



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 22, 2024

Special Meeting - 9 a.m.

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Davis, Hanley, Larson, Schloegel, Smith

Absent: Mayer, Ottaway

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to excuse the absences of Commissioners Cody Mayer and Jerney Ottaway for personal reasons, seconded by Commissioner Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Smith was not present at the beginning of the meeting, but joined at 9:21 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Davis had no announcements.

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

Margaret Brumm shared concerns about the meeting notification process and accessibility issues around town, and spoke about the content of planned public art installations.

1. Consent Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

1.a. Approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024 regular Commission meeting

New Business

2. Budget Overview

City Manager Karen Kovacs, Deputy City Manager Sean Hobbins and City Chief Financial Officer Mary Schlicht led a discussion about the FY 24-25 budget. Staff presented the proposed budget, emphasizing a budget without using fund balance. The budget work session included discussions on debt service, future revenues and capital outlay plans for the coming year. The city's debt service obligations were reviewed, with staff noting upcoming reductions in debt payments that could free up resources for future projects. There was some discussion of the limitations on municipal revenue generation, touching on the possibility of future sources to supplement the general operating millage.

After the overview was completed, Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to recess the meeting for lunch, from 10:45 a.m. until noon, seconded by Paul Schloegel and carried unanimously.

Mayor Sally Davis reopened the meeting at noon and turned discussion over to City Manager Kovacs, who touched on various grant opportunities. Community Development Director Dennis Stachewicz discussed seeking a grant in partnership with the Superior Watershed Partnership, which would provide for installation of pervious pavement at the YMCA parking lot and two blocks of a city street

The discussion then shifted to component units, with discussion about the budgets for the Peter White Public Library, the Downtown Development Authority and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Finally, staff and commissioners discussed special revenue funds, which are used for specific purposes. A high-level overview was given of each Special Revenue fund.

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

There was no public comment.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Smith expressed satisfaction with the budget process and the efficiency of the new system, thanking city staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Schloegel said the session was well done and thanked staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Hanley thanked everyone for their hard work and mentioned the efficient and well-organized process of the budget session. She appreciated that the budget did not require tapping into the fund balance, which makes the review process smoother and more enjoyable.

Commissioner Larson thanked city staff for their efforts and highlighted an incident where city services promptly resolved a personal issue, demonstrating the effectiveness and importance of city services.

Mayor Davis said she is pleased with how the budget process has gone this year and thanked staff for the hard work.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts that made the budget discussions productive. She highlighted the hard work and patience of both city staff and the community, which have contributed significantly to the city's current stable financial condition. Kovacs emphasized that while the city's budget situation appears optimistic, careful monitoring of capital improvements and other financial commitments will continue.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Sally Davis, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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