

# \$32K First Street Beach amphitheater study on next council agenda

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Manistee City Hall

File photo

**MANISTEE** — Manistee City Council could approve an agreement with a company for a beach amphitheater study at the next meeting on Wednesday.

According to the city council meeting agenda, members are to consider the authorization of an agreement with Hunden Strategic Partners, of Chicago, for a beach amphitheater market and feasibility study.

The study is estimated to cost between \$32,000 and \$44,950, per the cost proposal submitted in the meeting supplemental materials.

The city had requested proposals from qualified firms to perform a market and feasibility analysis for a First Street Beach amphitheater project.

Salt City Rock & Blues, a nonprofit organization, has been hosting the annual Laborfest event each September since 2018 in an effort to raise funds to construct a public amphitheater between First Street Beach and Douglas Park.

At a 2019 city council meeting, Salt City Rock and Blues members presented the city with an oversized check indicating its commitment to underwriting a large portion of a feasibility study for the proposed amphitheater at First Street Beach.

The city council agenda shows that two firms responded and the Amphitheater Project committee reviewed the proposals, interviewed both firms and is now recommending Hunden Strategic Partners be awarded the contract.

The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday in the council chambers at city hall, located at 70 Maple St.

Other items on the agenda include:

- Consideration of a request to sell half of Manistee Renaissance Park lot 12 on M-55.

The owners of the lot requested to have the parcel split into two, 3.26-acre parcels; Manistee Township approved this request.

HangryBrand Fishing Supplies would build a 15,000 square foot building, according to a June 30 memo from Bill Gambill, city manager, to city council. Stipulations of Manistee Renaissance Park denote that owners of vacant lots in the park need written consent from the city for any sale or lease when it involves a third party.

The owner's intentions are to fulfill their original plans to build and employ six to 10 people on one parcel and sell the other.

- Consideration of a purchase of a John Deere track loader for the Manistee Department of Public Works.

The department has been leasing a track loader for the last five years on an annual basis. Machines are no longer available to be leased based on industry demand.

- Consideration of appointment of boards and commissions for the harbor commission, Manistee Neighborhood Restoration and Beautification Commission, and the Manistee Public Education and Government Commission.

Written By

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I mainly grew up in Gladwin, but have moved around living in other states and even in Japan for a time. I attended Mid Michigan Community College and Central Michigan University where I studied journalism, cultural anthropology and Japanese language and culture. I have won a list of Michigan Press Association awards in categories like investigative enterprise reporting, as well as other journalistic awards such as the Inland Press Association Newsroom Contest award for my contextual coverage of Great Lakes drownings, and was a top-20 winner of the Hearst Radio Competition's collegiate category. Prior to the News Advocate, I was the editor in chief and a reporter for the Gaylord Herald Times, a reporter for CMU Public Radio, a reporter for CM-Life newspaper and the Laker Current.