



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, October 25, 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 Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Smith noted that Halloween was coming up on Sunday and that the following week would be glass recycling week in the City. She said an updated process was in the works, but that residents should put only glass out during the first full week of each month, at least through the end of the year.

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

Stosh Wasik commented on the proposed policy and resolutions for temporary marijuana events, focusing on cost, as well as on the date and location limitations. He also talked about the cost of marina slips, specifically for charter boats.

Molly Miller spoke in support of local action on climate change.

Logan Stauber shared his opinions on the temporary marijuana events item, talking about weddings and small events, and about existing buffer zones.

Ryan Stock spoke about local action on climate change, and how swift and significant steps needed to be taken, both globally and locally.

Michael Hainstock said he was available if the commission had questions about the proposed liquor license application on tonight's Consent Agenda.

Presentation(s)

1. Election Board, by City Clerk Kyle Whitney

City Clerk Kyle Whitney presented the Commission with an update on the City's Election Board, as well as an update on the preparations for the November 2, 2021 General Election. The board, which will have one vacancy in April of 2022, meets to certify candidates for local elections, appoint election workers and verify the

accuracy of the programming of election day tabulators.

2. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

- 2.a.** Approve the minutes of the October 12, 2021 regular Commission meeting
- 2.b.** Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,623,839.89
- 2.c.** Biogas Conditioning Skid Media and Testing
- 2.d.** Cogeneration Maintenance Agreement
- 2.e.** ESRI Contract Renewal
- 2.f.** Hockey Mutineers of Marquette - Lease Agreement
- 2.g.** Lakeshore Boulevard - Resolution for Conveyance of Great Lakes Bottomlands - Roll Call Vote
- 2.h.** Marquette City Hall Roof Repair
- 2.i.** Marquette Figure Skating Club - Ice Contract
- 2.j.** New Liquor License Application - Roll Call Vote
- 2.k.** Proclamation Supporting National Community Planning Month
- 2.l.** Purchase of Belt Press Polymer
- 2.m.** Marquette Junior Hockey Corporation - Concession Lease Agreement
- 2.n.** Marquette Junior Hockey Corporation - Ice Contract
- 2.o.** Master Agreement to Purchase Services (In-Home Services)
- 2.p.** Proclamation - November Family Court Awareness Month

Unfinished Business

3. Supervisors' Labor Agreement

Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Hill moved to Approve the Supervisory Employees Labor Agreement effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Fred Stonehouse and Carried Unanimously.

4. City Attorney Services

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve approve -- pursuant to the subcommittee's recommendation -- the City Attorney position as a City employee and terminate the retainer with Kendricks, Bordeaux, Keefe, Seavoy & Larsen, P.C. effective Dec. 31, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

New Business

5. Appointment of City Attorney

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the appointment of Suzanne Larsen as the on-staff Marquette City Attorney effective January 1, 2022, and direct the existing subcommittee to review and negotiate the employment contract and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

6. City Hall Labor Agreement

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the City Hall Employees' Labor Agreement effective October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Evan Bonsall and Carried Unanimously.

7. MDOT US41 Reconstruction and Resurfacing Project - City Utility Replacements

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Approve a contract with MDOT in the amount of \$159,900, based on the quantities and unit prices bid, and allow for a 20 percent contingency for any unknown circumstances, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Contract and the associated resolution, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously.

8. Temporary Marihuana Events Policy and Resolutions- Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve Commission Policy 2021-01, the Temporary Marihuana Event Fee resolution, and the resolution designating Tourist Park, Presque Isle Park, and Lakeview Arena as allowable temporary marijuana event locations, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign both resolutions, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Hill. Discussion ensued.

Commissioners mentioned the benefits of implementing a new policy like this on a limited basis and expanding later, as everyone gains experience. There was also discussion of how the fees were set, as well as how the state handles fees and licensing for marijuana events.

Commissioner Cody Mayer moved to amend the original motion, requiring the policy to be brought back to the City Commission for review in November of 2022. This motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jenn Hill and carried unanimously.

The commission then voted on the amended original motion, which 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.

Stosh Wasik continued his previous discussion about certain marina costs and fees. Ryan Stock said the City Planning Commission reviewed and approved of a resolution on climate action at a recent meeting.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Bonsall talked about City fees and the budgeting process. He told residents that they should take the time to vote in next week's general election and he urged people to get Covid-19 vaccine boosters if they are eligible.

Commissioner Davis welcomed Suzanne Larsen, who will be continuing in her role as City Attorney, to her new designation as a City employee. She talked about marina fees and suggested that tonight's commenters should consider bringing their concerns to the Harbor Advisory Committee, as a starting point. She congratulated local recipients of the recently announced Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs grants.

Commissioner Hanley said she is happy to see the marijuana policy pass tonight. She said she has heard similar complaints about marina fees and signage limitations from other sources and would like the City to review the items. She said she agrees with the commenters about the importance of action regarding climate change and she hopes the Commission can do something to acknowledge the issue in the near future. she wished residents a Happy Halloween and reminded everyone that trick-or-treating would take place from 4 to 7 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill congratulated the MCACA grant recipients and thanked tonight's commenters for raising the marina issues. She also suggested they raise their concerns at a HAC meeting. She said that at least 470 mayors have signed climate resolutions and she said this is a good time for the City to make a statement on this issue. She also spoke about brush collection, which begins this month, and about homelessness awareness.

Commissioner Mayer had no additional comments.

Commissioner Stonehouse offered background on marina funding and the grant-in-aid program. He said the City should certainly consider alternatives where possible to assist, and he echoed the recommendation to take the issue to HAC.

Mayor Smith said that her thoughts are with the family of former U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek, who passed away on October 15, at the age of 69. She said she is pleased to be back in person for meetings, and to see such varied public comments from residents. She said she hoped to see something come to the Commission this year regarding climate change, but pointed out that the first meeting in November is the City Commission's annual organizational meeting and that no additional action will take place then.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Kovacs had no additional comments this evening.

Adjournment

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Kovacs had no additional comments this evening.

Adjournment

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:15 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.