



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

**Meeting Minutes
City Commission**

Monday, April 28, 2025

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Davis, Gottlieb, Hanley, Larson, Mayer, Ottaway, Schloegel

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Schloegel moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Hanley had no announcements.

Boards and Committees

1. Appointment(s)

Heather Addison, Peter White Public Library Board, for a term ending 5-1-2030

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

2. Reappointment(s)

Barbara Owdziej, Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee, for a term ending 5-30-2028

Gerald Kujawa, Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee, for a term ending 5-30-2028

Madeline Arquette, Marquette Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, for a term ending 6-1-2028

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the reappointments as listed, seconded by Commissioner Jerney Ottaway 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 her recent experience at a wildfire preparation session and said she thinks there is a need for community warning systems.

Presentation(s)

3. Upper Peninsula Children's Museum Guardian Recognition - Norah Ryan

Jim Edwards discussed the contributions of Norah Ryan, who was recognized by the Mayor and the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum for her volunteer service. Norah said that she enjoys the responsibility and teamwork at the museum.

4. Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee, by Nicky Bates

Nicky Bates presented on behalf of the city's Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee. She provided an annual update, highlighting improved membership and the committee's focus on low-cost safety improvements, and she discussed a desire to change the name of the group to reflect a focus on broader transportation and mobility concerns in the community.

She identified a few key issues from the board's discussions, including traffic safety, signage, speed concerns along M-553, and increased public concerns over e-bike usage on city paths. She outlined the efforts of city staff to improve e-bike compliance and safety through education and enforcement.

Commissioners commended the committee's efforts and there was follow-up discussion focused on e-bike education and enforcement challenges, as well as traffic safety concerns on Third Street.

5. Citizen's Academy Graduation

Annie McIlhagga summarized the city's second session of the Citizens Academy, introducing seven of the members that participated in the 10-week program. She said that the program is aimed at giving residents a better understanding of city operations and allowing them to engage in more direct communication and dialogue between residents and city staff. She said applications are now open for the Fall 2025 Academy.

Mayor Hanley then presented those participants present at the meeting with a certificate and invited them to join her for a photo.

6. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as written, seconded by Commissioner Cary Gottlieb and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

6.a. Approve the minutes of the April 14, 2025 regular Commission meeting

6.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$671,253.86

6.c. Application for License to Use City Property Adjacent to 111 E. Spring Street

6.d. Carden International Circus, Inc. - Special Event Permit

6.e. MERS Addendum for Plan Closure [Division 110360]

- 6.f. Ordinance 25-03: Noxious Weeds - Roll Call Vote
- 6.g. Ordinance 25-04: Businesses and Business Licensing - Roll Call Vote
- 6.h. Ordinance 25-05: Solid Waste Collection
- 6.i. Ordinance 25-06: Street Parking Restrictions
- 6.j. Proclamation - Frontline Worker Appreciation Month
- 6.k. Proclamation - National Small Business Week

New Business

- 7. Request to Purchase City-owned Property - Portion of McClellan Avenue Parcel - Roll Call Vote

Marquette Golf Club board member Kenn Hruska, joined by Director of Operations Mark Gilmore and Director of Agronomy Craig Moore, offered additional background on the proposal. He said the hope at this point is simply to express the club's intent to acquire the land in question and to begin due diligence, including surveying, environmental testing, and appraisals of the land. No formal development plan was presented, though Hruska read a statement from the board, identifying the property as a potential launch point for potential future opportunities.

Following the presentation, Commissioner Cary Gottlieb moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate the sale of a portion of parcel 0515550, and to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis, and discussion ensued.

Commissioners indicated a desire for additional information and voicing questions related to future use of the property and adjacent lands, as well as possible traffic concerns in the area. Staff indicated that this is a very preliminary step that would give the club the right to access the land for additional due diligence activities prior to a sale.

Following discussion, the Commission voted on the motion, which was 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.

Jackie Stark said that she was trying to figure out what to get her husband, City Clerk Kyle Whitney, for his birthday, this was her best idea. She said she would like the minutes to reflect that she and Silas Whitney came to wish Kyle a happy birthday.

Comments from the Commission

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Schloegel said that he appreciated seeing the children recognized for their involvement with the U.P. Children's Museum and he talked about the importance of those types of activities. He also highlighted two proclamations on the

Consent Agenda tonight, which acknowledged Frontline Worker Appreciation Month and National Small Business Week.

Commissioner Cody Mayer spoke about participating at a recent event at Northern Michigan University and noted that NMU has now added the flags of the Sault Tribe and the KBIC to the displayed flags of other nations.

Commissioner Ottaway said this was a productive meeting, and spoke about the importance of Small Business Week.

Commissioner Davis said the TPAC plays an important role in the city and she appreciated the presentation. She also said that she thinks the Citizens Academy has been great and she is happy to see the city continuing it.

Commissioner Gottlieb said the project to bury power and communication lines along Lake Street has commenced and should hopefully be done this fall.

Commissioner Larson had no comments.

Mayor Hanley wished the City Clerk a happy birthday and then asked the City Commission to join her in singing Happy Birthday.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs said the Presque Isle loop is scheduled to open on May 2.

Adjournment

Mayor Hanley adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Jessica Hanley, 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@marquettemi.gov.