



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for May 14, 2026**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday May 14, 2026, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President R. Stern at 8:05 a.m. with Directors P. Sala, M. Weinrick, K. Kovacs, C. Durley, B. Glitt, C. Klecha, A. Clark present.

Absent: R. Caron

A. Clark made a motion to approve the absence of R. Caron. C. Durley seconded; motion passed.

Others in attendance were Tara Laase-McKinney DDA Executive Director, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, and Brian Shier-Farmers Market Manager.

Agenda

C. Klecha made a motion to approve the agenda. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment: No public comment

Consent Agenda

C. Durley made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 4/9/2026, bills for approval dated 4/1/2026 - 4/30/2026, financial reports as of 4/30/2026, and Audited Financials of 2025. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

Bills:

Advance Auto Parts	663.02	Midway Rentals	76.11
Blue Cross Blue Shield	169.58	Mining Journal	2,875.28
Board of Light & Power	2,470.32	North Country Disposal	750.00
Brian Shier	689.12	Otis Elevator	0.00
Brown Equipment Company	560.04	Passport Labs, Inc	775.66
C. Pesola LLC	1,850.00	Pomp's Tire Service	277.86
Capital One Commercial	1,308.07	SEMCO	580.06
Charter Communications	101.64	Summit Fire Protection	381.57
Chesla & Associates PC	324.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	1,900.00
City of Marquette	2,684.09	Tara Laase McKinney	134.78
Corbin Design	4,676.25	Traffic & Safety Control	1,205.60
Enright Excavating	10,142.85	U.P. Kubota	1,670.94

Fair Food Network	-5,600.00	Vestis	494.16
Imperial Dade	181.28	VSP Insurance Co.	78.21
Integriss	147.00	Western Michigan Health	6,250.56
Kips Design	200.00	Xerox Corporation	208.47
M&M Specialties	4,100.00	Payroll Costs and Benefits	58,889.28
		Total	<u>101,215.80</u>

Old Business: No old business

New Business

1. Fourth of July Ball Drop Support

- a. Double Trouble Entertainment (DT Entertainment Group) has submitted a request to host “America’s Birthday Bash,” a New Year’s Eve-style ball drop celebration commemorating the 250th birthday of the United States.
- b. The request is to close the 100 block of W. Washington St, beginning at 6:00 pm on Thursday July 2nd, with teardown concluding during the early morning hours of Sunday July 5th.
- c. Questions were raised about other potential Washington St. closures due to construction and how that may affect the ball drop closure request.
- d. A motion was made by P. Sala to approve the requested special event and associated street closure for the 100 block of West Washington Street from 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 2, 2026, through the early morning hours of Sunday, July 5, 2026. M. Weinrich seconded; motion passed.

2. Equipment Acquisition

- a. It has recently been determined that the current fleet of machines used for winter snow removal requires an additional municipal tractor to maintain the high-quality sidewalk snow removal services provided downtown.
- b. Three currently available machines that meet our specific municipal needs were identified. The Design and Maintenance Committee met with the Executive Director and Maintenance Coordinator to review these options and recommended the 2023 Multihog CX75 as the optimal choice for our current operational needs, pending a satisfactory video inspection and subsequent in-person inspection.
- c. This purchase would have fiscal effects of approximately \$125,000 in the vehicles and equipment budget for FY2026/2027.
- d. A motion was made by P. Sala to approve the tentative acquisition of the recommended 2023 Multihog CX75 MK 1, pending satisfactory video and in-person inspections, and include this purchase in the forthcoming FY 2026/2027 budget, which will be finalized in July, while increasing the budgeted amount to \$130,000 to allow for price increases with travel and shipping. C. Durley seconded; motion passed.

3. Concrete Repair Bids

- a. In April 2026, The Marquette DDA went out for bid for concrete repairs on five different places around the district.

- b. By the due date of April 30th, 2026 the DDA received two bids that were completed to the requested terms.
 - i. Closner Construction totaling \$25,499
 - ii. UP Concrete Co. totalling \$18,300
- c. A motion was made by C. Durley to award the 2026 concrete repair bid to Closner Construction, upon receipt of them naming the City of Marquette and Marquette DDA as additional insured. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

Committee Reports

1. Design and Maintenance

- a. Discussed acquisition of new tractor to present to board
- b. Discussed increasing the amount of the façade grant for the next fiscal year.

Executive Director's Report –

1. A preliminary map for Wayfinding was received. The DDA will soon be ready to go to bid on manufacturing and installation.
2. Maintenance is working on sidewalk and parking lot cleaning.
3. There is an art installation being placed in the Rosewood Pocket Park. More information is coming.
4. Bluff Street Alley stairway/ramp construction plans have been drawn up, but more information is needed before things can move forward.

Operation Director's Report – The parking pay station upgrade is done and a solution to the issue with paper jams is being mailed out. She is working on the 2026-27 budget.

Business Development and Promotions Director's Report

1. Vendors and bands for summer events are in the process of being booked
2. A winner will be selected for the Blueberry Festival Poster Contest at the next Business Development Committee meeting.
3. Downton Connect meetings this month will be introducing a noon meeting in addition to the 8 am meeting.

Farmers Market Manager's Report - The Saturday market starts May 16th. The Wednesday market starts June 10th.

Public Comment: No public comment

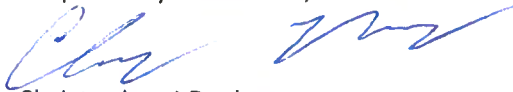
Board Member Comment:

1. R. Stern: Excited for summer events. Looking forward to seeing what the ball drop event will turn into. He is impressed with how this year's audit turned out.
2. M. Weinrick: Interested in seeing what the Double Trouble event will do to our numbers downtown

3. C. Durley: No comment
4. K. Kovacs: A Housing Summit happened last week. Round table discussions were held including the DDA's role.
5. C. Klecha: Excited for spring. Also was able to attend Housing Summit.
6. A. Clark: It will be an interesting summer for data to see where people are coming from, whether they are living locally or traveling.
7. B. Glitt: Excited for warm weather. The vibe downtown is that people are ready for it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 am. A motion was made by C. Durley, seconded by C. Klecha; motioned passed

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J Durley.

Board Secretary

Marquette Downtown Development Authority