



**City of Marquette, MI**

300 West Baraga Ave  
Marquette, Michigan 49855

**Meeting Minutes  
City Commission**

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
6:00 PM  
Commission Chambers**

---

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

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

Absent: Smith

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to excuse Commissioner Jenna Smith due to personal reasons, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Announcements**

Mayor Davis made announcements about early voting opportunities in the City, as well as upcoming engagement opportunities regarding the City's Master Plan.

**Boards and Committees**

**1. Appointment(s)**

Alison Taras, Public Art Commission for a term ending 2-26-27

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the appointment as listed, seconded by Commissioner Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

**2. Reappointment(s)**

John Stewart, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for a term ending 1-29-27

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the reappointment as listed, 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.**

Gail Anthony discussed the positive impacts of the City's senior service programming. Brooke Tharp spoke about the need for affordable housing, and discussed the concept

of utilizing landlord incentives to help address the issue.

Ann Fisher praised the work of the Marquette Senior Center, and talked about her involvement with the AARP tax program and of the support offered by the center.

Margaret Brumm talked about the history and impact of Covid-19, and asked the City Commission to declare a Covid Remembrance Day in the city.

### **Presentation(s)**

#### **3. Senior Services Update, by Senior Services Manager Maureen McFadden**

City Senior Services Manager Maureen McFadden offered a presentation about the Marquette Senior Center. She spoke about the funding sources for the center and highlighted the long list of aging services and programming offered. She focused on the social determinants of health and of the importance of supporting empowerment and independence for the aging population of the county. The Marquette Senior Center serves nearly 8,300 residents in the City of Marquette and the neighboring townships of Chocolay, Marquette and Powell. Maureen said the center has been selected as one of two to present at the national conference of the National Council on Aging.

She told the City Commission that the City and County millages that fund the senior center will both be up for renewal in the near future.

#### **4. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote**

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to Approve Consent Agenda as written, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously.

**4.a.** Approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 regular Commission meeting

**4.b.** Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$892,267.95

**4.c.** Moosewood Nature Center, Inc. - Amended Lease Agreement

**4.d.** Proclamation - Spread Goodness Day

**4.e.** Recreation Master Plan Contract

**4.f.** Resolution Accepting the DNR Spark Grant Agreement - Roll Call Vote

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **5. City Manager and City Attorney Evaluation Subcommittee**

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to Approve the subcommittee's recommendation to increase the City Manager's and City Attorney's salaries by 5% retroactive to October 1, 2023; direct the City Attorney to amend both contracts; and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the amended contracts, 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.**

Margaret Brumm talked about the upcoming meeting of the Board of Light and Power and also discussed her upcoming presentation about intellectual property rules and regulations.

Gail Anthony picked up where she left off earlier, discussing the value of the Senior Center programming.

#### **Comments from the Commission**

**Commissioner Mayer** had no comments.

**Commissioner Ottaway** thanked Gail Anthony for her story. He also said that he was looking forward to the City's annual Restaurant Week in March.

**Mayor Pro Tem Hanley** thanked Gail for sharing her story.

**Commissioner Schloegel** spoke about the importance of the City's Community Services Department -- Arts and Culture, Parks and Recreation and the Senior Center -- and about the outsized impact those divisions have on the entire City. He spoke about the need for affordable housing, including about the importance of working in concert with other communities.

**Commissioner Larson** complimented the work of the Senior Center and said that the sheer number of people utilizing the services is a powerful testament. He also reminded people that Spread Goodness Day is March 8.

**Mayor Davis** talked about the City processes related to the City Master Plan and City Recreation Master Plan.

#### **Comments from the City Manager**

**City Manager Karen Kovacs** talked about the regional nature of the housing discussion. She said the master planning draft is being unveiled tomorrow, but noted that the plan will still be discussed further in the future.

#### **Adjournment**

Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

---

**Sally Davis, Mayor**

---

**Kyle Whitney, City Clerk**

*If you require assistance to participate in any meeting, program or activity offered by the City of Marquette, please provide advanced notice to City of Marquette ADA Coordinator Eric Stemen at 906-225-8978 or via email at [estemen@marquettemi.gov](mailto:estemen@marquettemi.gov).*