



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, November 14, 2022
7:00 PM
Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

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

City Clerk Kyle Whitney opened the meeting, announcing that this was the City Commission's annual organizational meeting and that he would run the meeting until officers were elected. The Clerk administered oaths of office for Commissioners Evan Bonsall and Sally Davis, who were each elected to three-year terms in the Nov. 8 General Election. Clerk Whitney then administered Commission elections for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for the coming year. Commissioner Cody Mayer was selected as mayor, after receiving four votes and Commissioner Sally Davis was unanimously selected as Mayor Pro Tem. The Clerk then administered the oaths of office to both of the newly elected officers, and then turned the meeting over to Mayor Cody Mayer.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Mayer had no announcements.

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

Bruce Heikkila shared concerns about the cost of utility infrastructure related to a recently announced development in the City.

Stephen Krygier, the interim director of Room at the Inn, introduced himself to the commission and discussed plans for the future.

1. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

1.a. Approve the minutes of the October 24, 2022 regular Commission meeting

1.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$ 3,235,927.17

- 1.c. Blight Resolution to Support CDBG Application for Former MGH Campus - Roll Call Vote
- 1.d. Community Development Block Grant Application
- 1.e. Cliffs Dow EPA Cleanup Grant Application - Roll Call Vote
- 1.f. Former Cliffs Dow Site Legal Compliance Retention Agreement
- 1.g. Proclamation - Small Business Saturday
- 1.h. Schedule a Public Hearing- Rezoning Parcel of NMU Owned Property at 1000 Wright Street
- 1.i. Seamless HRA Plan Document
- 1.j. Utilization of State Bid for Annual Salt Purchase
- 1.k. Noquemanon Trails Network - Office and Storage Lease Agreement
- 1.l. Hockey Mutineers of Marquette - Locker Room Lease Agreement

New Business

- 2. Approve 2023 City Commission Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Fred Stonehouse moved to Approve the meeting schedule as written, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously.

- 3. Letter of Resignation of Commissioner Jenn Hill

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to Confirm acceptance of the letter of resignation from Commissioner Jenn Hill, seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Smith and Carried Unanimously.

- 4. Procedure to Fill City Commission Vacancy

Commissioner Evan Bonsall moved to Direct the City Clerk to make City Commission application forms available online and in the Clerk's Office, and to accept applications from interested parties until 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2022; and to then proceed with the appointment of a new City Commissioner at the December 19 regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

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

Bruce Heikkila spoke about concerns related to financing mechanisms used in recent property developments in the City.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Bonsall congratulated Jenn Hill on her election to the state house, as well as on her years of service to the city. He acknowledged the passing of former City Commissioner Mike Plourde, who he said had a great impact on the city and a personal impact on Commissioner Bonsall. He thanked the residents that supported him in last week's election. Finally, he thanked Mr. Krygier for speaking on behalf of Room at the Inn and advocated for an increased focus on the issue of homelessness and the impact on the community and, more broadly, society.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis thanked Mr. Krygier for coming and said she would like to further discuss the organization's future. She thanked those who voted for her last week and congratulated Commissioner Bonsall, and said she especially wanted to recognize the many staff members involved in making sure the election runs smoothly. She acknowledged Veterans' Day and recognized the passing of former City Commissioner Plourde. She also said the Community Master Plan process has started, and the group needs to hear the opinions of people from throughout the community.

Commissioner Hanley thanked the candidates that won last Tuesday. She then responded to Mr. Heikkila and said she shares some of his concerns; she also explained a bit about how brownfield projects in the DDA district function. Commissioner Hill also thanked Mr. Krygier for speaking tonight.

Commissioner Hill thanked everyone for their support and expressed hope that the elected officials in Lansing will be able to provide assistance to local municipalities.

Commissioner Smith congratulated everyone on their recent election successes, and congratulated the new officers of the commission. She said she is going to need some time to get used to her new role on the commission, and thanked everyone for supporting her during her time as mayor, which she said has been an honor.

Commissioner Stonehouse said he wanted to take time to remember Mike Plourde, who was a good commissioner and a great booster of the city who will be missed. He said he would like additional detail on the parking garage associated with the Vault hotel project. He said that housing-related issues are not specific to Marquette, but are largely regional, state and national in scope, and that the greatest help may be available from outside sources as a part of a larger effort.

Mayor Mayer congratulated those who were elected or re-elected last week, thanked Commissioner Smith for her years spent as mayor, and thanked his fellow commissioners for appointing him mayor for the coming year.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs shared background on the Hemlock development and the history of similar projects. She offered updates on housing issues and said there are intergovernmental discussions on this topic. She congratulated those commissioners that won elections last week, and congratulated the newly selected officers.

Adjournment

Mayor Mayer adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Cody O. Mayer, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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