



City of Marquette, MI

300 West Baraga Ave
Marquette, Michigan 49855

**Meeting Minutes
City Commission**

**Thursday, March 19, 2026
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers**

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Gottlieb, Hanley, Larson, Mayer, Ottaway, Schloegel

Absent: Davis

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to excuse Commissioner Sally Davis due to personal reasons, seconded by Commissioner Cody Mayer and Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Cary Gottlieb moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Schloegel had no announcements.

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

Marquette Area Public Schools Superintendent Zack Sedgwick said he wanted to recognize the recent work of City crews in the aftermath of the winter storm, which allowed local schools to open when nearby districts could not.

He then discussed the district's upcoming May 5 bond proposal, a request for 1.55 mills, and emphasized the scale and need for investment. MAPS operates seven student buildings totaling over 750,000 square feet, with an average building age of 60 years.

He stressed that while the structural integrity of buildings is sound, critical internal systems are outdated and inefficient, many dating back decades.

He outlined three core priorities of the bond proposal, Safety, Infrastructure, and Programming, and said the proposal would impact every building and every student in the district.

1. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as written, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jerney Ottaway and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call

Vote.

- 1.a. Approve the minutes of the February 23, 2026 regular Commission meeting
- 1.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$1,553,864.29
- 1.c. Grant Agreement - Public Art Landscape Garden
- 1.d. KBIC Funding for the Hospitality House of the Upper Peninsula, Inc.
- 1.e. KBIC Funding for the U.P. Children's Museum
- 1.f. KBIC Funding for the YMCA
- 1.g. Marquette Cultural Trailhead - Construction Contract Change Order
- 1.h. Mobile Food Vending Resolution - Roll Call Vote
- 1.i. Peg Hirvonen Bandshell - Construction Contract Change Order
- 1.j. Public Art - Anishinaabe Star Knowledge Stories
- 1.k. Public Art - Landscape Garden
- 1.l. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the City of Marquette Fire Department
- 1.m. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the U.P. Children's Museum
- 1.n. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Funding for the YMCA
- 1.o. Schedule Public Hearing - Rezoning of 1308, 1400, 1402 Division Street

New Business

2. Active Transportation Plan

Commissioner Cary Gottlieb moved to Approve adoption of the City of Marquette Active Transportation Plan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jerney Ottaway and Carried Unanimously.

3. Congressionally Directed Spending Request

Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to direct the City Manager to submit the requests identified for Fiscal Year 2027 Congressional Directed Spending with the appropriate Federal Legislative Office, 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.

Superintendent Zack Sedgwick continued his explanation of the district's upcoming millage request, explaining that MAPS identified over \$100 million in infrastructure needs through internal analysis, consistent with a recent statewide study. He stated that the proposed \$60 million bond amount was determined through community input, including a survey offering multiple funding scenarios, with respondents favoring the \$60 million option. He highlighted the limitations of existing funding, the importance of infrastructure investment for operational efficiency, and the role of the proposal in supporting academics, career and technical education, and workforce readiness.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Gottlieb said that he is looking forward to the bandshell project being completed soon.

Commissioner Hanley thanked public works and city staff that helped keep the community functioning in the aftermath of the recent winter storm. She also said that while the City Commission won't take an official stance on the MAPS millage proposal, she personally supports it. Commissioner Hanley also pointed out that in the lead-up to the May 5 election, there will be early in-person voting -- this is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 30; Friday, May 1; and Saturday, May 2.

Commissioner Ottaway praised the staff and public works response to the storm. He thanked Superintendent Sedgwick for the information tonight, and reminded everyone that the election is scheduled for May 5.

Commissioner Larson talked about the cleanup efforts following the recent storm and echoed the fact that the millage vote is May 5.

Commissioner Mayer talked about the impacts of the recent storm.

Schloegel talks about the storm, updates from city staff, BLP.

Mayor Schloegel said commended City, BLP, and DDA staff for their effective response to the recent storm that allowed the community to quickly return to normal operations. He reflected on the community's resilience and ability to handle severe weather, referencing recent media attention.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs provided additional information on storm response resources, encouraging residents in need of non-emergency assistance to dial 211 for support. She described the City's storm response as exceptional, noting that public works crews have been working extensively under challenging, non-routine conditions, and she advised that some sidewalks, including school routes, may not yet be cleared due to the volume of snow and equipment limitations, but that work is ongoing in coordination with local schools. She concluded by expressing strong appreciation for City staff and their efforts.

Adjournment

Mayor Schloegel adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Paul Schloegel, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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906-225-8978 or via email at estemen@marquette.edu.