

City Schedules Hearing for June 27 on Proposed 0.7 Mill Increase

By Eric Fish

During a brief City Council meeting Wednesday, June 20, a Truth and Taxation Hearing was scheduled for Wednesday, June 27, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be followed by a special meeting of the City Council at 6 p.m.

The public hearing will discuss a proposed increase of 0.705 mills for operation to be levied for 2007. If adopted, the additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 8.23%. If not approved, the city's operating revenue will increase 0.62% over the preceding year.

The options for the hearing were discussed in a Thursday, June 14, meeting of the Finance Committee.

Council also went into a closed session Wednesday night to discuss the legality of Segways on Mackinac Island, in a written opinion by city attorney Tom Evashevski. In a curious promotion several years ago, the Michigan Legislature permitted the use of Segways on municipal sidewalks in Michigan, although Mackinac Island was specifically exempted because of its motorized vehicle ban. But the City has received numerous letters from citizens requesting

their use, according to city officials.

The City of Mackinac Island recently lost its assumed right to prevent the use of electric-assisted bicycles because of its motor vehicle ban, in a legal battle that ended in the Michigan Supreme Court. It has since been required to accommodate persons with disabilities or medical conditions who could be helped by such bicycles.

It already had allowed the use of three- and four-wheeled electric wheelchairs, like Amigos, and even allows rentals of the machines to people who can't walk long distances.

Segway Personal Transporters were not included in the court rulings.

Council took no action on the issue Wednesday night.

Council also approved the acceptance of a \$15,000 donation from Coca-Cola and agreed to accept a \$5,000 donation from Grand Hotel for the July 4 fireworks.

In another financial matter, Council approved the purchase and installation of two new windows for the public restrooms and for the transfer of a maximum of \$1,000 from the Restroom Capital Projects Account to the General Fund.

Council accepted a painting of Round Island Lighthouse and several photograph albums from James Rotella, the mayor of Eustice, Florida. Although uncertain of how the objects wound up in Florida, Mr. Rotella sent them to Mackinac Island to expand the city's historical collection.

Grand Hotel was permitted to hold two competitive events on the public streets, a July 16 race for the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians convention, for 25 participants, and a July 28 race for 30 people in conjunction with the Michigan Hospital Association convention.

Three two-day trailer permits were given on behalf of Grand Hotel for a June 27 gathering at the Tea Garden. In addition, five three-day permits were given for the family carnival July 2, and one single day permit was given on July 16 for the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians. In addition, two temporary trailer permits were given to Dean R. Gillespie for the transport of stone and debris off the Island starting June 22, and to Girl Scout Troop 147 of Grand Rapids for the transportation and storage of materials while at Scout Service Camp starting July 21.

A temporary motor vehicle permit was given to Edison Sault Electric Plant for testing purposes.

Council agreed to amend the business license for The Christmas Store, and also gave new 2007 business licenses to Street Scenes by Brian McKelvey and Destination Mackinac. Off-Island Business licenses were given to Pluister Entertainment and Cliff's Painting and on-Island licenses were given to Caricatures, Central Savings Bank, and Rose Gazebo.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June through July 28

Every Tuesday

• Bingo, Sponsored by Lions Club at Community Hall, 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Open thru August 25
 • Mackinac State Historic Parks downtown buildings daily 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Mission Church, noon - 4 p.m.

Open thru August 29

• Governor's Summer Residence Tours, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Thru - August 16

• Little Stone Church Bible Study, Thursdays 1 p.m. at Trinity Church Parish Hall.

Thru - August 23

• Little Stone Church men's breakfast, Thursdays 8 a.m.

JUNE

June 22

• Grand Hotel Arts Weekend; music, art, and theatre from Michigan State University's College of Arts and Letters.

June 24

• Pancake Breakfast, Ste. Anne's Church 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

June 25

• Sunset Cruise, \$15 adults,

\$7 children, departs Star Line Mackinac Island Ferry 8:30 p.m. (Mondays).

June 28 - July 1

• The Wheelmen Association 18th Mackinac Island Meet.

JULY

July 1

• Mackinac Island 4th of July Regatta, Island Marina.

July 2

• Michigan Beer & Wine Festival, Mission Point Resort, 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

July 4

• Star Spangled Fourth of July day events and American Picnic, 6:30 p.m. Fort Mackinac.

• Around the Island Yacht Race, Yacht Club.

• Stone Skipping Tournament, 10 a.m., children's activities 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

• Fireworks at dusk, Windermere Point.

July 6

• Mackinac Horsemen's Association Carriage Rally.

July 8

• Little Stone Poetry Festival John Barr, Little Stone Church, 8 p.m.

July 13

• Mackinac Associates Commanding Officer's Ball, Fort Mackinac.

July 14 - 17

• Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac.

July 15

• Little Stone Poetry Festival James Lenfestey, Little Stone Church, 8 p.m.

July 19

• 99th Annual Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac

July 21

• Vintage Base Ball Game, Fort Mackinac Never Sweats vs. Grangers of Rochester. Fort Mackinac Scout Bar-racks.

July 21 - 24

• Bayview to Mackinac Yacht Race.

July 22

• Pancake Breakfast, Ste. Anne's Church 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

• Little Stone Poetry Festival Rev. Dr. Vincent Carroll, Little Stone Church, 8 p.m.

July 26 - 28

• Mackinac Bridge 50th anniversary celebration.

• Mackinac to Manitoulin Yacht Race, Island Marina

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ICE HOUSE BAR & GRILL

Menu Highlights

House Potato Chips \$4.95 Thin slices of crisp Idaho potatoes served with warm bleu cheese sauce

A Salad for the Chef \$9.75 Crisp field greens, sweet peppers, ripe tomato, double-smoked bacon, roasted turkey, bleu cheese and caramelized walnuts tossed in a creamy garlic dressing

Sandwiches

BLT & G \$8.75 Thick caramelized bacon, crisp lettuce, ripe tomato, smoked gouda cheese and mayonnaise on grilled grilled sourdough bread

Chicken Mackinac \$9.75 Char-grilled chicken breast, double-smoked bacon, mushrooms, onions and Gruyère Swiss cheese on a fresh kaiser roll

Oriental Tuna Steak Sandwich \$10.75 Sesame-teriyaki glazed Ahi tuna, char-grilled to medium rare, sweet pepper relish and red pepper-basil sauce on a flaky Kaiser roll



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located behind the Island House Hotel

Quiet
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 Dining