



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

**Monday, August 9, 2021
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers**

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

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

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Smith said that moving forward, written public comment will be included in the minutes, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

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

Matthew Luttenberger spoke about the definition of affordable housing and about the importance of providing viable living options for all residents of the City.

Margaret Brumm spoke about bicycle safety around construction zones in the City.

Presentation(s)

1. Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, by Chair David Allen

MBRA Chair David Allen provided an overview of the brownfield process in the City of Marquette, highlighting local projects, and spoke of the possible impact of brownfield development on the City.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Allen for his presentation, and briefly discussed the importance of residents being aware of what's happening with boards like the MBRA, as well as the difficulty of deciding where and how to allocate finite resources.

2. Consent Agenda

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

- 2.a. Approve the minutes of the July 26, 2021 regular Commission meeting
- 2.b. Approve the minutes of the July 26, 2021 Commission work session
- 2.c. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,240,823.83
- 2.d. 2022 BCBSM Medicare Advantage PPO Group Contract
- 2.e. Conditional Rezoning Agreement for 616 Fisher Street
- 2.f. Night of Hope - Special Event Permit
- 2.g. Ore to Shore - Special Event Permit
- 2.h. Rotary Club of Marquette West - Special Event Permit
- 2.i. Schedule Public Hearing- Rezoning of a Portion of 213 S. Front St.
- 2.j. Schedule Public Hearing- Rezoning of a Portion of 2700 Lakeshore Blvd.
- 2.k. Schedule Public Hearing- Rezoning of 301 W. Baraga Avenue
- 2.l. Upper Peninsula Community Rowing Club - Facility Lease
- 2.m. Vango's Inc. - Concession Lease Agreement

Unfinished Business

3. City of Marquette Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-23

Commissioner Evan Bonsall moved to Approve the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-23 Strategic Plan as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer, and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Amend the motion on the floor to remove references to the Ad-hoc Housing Committee report from the strategic planning document. This motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioners discussed next steps in the process, as well as how to best handle strategic planning moving forward. There was talk of addressing strategic planning during the upcoming Master Planning process.

Commissioners then voted on the original motion, which 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 thanked Commissioner Davis for her efforts behind the Hurly Park project, and she talked about cleanup efforts around the City, including the lower harbor cleanup project and the effort to eliminate waste related to cigarette butts.

Paul Schloegel spoke on brownfield developments, the Ad Hoc Housing Committee and the best way to handle strategic planning. He advocated for regional cooperation and said the Commission should trust City staff.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Mayer thanked staff for their efforts and praised tonight's discussion, as well as the adopted strategic plan.

Commissioner Stonehouse talked about the issues related to the bike path closure near the construction zone on Lakeshore. He said the path is critical and it's intended to allow for transportation for residents and the City should consider a better methodology for handling these issues.

Commissioner Bonsall said tonight's discussions were positive and said he strongly agrees with Commissioner Stonehouse, regarding the bike path and pedestrian safety in South Marquette. He said he would like to see a better solution.

Commissioner Davis congratulated the Fire Department on the success of the recent Fill-the-Boot campaign. She said she was pleased to see all of the volunteer efforts in the community, including the local cleanup efforts mentioned by Margaret Brumm.

Commissioner Hanley had no comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill said she agreed with other commissioners about the need to focus on "Complete Streets" principles. She thanked the Police Department for all their work this weekend, and she spoke about the challenges and dangers posed by the COVID-19 Delta Variant.

Mayor Smith thanked Police Chief Blake Rieboldt for going above and beyond in his role as a representative of the City Police Department. The mayor thanked everyone that was involved in this summer's many events. She also thanked City staff for their efforts, and congratulated Commissioner Bonsall on his upcoming marriage.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs said the issues related to the bike path closure was being monitored by staff. She said the topic will be re-evaluated regularly, and she asked for all feedback to be shared with her office. She thanked Margaret Brumm for her work to clean up cigarette butt litter in the City. City Manager Kovacs said the City is amazing because of both the staff and the volunteer citizens.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Jennifer A. Smith, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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