

# Mackinac Island City Budgeting Gets an 'A' Grade From Auditor; Condominium Sale Helps

Island: From page 13

Current year expenses for St. Martin's Place total \$243,000, and money in the general fund, currently, is down \$120,000 from last year, however, said Mr. Konicki, some of that reflects the sale of the Rowe House condominium.

"So far," he said, "it's a good year for the city."

The city, because it has few office employees, was unable to meet high standards for segregation of duties in preparing financial statements, which is something all small municipalities face, but Rehman Robson is still required to disclose the information, he noted.

He said all other recommendations from last year's audit, all minor, have been met.

The city and the DPW are in the process of creating retirement plans for employees, Mr. Konicki pointed out.

## Mayor Appoints Historic Landmark Committees

As one of the first steps in preserving and improving Mackinac Island's National Historic Landmark status, Mayor Margaret Douc appointed two committees that will work to create guidelines for city planners, developers, and historic structure owners to abide by.

The first committee will study the formation of a Historic District Commission and will be

chaired by Councilman Michael Hart. He will be joined by Planning Commission Chairman Bob Brown, Dan Musser III of Grand Hotel, Brad Chambers of Carriage Tours, and Phil Porter, director of Mackinac State Historic Parks.

A second committee was created to work toward obtaining historic status for individual cottages in Hubbard's Annex.

That committee will include Chris Straus, Melissa Straus, Lorna Straus, Shannon Schuler, Rosalie Rausch, and Dan Shea, with ad hoc member James Bazinaw, a member of the Planning Commission.

Mayor Douc also announced that local historian and map expert Brian Dunnigan, a summer Island resident, will make himself available to both committees for consultation on historical research.

Committee meetings will be scheduled by the committee chairs, Mayor Douc said after the meeting. No meetings have yet been scheduled.

All meetings for both committees will be posted through the city at First National Bank, the Post Office, and on television cable community channel three.

The city is receiving support from the community as Jane Manoogian, Sandra Roe, and a few other volunteers have been

gathering names for a petition to round up support for maintaining and improving the Island's National Historic Landmark status. They have collected around 1,000 names, Mrs. Roe said.

## Street Lights Update

Kelly Bean, Mayor Douc's assistant, updated Council on a city project to replace its 100 street lights.

A single LED street light is on temporary display. The pole supporting it, she said, replaces one that was knocked down a couple of winters ago in a snowmobile accident. It was not replaced because the city has no replacement poles.

Councilman Dan Wightman suggested the city keep the light pole there until Council decides on a particular light and pole design.

The city has no back-up light poles and all of the 100 street lights work, but many of the globes are broken or discolored, which is why the city is looking into replacing its poles and lights now, Ms. Bean told Mackinac Island Town Crier before the meeting. It is looking at LED and compact fluorescent lights to reduce power consumption.

The city purchased used lights more than 20 years ago, and they are serviced and maintained by Edison Sault Electric Company at the city's expense.

## Objection to Business' Property Reclassification

Council received three letters. One was from Phil Porter of Mackinac State Historic Parks, who, on behalf of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, objects to allowing Jack and Terri Armstrong to reclassify their Cannonball Drive-in business on the west side of the Island from Non-Conforming Class B to Non-Conforming Class A status.

Mr. Porter, in his letter, stated that the State Park, which owns property to the east and west side

of the Armstrongs' property, is concerned that either the current or future owners could make changes to the place that could result in a dramatic new use of the property. He also pointed out that through Planning Commission, there is no requirement for any public input or notification.

The Armstrongs were fined earlier this summer for not purchasing a building permit before he built a fence and an accessory building. He then approached Planning Commission about the issue in September. The board then suggested Mr. Armstrong reclassify his building, which is in a single family zone, to avoid having to apply for a variance.

Class B structures are any structures, existing before the Island's zoning ordinance was enacted, that do not conform to the zoning area. They cannot be replaced if lost in a fire and need variances for any changes or repairs. Class A structures can do so without a variance, if no more than 50% of the building is changed.

Mr. Porter argues that the city's approval process lacks public input or notification because the issue goes through the Planning Commission and not City Council, and, therefore, any dramatic change to the Armstrong building could go through without public notification or input.

The Commission has no objections to the Cannonball operations, Mr. Porter told the Town Crier Thursday, October 23, however, reclassifying it would open up possibilities for future owners of that business to stray further away from the single family zoning.

"Phil's letter exposes what I'd call a weakness in our non-conforming ordinance," said Mr. Evashevski during the meeting. "In theory, we allow use changes by the Planning Commission but not by the elected body. It's something both the Planning Com-

mission and City Council need to look at."

The other two letters included one from Island House Hotel, which recognized City Police Officer Dominic Redman for resolving a conflict between two of the hotel's employees, and one from the National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies and Michigan State Police, thanking the city for participating in the opening ceremony of the agencies' fall conference at Mission Point Resort September 15.

## Motor Vehicle Permits

Council approved nine permits for temporary use of motor vehicles for construction, four permits for temporary use of a trailer for hauling, and denied two requests for use of a backhoe to spread topsoil at residential yards.

