



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for October 9th, 2025**

Call to Order

A meeting of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (MDDA) Board of Directors was held on Thursday October 9th, at the Marquette Commons. The meeting was called to order by Board President R. Stern at 8:03 a.m. with Directors K. Kovacs, C. Durley, R. Caron, A. Clark, C. Klecha, L. Rowland, P. Sala, R. Stern, M. Weinrick present.

Absent: L. Rowland,

Others in attendance were T. Laase-McKinney DDA Executive Director, S. Hobbins-Marquette Assistant City Manager, J. Lanciani-DDA Operations Director, M. Bradford-DDA Business Outreach & Promotions Director, and B. Shier-Farmers Market Manager.

Agenda

C. Klecha made a motion to approve the agenda. M. Weinrick seconded; motion passed.

Public Comment – No comment

Consent Agenda

K. Kovacs made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 9/11/2025, bills for approval dated 9/1/2025 – 9/30/2025, and financial reports as of 9/30/2025. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.

September Bills:

#9 Farms	\$ 80.00	Little Parsley Farm	\$ 2,235.00
906 Pet Treats LLC	\$ 15.00	Madgoodies Studio	\$ 15.00
		Mares-Z-Doats Feed	
Advance Auto Parts	\$ 389.31	Supply	\$ 124.05
All Phase Electric	\$ 11,865.24	Marquette County	\$ 235.08
		Marquette Maple	
Bakery Barn Yooper Yummies	\$ 44.00	Company	\$ 152.00
Barton, Colin	\$ 100.00	Midway Rentals	\$ 4,084.80
Bergy Bread	\$ 294.00	Mining Journal	\$ 2,000.00
Big Creek Farm	\$ 81.00	Mission North, LLC	\$ 387.50
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 141.70	Moonlight Meadows	\$ 130.00
Board of Light & Power	\$ 2,137.20	Nagelkirk Landscapes	\$ 177.83
Boreal Collective	\$ 300.00	New Dalton Farm	\$ 1,599.00
C. Pesola LLC	\$ 1,850.00	North Country Disposal	\$ 865.00
Capital One Commercial	\$ 1,732.08	Northern Sky Orchard	\$ 491.00

Card Connect	\$ 284.54	Otis Elevator	\$ 5,520.29
Cardmember Service	\$ 15,204.07	Pileated Farms	\$ 345.00
Case Country Farm	\$ 299.00	Pitney Bowes	\$ 863.46
Champion Glass	\$ 142.50	Range Telecommunication	\$ 417.25
Charter Communications	\$ 80.00	Ryan Dart Jazz	\$ 100.00
Cherry Creek Baking	\$ 5.00	Sacred Vibrations	\$ 5.00
Chesla & Associates PC	\$ 310.00	Seeds and Spores Family Farm	\$ 3,831.00
Chloe Lea Creations	\$ 80.00	SEMCO	\$ 48.71
City of Marquette	\$ 7,361.94	Shady Grove Farm	\$ 53.00
Cook Sign Service	\$ 1,686.55	Small Batch UP	\$ 245.00
Corbin Design	\$ 49,640.00	Snowy Acres Vegetable Farm	\$ 651.00
Dalco	\$ 258.58	Stericycle	\$ 159.51
Dancing Crane Farm LLC	\$ 263.00	Superior Connections	\$ 250.00
Doozers	\$ 135.00	Superior Inspired	\$ 15.00
Evan Archambo	\$ 100.00	Swanzy Farm	\$ 2,419.00
Ever Yielding Acres	\$ 3,627.00	T2 Systems Canada Inc.	\$ 1,900.00
Fairest Promises	\$ 562.00	Tonella Farms	\$ 994.00
Farmer Lake Hydroponic	\$ 245.00	Traffic & Safety Control	\$ 950.00
For Goodness Cakes	\$ 96.00	Traunik Farm	\$ 408.00
Freshwind Farms	\$ 128.00	Tyler Gualdoni Art	\$ 40.00
Full Plate Farm	\$ 2,429.00	UP Gourmet	\$ 1,025.00
Gladstone Berry Farm	\$ 2,652.00	UP North Roast	\$ 170.00
Going Small Farm LLC	\$ 20.00	Vestis	\$ 347.86
Guindon Farms	\$ 942.00	VSP Insurance Co.	\$ 70.34
Heartland Services	\$ 3,209.17	Wellspring Farm	\$ 1,031.00
Honey Haven Baking Co.	\$ 11.00	Western Michigan Health	\$ 5,005.19
Hook Yarn & Singer	\$ 25.00	Xerox Corporation	\$ 213.50
Integris	\$ 459.65	Yooper Country Farms	\$ 2,436.00
Jan Arnold	\$ 100.00	Yooper Sisters	\$ 41.00
Jesse Wright	\$ 1,881.00	Payroll Expenses	\$ 57,289.54
Knots in the Woods	\$ 10.00	Total	\$ 210,740.53
Lily Venable	\$ 123.09		

