



## City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave  
Marquette, Michigan 49855

### Meeting Minutes City Commission

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

---

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

Present: Davis, Hanley, Larson, Mayer, Ottaway, Smith, Stonehouse

#### Approval of the Agenda

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

#### Announcements

Mayor Mayer had no announcements.

#### Boards and Committees

##### 1. Appointment(s)

Amy Stephens, Marquette Public Art Commission for an unexpired term ending 02-26-26

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

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

Matt Luttenberger spoke about City elections, and said the Commission should conduct elections to fill vacancies, rather than appointing people to those vacant seats. He also said he thought there should be summer hockey opportunities in town.

Margaret Brumm spoke about the importance of Memorial Day and of the need to thank living members and former members of the armed forces. She thanked Mayor Mayer and Commissioner Stonehouse for their service.

#### Presentation(s)

##### 2. Fiscal Year 2022 Audit by Mike Grentz, Anderson Tackman & Co.

Mike Grentz, from Anderson Tackman & Co., presented the City Commission with an overview of the 2022 audit for the year ended Sept. 30, 2022.

Following the overview, the Commission asked Grentz follow-up questions on

specifics of the audit. City Manager Kovacs said it's important to note that the audit is useful, but is a snapshot in time. The audit report, she said, is different from the budget.

**3. Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, by Executive Director Sheri Davie**

Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Executive Director Sheri Davie provided an annual update on behalf of the authority. She talked about the importance of the public improvements created through brownfield projects and highlighted the current state of several key projects in the city.

Commissioner Hanley said brownfields are important for the community and said these properties often would not have been redeveloped without the designation.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis said brownfields are key, and noted that residents also ask how long the TIF collection will last for these projects. She also asked for a bit of clarification about how the employment numbers are being reflected in the data.

**Public Hearing(s)**

**4. Public Hearing - Rezoning of 1501 Division St. - Roll Call Vote**

Mayor Mayer opened the public hearing.

Owner Patty Barton talked about future plans for the building at 1501 Division Street.

Planning Commission Chair Sarah Mittlefehldt said she is available if there are questions.

With no one else hoping to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Authorize the adoption of Ordinance 723 and rezone 1501 Division Street from the Medium Density Residential to a Mixed-Use (M-U) zoning district, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**5. Public Hearing - Single Lot Special Assessment Roll #590**

There was no one present to speak at the public hearing.

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Confirm Single Lot Assessment Roll #590, and authorize the Mayor to sign the Warrant, seconded by Commissioner Jerney Ottaway and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**6. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**6.a.** Approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 regular Commission meeting

**6.b.** Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$ 1,106,216.59

**6.c.** Arbor Day Proclamation 2023

**6.d.** Cruise Ship Fee Adoption - Roll Call Vote

**6.e.** Marquette Guts Frisbee Association Non-Profit Status - Roll Call Vote

**6.f.** Marquette Mountain Resort, LLC - Paddle Sports Concessionaire Permit

**6.g.** Pride Festival - Special Event Permit

**6.h.** Resolutions for Unpaid Stormwater and Unpaid Water and Wastewater - Roll Call Vote

## **New Business**

**7.** City Health Insurance Renewal - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to reaffirm the City of Marquette's commitment to paying the hard caps set by Michigan law for eligible active employees on the City's health and prescription drug coverage; approve the Resolution authorizing public entity membership in the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool for a minimum three-year period; and approve the Business Associate Agreement with Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. to act as the City's agent for administration of health insurance and other related insurance services, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson 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.**

Matt Luttenberger talked about the importance of electing people to open seats on the City Commission and talked about the importance of Lakeview Arena.

Barb Owdziej said Music on Third is beginning next week, and the DDA Social District will be starting soon. She said there will be a significant increase in traffic in the area and she thinks the City should consider closing Third Street to cars at certain times.

## **Comments from the Commission**

**Commissioner Ottaway** said he also had concerns related to Third Street, but he said there are several streets that cross Third and that would also need to be closed - it becomes very difficult to manage on a regular basis. He said he also thanked Mr. Luttenberger for his comments about the choice to appoint applicants to City Commission vacancies, as opposed to holding an election. He said the fact that there have been so many appointments in recent years is likely an argument against conducting elections, from a cost standpoint.

**Mayor Pro Tem Davis** had no comments.

**Commissioner Smith** said the City streets and parks are looking very good for this time of year, and she praised staff for the work that has been done this year.

**Commissioner Stonehouse** said this was an effective, yet important, meeting tonight. It wasn't flashy, but it was vital. He also noted that there is a cruise ship coming in June (7

and 22).

**Commissioner Hanley** agreed that the City is looking very nice. She also clarified that there are six candidates for three City Commission seats this year.

**Commissioner Larson** had no comments.

**Mayor Mayer** thanked everyone and then asked the City Manager to speak about some of the concerns mentioned tonight.

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

**City Manager Karen Kovacs** talked about the difficulties with evaluating the closure of a street like Third Street. She said the City Manager's office will be starting a new Community Office Hours session in the evening. The first one will be June 7 at Provisions, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Many city offices will begin summer office hours on June 5. Offices will be open to the public from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday-Thursday; on Fridays, offices will be open 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Mayer adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

---

**Cody O. Mayer, 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](mailto:estemen@marquettemi.gov).***