



**Marquette Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2023**

Call to Order

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

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, and Sarah Johnson, DDA- Farmer's Market Manager.

L. Rowland made a motion to excuse R. Stern, P. Sala, and A. Clark. M. Weinrick seconded the motion; motion passed.

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

Public Comment

No comment.

Consent Agenda

K. Kovacs made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the minutes from 10/12/2023, bills for approval 10/1/23-10/31/23, and financial reports as of 10/30/2023. L. Rowland seconded; motion passed.

#9 Farms	\$9.00	Jesse Wright	\$3,167.00
Accident Fund	\$9,485.00	Little Parsley Farm	\$795.00
American Welding & Gas Inc	\$38.14	Lowe's	\$72.60
Bakery Barn Yoooper Yummies	\$9.00	Mares-Z-Doats Feed Supply	\$20.99
Baraga Telephone Company	\$8.15	Marquette Maple Company	\$38.00
Beechgrove & Blacksmith	\$100.00	Marquette Wallpaper & Paint	\$61.04
Beth Milner Jewelry	\$1,667.00	Mining Journal	\$352.44
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$2,880.34	New Dalton Farm	\$206.00
Board of Light & Power	\$2,252.08	Noah Bauer	\$200.00
Borealis Baking Company	\$32.00	North Country Disposal	\$515.00
Brown Equipment Company	\$1,659.10	Northarrow	\$1,956.89
C. Pesola LLC	\$1,850.00	Northern Sky Orchard	\$282.00
Card Connect	\$62.34	Peninsula Fiber Network LLC	\$343.06
Cardmember Service	\$1,819.15	Pileated Farms	\$229.00
Carquest	\$119.24	Pitney Bowes	\$143.91
Case Country Farm	\$114.00	Range Telecommunication	\$4,221.04
Charter Communications	\$79.98	Rock River Farm	\$282.00

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Committee met on Nov. 6, 2023, and discussed executive directors' annual performance review.

Director's Report:

Tara provided an update about the following:

A draft of the new TIF plan is expected to be presented at the December DDA board meeting, followed by Marquette City Commission approval in January, and final approval in February.

It was identified that the sidewalk on the east side of north Third. St. needs repair. These repairs were not included in the 2024 budget and are estimated to cost \$50K.

The DDA received a MiWish grant in the amount of \$1,325 to purchase a portable eyewash station.

Jodi provided an update regarding parking incentives for the winter months.

Mike provided an update about upcoming events:

Ladies Day Out is planned for Thursday, Nov. 16th. Over 80 businesses have signed up to participate.

The holiday parade and city tree lighting is planned for Friday, December 8th. The DDA received sponsorship from Honor Credit Union for a stage and an 8-piece band. Small Business Saturday is scheduled for Nov. 25th.

Sara provided an update of the 2024 Farmer's Market season. The 2023 market income increased by 140% from 2022. Goals for 2024 include increasing the number of donations, adding more events, and celebrating the 25th anniversary.

Public Comment:

No public comment.

Board Member Comment:

Meagen and Nichole complimented Tara on her performance and approachability in her role.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagen Morrison

Meagen Morrison, Secretary