



## City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Avenue  
Marquette, Michigan 49855

### Meeting Minutes City Commission Meeting

Monday, April 26, 2021  
6:00 PM  
Commission Chambers

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#### Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Mayor Smith. Mayor Pro Tem Hill. Commissioners: Bonsall, Davis, Hanley, Mayer and Stonehouse.

#### Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously.

#### Announcements

Mayor Smith had no announcements.

#### Boards and Committees

##### 1. Appointment

**Tara Laase-McKinney, PRAB, unexpired term ending 1-29-23**

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

As the meetings are still being held without the public present, residents were given the opportunity to call in and speak or submit written public comments to be read during the meeting.

There were no written public comments at this point.

Using videoconferencing, Weston and Andrea Pernsteiner commented on behalf of the Ore Dock Brewing Company and Ore Dock Real Estate, and said they were available if the Commission had any questions relative to Item #5.

## **Presentation(s)**

### **2. Marquette Area Sister Cities Partnership Update, by Tristan Luoma**

On behalf of the Marquette Area Sister Cities Partnership, Tristan Luoma gave some background on the sister cities relationship between Marquette and Higashiomi, Japan. The Commission was then presented with a video, created by Sister Cities representatives in Japan, honoring the 40-year relationship.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the video and thanked Mr. Luoma for his presentation.

### **3. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Bonsall highlighted the bike rental agreement with Spinway and said he is excited at the prospect. Commissioner Davis pointed out the Nurses Week proclamation, and thanked area nurses for their dedication, especially during the Covid- 19 pandemic.

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

- 3.a. Approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 regular Commission meeting.**
- 3.b. Approve the closed session minutes from the April 12, 2021 regular Commission meeting.**
- 3.c. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,369,909.18**
- 3.d. Michael Sjolund - Lease Agreement**
- 3.e. Proclamation - Nurses Week May 6-12, 2021**
- 3.f. Reciprocal Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement**
- 3.g. Rink Systems - Professional Services Contract**
- 3.h. SpinwayMQT, LLC – Lease Agreement**
- 3.i. UP Community Rowing Club - Storage Lease**

## **Unfinished Business**

### **4. Purchase of Property, 702 Lakeshore Boulevard - Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Evan Bonsall moved to Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Purchase Agreement, approve the purchase of 702 Lakeshore Boulevard from the Robert T. Anthony Trust per the terms of the Purchase Agreement, and direct the City Manager to complete the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

## **New Business**

### **5. Sale of City Property, 213 S. Front St. - Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Pro Tem Hill asked for clarification on the plan for this site, and Weston and Andrea Pernsteiner shared some information on their hopes for the area.

Commissioner Davis asked about the property boundaries expressed on the included map and staff indicated that an official survey was being conducted that will clarify any boundary questions.

Commissioner Bonsall asked staff whether the City Commission would have an opportunity to approve the purchase agreement once it's drafted - City Manager Mike Angeli indicated that following negotiation and drafting of a document, the City Commission would need to approve any purchase agreement.

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the attached Resolution of Intent to Sell and authorize the City

Manager to negotiate the sale of a portion of City-owned vacant property located at 213 S. Front Street, and direct the City Attorney to draft a purchase agreement based on the results of the negotiations, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

## **6. Revised Resolution for Addition of a Section of East Baraga Avenue to the ACT 51 Local Street System-Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Hill moved to Authorize the City Clerk to sign the attached resolution to add East Baraga Avenue, starting at the intersection of Lakeshore Boulevard and ending 470 feet to the east to the City's local streets system, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

## **7. NTN Tourist Park - Trail Permit**

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the permit with the Noquemanon Trails Network for construction and maintenance of a bicycle playground at Tourist Park day-use area and, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign it, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously.

## **8. Notice of Intent Resolution-FY 21 Capital Improvement Bonds-Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Authorize suspending the rules for discussion, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

City CFO Gary Simpson explained that the \$11 million bonding authorization was considerably higher than usual for a handful of reasons, including the ongoing Lakeshore Boulevard project. For this reason, he said, staff had worked to create an alternative plan for consideration. Through some restructuring of the Lakeshore Boulevard plan and the removal of some road projects, they were able to reduce the authorization request to \$5.5 million.

Staff and Commissioners discussed this plan, with Commissioners voicing concern at the removal of road reconstruction projects on Newberry Street and Shiras Drive. Commissioners also indicated that it would be helpful for future discussions to have on-hand a list of funding that the City was obligated to, such as through promised grant matches.

Ultimately, Commissioners expressed a preference for including the Shiras and Newberry projects in the calculations used to establish the authorized bonding total.

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve a Notice of Intent Resolution to start the process of issuing General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$6,200,000 for Capital Improvements, and authorize the City Clerk to sign the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

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

There were no public comments.

## **Comments from the Commission**

**Commissioner Hanley** commented on the Nurses Week Proclamation and praised the important work being done by health care professionals.

**Mayor Pro Tem Hill** expressed her appreciation for the the Marquette Area Sister Cities Partnership and for the state of Marquette's relationship with Higashiomi, and she said she enjoyed tonight's video very much. She also commented on the importance of getting a Covid-19 vaccine.

**Commissioner Mayer** had no comments.

**Commissioner Stonehouse** thanked staff for their work tonight, specifically on the budgeting discussion, and praised Commissioners and staff for always approaching the bonding process responsibly, wherein the City borrows an amount in-line with what is paid off each year.

**Commissioner Bonsall** reminded residents that this week is curbside brush collection in the City and that curbside leaf pickup will occur in following weeks. He said that this had been a very good meeting, and that the Commission had done a lot of positive work. Specifically, he called out the bike rental concept, and the Tourist Park bike playground.

**Commissioner Davis** agreed that tonight's agenda included a lot of very positive items. She again praised local medical workers, noting that the current vaccination efforts are important and that residents should turn to medical professionals when making decisions about their health, including whether to get a vaccine.

**Mayor Smith** said that the Commissioners all signed a document stating that they would get the Covid-19 vaccine when possible and asked if Commissioners were comfortable indicating whether they had received the vaccine. All Commissioners indicated that they had been vaccinated, which Mayor Smith said was an indication of how confident the City Commission was in the science behind the vaccination effort. The Mayor then shared the schedule of upcoming Commission meetings and work sessions, and reminded the public that glass recycling would be taking place during the first full week of May. From May 3 to 7, residents should put out only glass and no other recycling for pickup.

### **Comments from the City Manager**

**City Manager Mike Angeli** thanked the Commission for the support tonight, and said that the City was sending out stickers to residents with the recycling schedule on them.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

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**Jennifer A. Smith, Mayor**

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**Kyle Whitney, City Clerk**

*If you require assistance to participate in any meeting, program or activity offered by the City of Marquette, provide advanced notice to City ADA Coordinator Eric Stemen at 906-225-8978 or by email at [estemen@marquettemi.gov](mailto:estemen@marquettemi.gov).*