten, Schuhknecht, Visser, Kangas and Smith

Members Absent: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Haines asked that Agenda Item #8.6 – CO Rd 595 Resolution be removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to #7.2.

Council Member Visser asked to add Future Opportunities for Recreation for the City as agenda item #7.3.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, supported by Council Member Menhennick and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public wished to comment.

WPPI Presentation

Mr. Mike Peters, CEO of WPPI was present to give a brief update on current and future initiatives. He provided the Council with a handout detailing the history of WPPI. He stated that the Northstar utility conversion with the City has been a little bumpy but that WPPI is assuring the City they will work with us. He highlighted the support system in place from WPPI as far as dollars back to the community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOVERY FEE DISCUSSION

At the January 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Council Member Schuhknecht asked that a discussion be held regarding Fire Department recovery fees.

Council Member Schuhknecht stated that during budget time this topic had been discussed and she wanted to explore it further. She stated that she feels there are reasons to charge at fault drivers but that there are a lot of reasons not the charge as well. She stated that she does not want citizens to feel hesitant to call the fire department in emergency situations. She stated that

she does not want to pursue this topic any further but maybe look at it in the future. Council Member Visser stated that after research on this topic he feels it is not a good idea. Council Member Menhennick stated she feels this is not a good idea and it would be taking advantage of people during their time of need. Mayor Haines stated that he had run for Council on core services the Fire Department being one of them and that citizen's taxes are already paying for this service.

No action was taken.

CO ROAD 595 RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF MAJOR STREET FUNDS TO LOCAL STREET SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the cost of repair and maintenance of local streets exceeds state and local revenue budgeted for said purpose; and

WHEREAS, the cost of repair and maintenance of major streets is less than funds received from the State of Michigan for said purpose; and

WHEREAS, Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, Section 13(6)(a) authorized a city to transfer up to 50% of the funds received from the state for use on the major street system to the local street system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan, that authorization is hereby granted to transfer an amount not to exceed 50% of the funds returned to the City for use on the major street system to the local street system in accordance with the provisions of Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended for the 2014 budget year.

FUTURE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CITY

Council Member Visser addressed the Council stating the motorcraft should be allowed on Teal Lake. He is asking how to move forward on this topic. He stated that he knows of people that are for and against this but that he would like to see more activity on Teal Lake. City Manager Thornton stated that the Planning Commission is currently working on updating the City's Master Plan and will be holding Public Hearings regarding topics involving all aspects of the City. He stated that he feels this would be the best avenue for people to voice their vision for the City. The Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Board are the proper channels for this.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member VanStraten, supported by Council Member Schuhknecht and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: January 15, 2015 Regular Minutes, Claims and Account in the amount of \$666,938.06 (check #71575-#71712), Revenue/Expenditure Trial Balances, 2014 Budget Adjustments, Major Street Resolution.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mike Mottes, Fahrner Asphalt comment on the work they do for local governments.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

No wished to comment.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Thornton commented on tablets for the Police Department and that the Chief was working on getting that information. He stated that he had contacted the School regarding traffic on West Case St. in front of the Middle School and that they would educate the parents on dropping off and picking up their children. He also thanked Mike Peters, WPPI for being here tonight.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Houghton encourages everyone in the City to attend the Public Hearings regarding the City's Master Plan to make their wishes known.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Visser to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Ann Ducoli
Deputy Clerk