

Island Vows To Uphold Segway Ban

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law. "My general advice was that the ADA does prohibit the state from enforcing the law," Mr. Evashevski announced following the executive session.

Back in open session, Council invited public discussion on the matter of permitting Segways on the Island, but only the city's zoning and building officer Dennis Dombroski and the *Town Crier* reporter had waited in the hall for Council to reconvene the public meeting, and neither offered comments.

"It seems to me we're dealing with state's law," Alderman Mike Hart said. "We like to enforce the state law."

Little more was said. The Mackinac Island State Park Commission shares the city's concern that the use of Segways on the Island is a "serious concern," its chairman, Dennis Cawthorne, told the *Town Crier* Thursday.

"I believe the commission will be conferring with city to develop a common strategy, position, and approach to this issue," he said, although he noted not all commissioners

may be aware of the issue, yet. Whether the Island should challenge Segway riders before such strategies are formulated, he said, is a "close call."

"I probably would have been reluctant to draw the line in the sand right now," he said, "although it will probably have to be drawn at some point."

Police Chief Bill Lenaghan and Lieutenant Pete Komblevitz were off the Island Thursday and couldn't be reached for comment.

The closed session with the city attorney came at the end of a special council meeting to determine the upcoming tax millage rate, but a decision on the millage was deferred until after a special session with city auditor Michael Konicki Friday, June 29.

At a public "Truth in Taxation" hearing prior to the special meeting, Council deliberated a Finance Committee recommendation to increase the city's tax levy 0.705 mills. If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 8.23% over such revenues generated without holding a hearing. If not approved, the operating revenue will increase by 0.62% over last year's operating revenue.

One of the reasons for the proposed increase in taxes is the deficit the City has on the Fire Hall. Council members said that, if adopted, the millage may go back down when

the Fire Hall is scheduled to be paid off in June 2009, and depending on the status of the state economy.

Council was presented with three other options regarding taxation. Two of the proposals would result in a budget deficit of nearly \$60,000, the other more than \$11,000. The proposed increase of 0.705 mills would allow the City to almost break even.

Alderman Jason St. Onge argued that raising taxes would be harmful to the community.

"I'm going to ask the department heads to do some hard work," he said. "If they can cut about 3% each out their budgets, we can balance this and not raise taxes. I cannot vote for a raise in the taxes right now."

Mackinac Island has already cut budgets in several departments. Council voted to dismiss the lieutenant position at the police department this August.

Alderman Frank Blosswick agreed with Mr. St. Onge.

"Based on what I see and what I know from my own business, I'm not going to stand up here and vote to raise taxes," he said. "I can't do it."

The special council meeting with the auditor Friday, to further discuss the millage, has been posted for 1 p.m. If a decision is not made then, Council will likely vote on the matter at its regular meeting Monday, July 2, at 6 p.m., moved from Wednesday because of the July 4 holiday.

Round Island Light Is Subject of Painting Sent by Florida City



City Clerk Karen Lennard displays the painting of Round Island Lighthouse that was given to Mackinac Island from the city of Eustis, Florida. The painting was completed by Pearl McLain in 1974, although mystery surrounds how it wound up in the Eustis City Hall. City officials plan to hang the painting somewhere in the Stuart House museum.

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and is currently owned and maintained by the Hiawatha National Forest. A severe storm in 1972 washed away some of its foundation, but citizens worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to

have the structure listed as a National Historic Landmark, paving the way for restoration.

City Clerk Karen Lennard sent a thank you letter to the city of Eustis and plans to personally send some Mackinac Island fudge.



Places of Worship

Ste. Anne's Catholic Church

Mass Schedule

Saturday — 5:30 p.m.

Sunday — 9 and 11 a.m.

Mackinac Island Bible Church

A church in the word for all people

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Mid-week

Service 8 p.m.

all services at

Mission Point Resort Theatre

Watch for our Summer Concerts & Special Events

Coffee House Friday

9 p.m. to Midnight

Little Stone Church Union Congregational

Summer Sunday Worship

10:30 a.m.

Thursday Bible Study 1 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall

All Are Welcome

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m.

A Year-Round Presence on Mackinac Island

Kehilat HaTzav Hagadol

Services held at Trinity

Episcopal Parish Hall

Friday Nights at 8 p.m.

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Newly Engaged Couple Enjoys Mackinac Island Bingo Game

Mackinac Island Lions Club welcomed newly engaged Kevin Gelnett and Lisa English of Winter Park, Florida. The couple had become engaged earlier in the day at the Mission Point Resort gazebo and stopped by Community Hall

Tuesday, June 12, to join in the club's bingo game, said Lions Club member Candi Smith.

The weekly event is sponsored by the Mackinac Island Lions Club, is open to the public, and takes place from 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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