



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for December 14, 2023**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday December 14, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President N. Durley-Rust at 8:04 a.m. with Directors R. Stern, A. Clark, R. Caron, L. Rowland, and M. Weinrick present. Absent: M. Morrison, K. Kovacs, P. Sala.

Others in attendance were Sean Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager, Tara Laase-McKinney-DDA Executive Director, Michael Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, Jodi Lanciani-DDA Operations Director.

R. Stern made a motion to excuse M. Morrison and K. Kovacs who gave notice that they could not attend, L. Rowland seconded the motion; motion passed.

Unexcused – P. Sala.

L. Rowland made a motion to approve the agenda, M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment No comment.

Consent Agenda

R. Stern made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 11/9/2023, bills for approval 11/1/23-11/30/23, and financial reports as of 11/30/2023. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

All About Services	\$20,040.00	Little Parsley Farm	\$10.00
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$38.83	Lowe's	\$8.53
Aramark	\$358.03	Marketwurks	\$1,400.00
Baraga Telephone Company	\$5.10	Marquette Monthly	\$795.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$2,883.87	Marquette Wallpaper & Paint	\$15.13
Board of Light & Power	\$2,394.14	Michigan Economic Developers Association	\$600.00
C. Pesola LLC	\$1,850.00	Moonlight Meadows	\$54.00
Capital One Commercial	\$360.93	Nagelkirk Landscapes	\$167.27
Card Connect	\$34.95	Nathan Kartheiser	\$348.58
Cardmember Service	\$3,321.05	North Country Disposal	\$455.00
Carquest	\$61.31	Peninsula Fiber Network LLC	\$343.06
Champion Glass & Countertops Inc	\$11,180.08	Pomp's Tire Service	\$159.33

Charter Communications	\$79.98	Rock River Farm	\$4,014.00
Chesla & Associates PC	\$280.00	Seeds and Spores Family Farm	\$218.00
City of Marquette	\$7,098.45	SEMCO	\$90.18
Cook Sign Service	\$120.49	Staples	\$84.58
Curran & Company	\$662.49	State of Michigan - LARA	\$175.00
Dalco	\$218.04	Swanzy Farm	\$120.00
Doozers	\$42.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$1,900.00
Duquaine, Inc	\$1,311.11	Tonella Farms	\$84.00
Enright Construction Inc	\$0.00	Traffic & Safety Control Systems Inc	\$950.00
Farmspread	\$1,560.00	U.P. Irrigation LLC	\$770.00
For Goodness Cakes	\$46.00	UP Gourmet	\$79.00
Full Plate Farm	\$110.00	WLUC	\$100.00
Getz's Department Store	\$841.60	Womens Center of Marquette	\$1,856.89
Heartland Services	\$2,139.63	Yoopers Country Farms	\$63.00
Independent Landscape Solutions, LLC	\$675.00	Payroll Costs & Benefits	\$41,017.35
Integris	\$1,494.76	TOTAL	\$124,081.40

Informational Presentation – DDA Annual Report

Executive Director T. Laase-McKinney presented to the board a review of the DDA's activities, income/expenses, accomplishments, and future goals.

New Business

The Main St. Tower elevator model is now out of production and replacements for the control board are no longer available. Otis has created a HydroEnhance upgrade to extend the life of the elevator controller and improve safety.

R. Stern made a motion to proceed with the HydroEnhance upgrade for a cost of \$19,800, L. Rowland seconded; motion passed.

Committee Reports

TIF Committee The committee met with the TIF consultant to go over the first draft of TIF Plan #4. They cleaned up details and made changes to make goals broader. The committee will meet again before the January board meeting and then bring the plan to the board. If approved, the TIF plan will go to the city commission in late January or early February.

Parking Committee The parking committee evaluated the part-time employee parking grant applications. Last year we awarded 10 grants. This year, we had a greater response and increased the grants to 14. The committee discussed possible ways to adjust the grant application for next year. They also approved of running another Passport App coupon for the month of February and discussed

possibly ending the 2-hour free parking lots in the spring and moving a pay station to the lot or making the lot permit only.

Director's Report:

The police have increased surveillance of the Bluff Street Parking Ramp and elevator tower. Maintenance staff are working on standard operating procedures and safety procedures, as well as preparing equipment for snow removal.

The current plowing contract for parking lots specifies salting/sanding lots when they are plowed. There have been times when salting and sanding are needed independently of plowing, and the DDA plans to adjust our next contract to accommodate this.

The last Holiday Farmers Market is this Saturday.

Jodi reminded board members that January is the reorganization meeting. New officers will be elected, and board members will choose which committees they want to serve on. She will send out a list of committees before the next meeting.

Mike reported that Ladies Day went well, and he had overall positive feedback on the change to an all-day event. Likewise, the Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting was a very successful event, with many people attending and enjoying the addition of music on the plaza. The next few months will involve lots of planning for summer events. Restaurant Week dates were changed to coordinate with NMU students being in town. This year it will be March 10-16th.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Board Member Comment:

M. Weinrick asked if there were any Third St. projects planned to begin when the TIF plan is approved and suggested that be an initial focus.

N. Durley-Rust wished everyone Happy Holidays.

L. Rowland shared that her husband is opening a new restaurant in downtown this January.

A. Clark suggested partnerships with homeless shelters and finding ways to support them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jodi Lanciani, Operations Director

