



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Agenda City Commission

WORK SESSION

Monday, January 24, 2022

4:30 PM

Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Bonsall, Hill, Mayer, Smith, Stonehouse

Absent: Davis, Hanley

Announcements

Mayor Smith had no announcements.

Public Comments - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

Margaret Brumm stated that she thought this work session should be recorded and made available, and that she had communicated this request to the City earlier in the day.

1. Budget and Revenue Discussion

City Manager Karen Kovacs and Finance Director Mary Schlicht offered updates on the end of Fiscal Year 20-21, as well as ideas as the City moves forward in FY21-22.

They shared charts indicating that while the City's property tax millage rate has not increased since 2005, total property tax revenues generated by the City have generally fallen for the past several years.

Factors contributing to this include the loss of some major City taxpayers, including the Presque Isle Power Plant; the outcome of numerous Michigan Tax Tribunal cases, wherein large property owners challenged their valuations; and the impacts of the Headlee Amendment.

Discussion ensued about options for how to best address the City's revenue issues moving forward. Options included an increase in the City millage dedicated to general operations, as well as considerations of other voter-approved millages.

Commissioners spoke about the revenue-based options, as well as about possibilities for lowering City expenditures, and focused on how to best explain this

complicated issue to the public.

Public Comments - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

Margaret Brumm asked for the Commission to really focus on public outreach and on making this an issue that people can easily grasp. She also said it is too soon to discuss eliminating any specific City programs or offerings.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Jennifer A. Smith, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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