



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

Meeting Minutes City Commission

Monday, December 18, 2023
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Davis, Hanley, Larson, Mayer, Ottaway, Schloegel, Smith

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Davis had no announcements.

Boards and Committees

1. Reappointment(s)

Robert Caron, Downtown Development Authority for a term ending 1-1-28

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to Approve the reappointment as listed, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

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

Barb Owdziej talked about creating a snow plowing plan that was focused on more than a car-centric culture. She discussed alternative transportation and street design.

Margaret Brumm gave an update on the work of Leslie Putman.

Demetrios Kaltsas advocated for a split tax system, which he summarized. He also asked the Commissioners if they had any New Year's resolutions.

Presentation(s)

2. Marquette Area Sister Cities Partnership Trip to Higashiomi, Japan, by Paulette Lindberg

Paulette Lindberg presented a gift that the Sister Cities group received during their October trip to Shiga prefecture in Japan. She said five residents, including Mayor Sally Davis, travelled to Shiga as part of a larger group representing Michigan. She said the Marquette and Shiga groups have been alternating trips for 44 years.

Mayor Davis spoke about her experience on the Sister Cities board, which she was appointed to during her first year on the Commission, and about the activities of the group.

3. Election Board, by City Clerk Kyle Whitney

City Clerk Kyle Whitney gave an update on the activities of the City's Election Board, which is responsible for appointing election workers, testing election equipment, verifying candidates for local office and establishing precinct boundaries.

4. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

4.a. Approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023 regular Commission meeting

4.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,438,579.69

4.c. Marquette Yacht Club - Bottomland Expansion

4.d. Ordinance 726 - Repeal City Code Chapter 18 - Roll Call Vote

4.e. Presque Isle Dredging Project - Grant Agreement Approval

4.f. Recreation Master Plan Contract

New Business

5. Cultural Trail Contract Award

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to Award the bid to Urban Ecosystems, LLC, approve the contract in the amount of \$100,000, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the contract, seconded by Commissioner Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

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 at this time.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Ottaway said his resolution and goal for the coming year is to offer support to the City Manager and City Attorney.

Mayor Pro Tem Hanley said her New Year's resolution is to make it to at least one meeting of every board and committee.

Commissioner Schloegel said he is going to try to act as an educational voice for the Commission and community. He urged residents to shop local during the holidays and told everyone to be safe.

Commissioner Smith said her city-related goal for 2024 is to see increased participation in democracy.

Commissioner Larson said happy holidays and talked about his goal to continue encouraging development in accordance with the City's new master plan, with a focus on sustainability and clean energy opportunities.

Commissioner Mayer said that, like Commissioner Smith, he wants to focus more in the coming year on supporting a healthy democratic process.

Mayor Davis said she wants to support involvement in the City's master planning process, and said she also plans to attend meetings of the city's various committees. She said the cultural trail grant approved tonight is big but added that the Presque Isle dredging grant agreement is also huge. She praised staff on the work on these items.

Comments from the City Manager

Manager Karen Kovacs reminded people of the building schedule for the upcoming holidays.

Adjournment

Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Sally Davis, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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