



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

**Monday, August 30, 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 Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Smith reminded residents that the first week of September, the 6th through the 10th, is glass recycling.

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

There were no public comments at this point.

Presentation(s)

1. Board of Zoning Appeals, by Chair Jermey Ottaway

BZA Chair Jermey Ottaway offered an annual update on the activities of the BZA.

Public Hearing(s)

2. Rezoning of a Portion of 2700 Lakeshore Boulevard - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the adoption of Ordinance 699, rezoning the referenced portion of 2700 Lakeshore Boulevard as recommended by the Planning Commission, and direct the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

3. Rezoning of a Portion of 213 S. Front Street - Roll Call Vote

Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Hill moved to Approve the adoption of Ordinance 700, rezoning the portion of 213 S. Front Street as recommended by the Planning Commission, and direct the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Ordinance, seconded

by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously.

4. Rezoning of 301 W. Baraga Avenue - Roll Call Vote

Kyle Rambo spoke, on behalf of the Catholic Diocese. He said the organization needs this re-zoning to remain in compliance with local zoning regulations, but that the group has decided to look outside the City limits to site a new women's recovery facility.

Mary Buckmaster, Jerold Riekman and Maurice Dherckens shared questions and concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Commissioners discussed the proposal, with several commissioners indicating that they would like additional information as to what the future planned use of the property will be, now that the plans for the women's recovery center have changed.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to postpone a decision on this item to a future meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded and discussion ensued.

Following discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to amend her motion to stipulate the item will be revisited at the Sep. 13, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded this motion, which carried 5-2, with Commissioners Mayer and Stonehouse voting no.

On the amended motion, to revisit this item at the Commission's Sep. 13, 2021 meeting, the Commission voted 5-2 to approve it, with Commissioners Mayer and Stonehouse voting no.

5. Consent Agenda

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

5.a. Approve the minutes of the August 23, 2021 Commission work session

5.b. Approve the minutes of the August 25, 2021 special Commission meeting

5.c. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$4,556,109.01

5.d. Application for License to Use City Property Adjacent to 417 W. Michigan Street

5.e. Consent to Grade Easement - MDOT South US-41/M-28 Project

5.f. Hurley Basketball Court Paving

5.g. KBIC Funding for the U.P. Children's Museum

5.h. KBIC Funding for the YMCA

5.i. Marquette Area Blues Fest - Special Event Permit

5.j. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the U.P. Children's Museum

5.k. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the YMCA

5.l. Vango's Inc. - Concession Lease Agreement

Unfinished Business

6. Sale of City Property, 213 S. Front St. - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the Resolution of Sale and Purchase Agreement, and authorize the City Manager to complete the sale of City-owned vacant property located at 213 S. Front St. for a total of \$40,600, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously.

New Business

7. Lobbyist Contract

Commissioner Cody Mayer moved to Approve terminating the agreement between Karoub Associates and the City of Marquette, and authorize the City Manager to provide written notice of the termination, per the terms of the contract, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Evan Bonsall moved to Approve terminating the agreement between Karoub Associates and the City of Marquette, and authorize the City Manager to provide written notice of the termination, per the terms of the contract, seconded by and Carried Unanimously.

8. Delegate - Michigan Municipal League Convention

Commissioner Cody Mayer moved to Authorize the Mayor to appoint one City delegate to attend the 2021 Michigan Municipal League annual meeting, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Smith then appointed Mayor Pro Tem Hill as the City's Delegate to the MML Convention.

9. City Manager and City Attorney Performance Evaluation Process

Mayor Smith then appointed herself, as well as Commissioners Hanley and Stonehouse, to the committee to review and compile performance evaluations for the Manager and Attorney.

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the appointment of three Commissioners to serve on a committee to review and compile the City Manager's and City Attorney's performance evaluations and to develop goals and objectives for the City Manager's initial year of employment, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem

Jenn Hill and Carried Unanimously.

10. Supervisors' Labor Agreement

Commissioner Mayer moved to Approve the Supervisory Employees Labor Agreement effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Bonsall and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bonsall said he thought an increase of \$86,000 for eight employees over five years seems responsible.

Commissioner Hanley said this contract was negotiated before the City's budget shortfall became apparent. She said the budget issues made her nervous about a contract of this length and she worries that it may be precedent-setting.

Other Commissioners agreed, with discussion touching on the salary increase component, the contract length, the projections for the City budget, the rate of inflation and the importance of retaining employees.

Mayor Smith said this was negotiated months ago and that everyone did the best they could with the information they had at the time, and that she didn't want this to be a minor issue that ultimately causes a major problem for the City.

At this point, the commission voted on the initial motion to approve the proposed contract. The vote failed 2-5, with Commissioners Bonsall and Mayer voting in favor.

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Margaret Brumm said the City Commission is doing their job and is being fiscally responsible. She spoke about recent garbage found on Presque Isle.

Jerold Rieckmann said he thought a five-year contract was a bad idea.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Davis praised the cleanup and work by the Superior Watershed Partnership.

Commissioner Hanley talked about Harbor Fest and congratulated the Rotary.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill talked about the importance of unions, and talked of the importance of having a regional focus. She also spoke about grants, and shared her admiration of the mural on Third Street.

Commissioner Mayer said he would not apologize for his vote on the contract proposal tonight.

Commissioner Stonehouse talked about a recent ribbon-cutting, and about Harbor Fest and Blues Fest.

Commissioner Bonsall reminded residents to recycle their glass.

Mayor Smith said school is starting and urged people to be careful.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs said Harbor Fest was great and invited people to come to her open office hours, on Sep. 8 in the library.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Jennifer A. Smith, 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.