



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, June 13, 2022

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Bonsall, Davis, Hill, Smith, Stonehouse

Absent: Hanley, Mayer

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to excuse the absences of both Commissioner Hanley and Mayor Pro Tem Mayer from tonight's meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Smith had no announcements.

Boards and Committees

1. Reappointment

Jamie Weeder, Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, for a term ending 06-01-25

Commissioner Jenn Hill moved to Approve the reappointment of Jamie Weeder to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee for a term ending June 1, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse 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 suggested that the City double the fines for littering if it is done from a vehicle and said residents should be able to provide evidence of littering. She said litter is worse than it ever has been.

John Taylor said he would like to see the City tighten the fireworks ordinance, and spoke about the need to address housing affordability during the planning process.

Presentation(s)

2. Life Saving Efforts, by Police Chief Ryan Grim

Police Chief Ryan Grim told the story of three local men who worked together to rescue a stranger from a burning car. The Chief then presented the three men - Ross Christensen, Chad Devonshire and Todd Barr - with a life-saving award.

3. Signs of Spring, Salamander Days Exhibit, by Tiina Morin

Arts and Culture Director Tiina Morin talked about the genesis of Salamander Days and about the importance of art to the community. Mayor Smith and staff then presented awards to some of the top artists from the recent City Hall art exhibit.

4. Fiscal Year 2021 Audit by Mike Grentz, Anderson Tackman & Co.

Mike Grentz, from Anderson Tackman, offered an overview of the City's Fiscal Year 2021 audit. He said the City's fund balance is still above the long-term benchmark/goal, but that it is getting tighter.

He provided a brief overview of the last few years of expenditures, and explained what the various categories of expenditures reflect.

He said the City is budgeting very well for what it has, and said it will be a challenge moving forward to maintain the same balance.

Public Hearing(s)

5. Public Hearing - Vacation of a Portion of Center Street - Roll Call Vote

Mayor Smith opened the Public Hearing.

John Taylor says this street vacation doesn't seem like a bad idea.

Margaret Brumm commented on the agenda materials and on the environmental history of both this property and the nearby properties.

With no one else hoping to speak, Mayor Smith closed the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the street vacation request, and authorize the Mayor to sign the Resolution of Street Vacation, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

6. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

6.a. Approve the minutes of the May 31, 2022 regular Commission meeting

6.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$763,864.60

6.c. 2022 Fireworks Display Permit

6.d. Annual Wetland Mitigation Monitoring and Maintenance Services

- 6.e.** Community Services Fee Schedule Addition
- 6.f.** Consolidation Quitclaim Deed for Municipal Service Center
- 6.g.** Contract for Cleaning and Turnover Services
- 6.h.** Resolution of Additions to the Capital Improvement Plan for Years 2027-2029 - Roll Call Vote
- 6.i.** Vango's, Inc. - Concession Lease Agreement

New Business

7. Appointment of City Assessor

Commissioner Evan Bonsall moved to Confirm the City Manager's appointment of Dulcee Ranta as City Assessor effective May 23, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis 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 discussed the history of the recently rezoned properties near the intersection of McClellan Avenue and Wright Street and discussed the commissioner's votes and statements.

John Taylor talked about the impacts of development, and the need for municipal tax base.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Hill said she had a couple of questions related to the budget, and that she would follow up with City Manager Karen Kovacs. She thanked the men recognized in the life-saving award presentation earlier tonight and said she wants to gain a comprehensive view of housing and development.

Commissioner Stonehouse said this was a great session, with a detailed audit discussion. He talked about the recent visit from a Great Lakes cruise ship, as well as the art presentation. He also praised the men recognized with tonight's life-saving award.

Commissioner Bonsall spoke about housing, developable property and workforce housing, and he said there is an upcoming special meeting about surplus land. He said that anyone concerned with housing issues in the City should come to that meeting on Wednesday and mentioned that there will likely be another special meeting next week, on budget topics.

Commissioner Davis asked the City Manager to explain where people can find the budget documents.

Mayor Smith thanked Chief Grim for the award presentation tonight. She said she attended Pride Fest last weekend and was very happy to see that event in Lower Harbor.

Comments from the City Manager

Karen Kovacs said the audit shows that the City ended in a small positive, but that the future is something that needs to truly be focused on and addressed. She said

Wednesday's special meeting will begin at 5:15 p.m. and will be broadcast. Next week, there will be a second special meeting, at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21, which will also be broadcast.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Jennifer A. Smith, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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