Belonga Plumbing and Heat-

ing's requested use of a backhoe to spread topsoil at Martha Cousineau's home and Tom McGovern's home, both near Stonecliffe on the west side of the Island, was turned down by Council after members agreed the work can be done by hand and with a horse-pulled dray.

Council directed Mr. Evashevski to write a letter to Frieda Novick of New York, who owns the building that formerly housed the old opera house, now occupied by Foxy's T-shirt business, to inform her that the city is highly concerned about the possible deteriorated state of the building.

Council is seeking to allow for inspection of the building and recommend possible repair needed before May, when Foxy's reopens for the summer.

## Brevort

By Lois Movalson  
292-5581



Joe and Sharon Chalmers have arrived back home after a long weekend visit to their new grandniece. Little Evelyn Mary is beautiful, well mannered, eats well, and sleeps four hours at a stretch, they report. What a blessing.

Tom and Taffy Coffey are back at their home in Brevort, preparing for guests this week.

Dot Glashaw attended the wedding of Kevin Huhn and Shannon Bigger Saturday, October 25, at Zion Lutheran Church in St. Ignace, with Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey performing the nuptials.

Joyce and Tom Gustafson's granddaughter, Sarah Campbell, with her team, has won yet another hockey tournament in New York.

Jeannie and Brian Rose are looking forward to celebrating their grandson, Kadin's, first birthday this coming week. Kadin lives in Troy with his parents, Kari and Jamal Ksar.

Sharon Smith reports the cookbook is about ready to go to press. "Recipes and Remembrances"

hopefully will be ready for sale before Christmas. This is in celebration for Trinity Lutheran Church's 100th anniversary in 2010.

Dave and Charlene Kull of Brighton have a condominium here in the village. This past week, Dave's sister and three friends stayed there and then attended the Win-Some Women conference on Mackinac Island two weeks ago. They attended services at Trinity Lutheran Church Sunday morning.

The Trinity women served the Lions Club dinner Monday evening at the fellowship hall in greater Brevort.

Happy belated birthday to Ann Dyer October 26, and Jeannie Rose and Kristi Gustafson October 27. Happy birthday to Pam Movalson November 4.

Happy anniversary to Bill and Marge Borland November 6.

Prayers go out for continuing health improvement for Jean Bentley and Sharon Nelson.

## DeTour Plans for Village Christmas

Plans are underway for DeTour Village's Village Christmas, called "A Walk Back In Time." The celebration, sponsored by the E.U.P. Fine Arts Council, will take place Friday, December 5, through Sunday, December 7, and will feature Friday and Saturday night and Sunday matinee performances of "A Christmas Carol."

Friday evening events will also include a tree lighting, caroling, and a luminary walk hosted by the

Botanical Garden. Saturday events feature a bazaar with soup and dessert luncheon at Union Presbyterian Church, artists show and sale, crafters and vendors, children's crafts and activities at the Cultural Center and Village Hall, a breakfast with Santa, and sleigh rides.

To reserve a space for arts, crafts, or vendors, call Janelle at the Arts Council office at (906) 297-2400 or 297-2787.

## Halloween Bar Parties!

All Five Sites  
Door Prizes, Drink Specials,  
Costume Contest!  
Fun starts at 8:00 pm!

### Upcoming Events

## Ultimate Hunting Package

Kewadin Casino Hessel  
Earn One Entry per Day!  
Grand Prize Draws  
Oct. 29, 2008  
Random Draws on Wednesday!

## Sault Anniversary

Nov. 8th, 2008  
6-10 pm  
Grand Prize Draws at 10:15 pm  
CASH!CASH!CASH!  
20 Grand Prize Draws  
of \$1,000 each. Random Cash  
Draws beginning at 6 pm!

## November Snowmobile Giveaway!

Begin earning entries at  
All Sites Nov. 1st

## November Snow Blower Giveaway in Hessel

Earn one entry per day beginning  
November 1st.

### Tournaments

Christmas  
\$8,000 Blackjack  
Nov. 14-16, 2008

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**Loverboy**  
Thursday, November 13th  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

**King of the Cage**  
Friday, November 7th  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



**Polka Fest**  
October 31st-November 1st  
St. Ignace, Michigan



There's no place like Kewadin.

## Cash Is Falling St. Ignace

October 27-31, 2008  
Random Daily Slot  
Draws Every 15 minutes  
from 6:00 - 9:15 pm

### Weekly Events

Rapids Lounge Entertainment  
Sault Ste. Marie

Comedy starts at 8pm - Thurs.

Oct. 30 Derek Rickards

Live Music starts at 9pm Fri. & Sat.

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 Bad Side

Nov. 7 & 8 Touch of Class

Northern Pines Entertainment  
St. Ignace

Wednesday Comedy Shows start at 9pm

Oct. 29 Derek Rickards

Live Music starts at 9pm Fri. & Sat.

Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 Peril

Nov. 7 & 8 Jager 4.0

Team Spirits Bar Entertainment  
Manistique

Slave to Gravity - Oct. 31 & Nov. 1

Karaoke - Nov. 7th & 8th

Nudge - Nov. 14 & 15