



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, April 11, 2022

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Bonsall, Davis, Hill, Mayer, Smith, Stonehouse

Absent: Hanley

Commissioner Jenn Hill moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Jess Hanley, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Smith stated that the Planning Commission has several public hearings scheduled for the April 12 meeting, including a hearing on the rezoning of City property, one on proposed Land Development Code amendments and one on proposed Master Plan amendments.

The Mayor also offered congratulations on the 50th anniversary of the Marquette Choral Society. Several members of the society were present and stood for acknowledgement.

Boards and Committees

1. Appointment

Suzanne Williams, Peter White Public Library Board of Trustees, for a term ending 05-01-27

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the appointment as listed, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

2. Reappointments

Wayne Premeau, Planning Commission, for a term ending 02-15-25

Erik Johnson, Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee, for a term ending 04-01-25

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the reappointments as listed, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

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

Todd Leigh, the president of the Marquette Choral Society's executive board, thanked the Commission for the recognition. He said the society owes its existence and success in large part to the City of Marquette, as well as to the community, donors, Northern Michigan University and longtime members of the society, some of whom have been singing for all 50 years.

Margaret Brumm spoke about the amount of litter in the City and advocated for increased enforcement and financial penalties for littering in the City. She also suggested having hotels post signs indicating the littering fines.

Presentation(s)

3. Marquette Housing Commission, by Executive Director Sharon Maki

Marquette Housing Commission Executive Director Sharon Maki and MHC member Jackie Stark presented the group's annual presentation to the City Commission.

The presentation focused on the board makeup - there is one vacancy at present - and on MHC activity in the last year, as well as the current state of the MHC properties. Ensuing discussion centered around affordable and work-force housing, cost considerations, vacancy rates, voucher programs, MHC revenue streams and plans for the future.

4. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as written, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously.

4.a. Approve the minutes of the March 28, 2022 regular Commission meeting

4.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$772,049.18

4.c. Lakeshore Boulevard Michigan Coastal Zone Management Program Area Restoration Project Contract

4.d. Proclamation - 50th Anniversary of the Marquette Choral Society

4.e. Sewer Cleaning and Televising Services for 2022-2024 Project Contract

4.f. Wright Street Sidewalk Extension and Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Project

New Business

5. Amended and Restated Trucking Corridor Agreement

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the Amended and Restated Trucking Corridor Agreement, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Jenn Hill and Carried Unanimously.

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

Margaret Brumm spoke about the importance of increasing littering fees, as well as the need to communicate effectively with the local hotels.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Hill congratulated the Choral Society on the anniversary, and said the group's gala is on April 20 and their concert is on April 23. She said that, as the snow melts, City staff will be undertaking spring street cleanup and she asked residents to be patient.

Commissioner Stonehouse said there is always something to do in Marquette. He praised the recent Angry Bear Festival and said the upcoming Choral Society concert is just another great opportunity.

Commissioner Bonsall thanked the Marquette Housing Commission for all the work being done and for taking the community's housing challenges seriously. He said he thinks the City should have a public conversation about where low- and middle-income housing could be located. He also asked the City Manager for an update on the Presque Isle Marina.

Commissioner Davis said she agrees that there is always something to do in Marquette and pointed out the current spring art exhibit in Marquette City Hall, which is heavily focused on the blue-spotted salamander.

Mayor Pro Tem Mayer commended City staff for the re-negotiation of the trucking agreement and for including notice of the City's prevailing wage policy in the documentation for the Wright Street Sidewalk Extension project. He also thanked staff for recently digitizing the forms for applying to get garbage and recycling bins in the City. He also welcomed new police Chief Ryan Grim, who is officially on the job this week.

Mayor Smith spoke about brush and yard waste collection.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs said the yard waste collection may be delayed due to the weather, but noted that the City would notify the public this week if there is a delay. She said the compost site on Pioneer Road will still be open to the public, even if there is a delay in curbside pickup. She said her community office hours are scheduled for 10 a.m. on Wednesday April 13, in the Peter White Public Library. Regarding the Presque Isle Marina, she said the docks sustained a fair amount of damage when they drifted out of the marina recently, and that they are secured, but still lodged in ice. She said the marina will still open, likely near June. She said that payments are still due from boaters by April 15, but that the City will retroactively prorate the fee if the season is delayed.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Jennifer A. Smith, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

If you require assistance to participate in any meeting, program or activity offered by the City of Marquette, please provide advanced notice to City of Marquette ADA Coordinator Eric Stemen at 906-225-8978 or via email at estemen@marquettetmi.gov.