Presentation by Lake Superior Community Partnership

New Business

1. Sacred Tattoo Façade Grant

- a. A façade grant has been submitted for 329 W Washington St. requesting \$6,785.40 to update the exterior of the building.

- b. The design and maintenance subcommittee reviewed the grant and has recommended the project for funding.
 - c. The committee is recommending approving them for the maximum amount, \$7,500, for a completed façade project.
 - d. C. Klecha made a motion to approve the façade grant up to \$7,500. C. Durley seconded; motion passed.
- 2. New Years Eve Support**
- a. Double Trouble has requested event support for this year's ball drop. They are requesting a street closure from 8:00 am on December 31st until 5:00am on January 1st.
 - b. Closure costs have ranged from \$0 to \$977 in the past five years.
 - c. C. Durley made a motion to approve the 8:00 am street closure. P. Sala seconded; motion passed.
- 3. Holiday Green Bids**
- a. Bid requests for the 2025/2026 evergreen baskets were sent to multiple recipients and advertised online and in print. Two bids were received, Rock River Farms and Forsberg Flowers.
 - b. Rock River Farms came in at \$4,403 and Forsberg Flowers came in at \$3,995.
 - c. P. Sala made a motion to approve Forsberg Flowers for the Evergreen Baskets. K. Kovacs seconded; motion passed.
- 4. Snow Removal Bids**
- a. Bid requests for the 2025/2026 snow removal season were sent to multiple recipients and advertised online and in print. One bid was received from Enright Excavating for \$71,000
 - b. This bid is \$3,625 under budget
 - c. A. Clark made a motion to award the 2025/2206 snow removal bid to Enright Excavating. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed

Committee Reports

1. Design and Maintenance Committee

- a. The committee reviewed the façade grant to provide recommendation to the board

Executive Director's Report

- 1. The Baraga Ave Grant was turned in successfully, and we will possibly hear about rewards by the end of the year or next year. An extension for the Bodega Match on Main grant was asked for and we are awaiting confirmation.
- 2. T. Laase-McKinney is meeting Monday with the Lake Superior Performance Rally to look over any last-minute changes to their event.
- 3. T. Laase-McKinney met with our light contractor to talk about doubling the lights that are put in the lower harbor and how to go about that.

Operation Director's Report –

- 1. Parking
 - a. The parking committee decided to continue the employee parking grant for 2026

- b. The parking revenue for fiscal year 2025 ended in the positive, \$10,000 more than budgeted.
 - c. The parking expenses for fiscal year 2025 were under budget largely due to deciding it was not necessary to repair the drains at the Bluff St. Ramp.
2. Operations – J. Lanciani is reviewing insurance rates and worker’s comp rates for the upcoming year.

Business Development and Promotions Director’s Report

1. M. Bradford will present a downtown overview report in January with data from Placer AI.

Farmers Market Manager’s Report –

1. There are only 13 markets left this year.
2. Holiday market applications just opened

Public Comment: No public comment

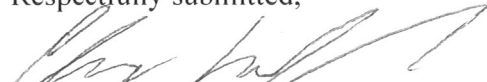
Board Member Comment:

- R. Caron: No comment
- P. Sala: No comment
- M. Weinrick: No comment
- A. Clark: No comment
- C. Klecha: C. Klecha congratulated Mike for an awesome Fall Phantasm. It was an impressive event for that scale. By our next meeting, C. Klecha says there will likely be a new business on Baraga, Baby Bangs.
- R. Stern: R. Sterns is excited for the holiday season and all the events downtown
- C. Durley: C. Durley is optimistic that snow removal will be great.
- K. Kovacs: K. Kovacs reminded the board about parking restrictions in place for trash collections. In the downtown, trash collection should be completed by 7 am. Winter parking restrictions will be discussed at the commission level in late October.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am

- a. P. Sala made a motion to adjourn the meeting. C. Klecha seconded; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Durley