



Meeting Minutes City Commission

Tuesday, October 10, 2023
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Present: Davis, Hanley, Larson, Mayer, Ottaway, Smith
Absent: Stonehouse

Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis moved to excuse Commissioner Stonehouse for personal reasons, seconded by Commissioner Jenna Smith and Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Announcements

Mayor Mayer said the compost and rubbish drop-off sites would be closing later this month for the season.

Boards and Committees

1. Appointment(s)

Allison Peters, Arts and Culture Advisory Committee for an unexpired term ending 6-1-26

Mateo McNeely, as a Student/Ex-officio member of the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee for a term ending with the end of the Marquette Area Public Schools' year

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the appointments as listed, seconded by Commissioner Jerney Ottaway 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 voiced concern about recent expenses for public art projects and questioned some of the language in the agreement included with tonight's agenda. Martin Reinhardt spoke of the importance of the Seven Grandfather Teachings and of its connection to the related culture and history.

Jason Quigno, the artist that submitted the proposal being considered tonight, spoke about his planned project.

Emily Lanctot talked about the importance of art to a community.

Kristine Granger said there is a huge community of people that is thankful for the support given by the City to the arts and she lauded the funding that has been allocated to arts.

Jon Magnuson spoke in support of the project and thanked the City Commission for its efforts to balance municipal obligations with a desire to improve the arts and culture within the community.

Jamie Weeder spoke in support of the proposed sculpture and said the cultural trail deserves to have a piece of art that is inclusive of the entire local history.

Jen Ray spoke in support of the proposed sculpture. She said that, as a business owner, the addition of inclusive arts and culture components are beneficial.

Karen Richards spoke in support of the project.

Amber Dohrenwend said she supports the project, which represents the community, reflects support for our history and culture and shows what we value.

Jud Sojourn spoke about the native history of the region, identifying where original villages were located in the area.

Presentation(s)

2. Local Officers Compensation Commission, by Vice Chair Carl Gordon

Vice Chair Carl Gordon offered an update on the activities of the Local Officers Compensation Commission, which meets every other year to review and establish compensation rates for elected officials.

Public Hearing(s)

3. Possible City Charter Amendments

Margaret Brumm said the proposed amendments are positive, and she supports putting all on a ballot. She said that, from the standpoint of a candidate, the City primary election is not required.

City Commissioner Jessica Hanley moved to direct staff to draft ballot language for the six charter amendments identified by the charter study group, seconded by Commissioner Jermey Ottaway and Carried Unanimously.

4. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jermey Ottaway moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jessica Hanley and Carried Unanimously.

4.a. Approve the minutes of the September 25, 2023 regular Commission meeting

4.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$8,635,131.83

4.c. Co-Generation Maintenance Services

4.d. GEI Change Order - Tourist Park SHPO Review

4.e. Lighthouse Renovation

4.f. Marquette Junior Hockey Corporation - Concession Lease Agreement

4.g. Purchase of Belt Press Polymer

New Business

5. Seven Grandfather Teachings - Public Art Contract

Mayor Pro Tem Sally Davis moved to Approve phase one of the Seven Grandfather Teachings public art project, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Contract, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously.

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Margaret Brumm said she is working with a group on a revision of the County's emergency plan for animal rescue.

Andy Belanger said she was an intern on the cultural trail project and talked about the importance of the trail.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Hanley had no comments.

Commissioner Larson thanked those that showed up tonight. He said he appreciates seeing a robust turnout.

Commissioner Ottaway thanked everyone who turned out tonight.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis announced that the League of Women Voters is having a candidate forum for Marquette City Commission candidates this Thursday at Kaufman Auditorium.

Commissioner Smith talked about the importance of voting in local elections.

Mayor Mayer thanked everyone in the audience for coming tonight and for staying for the entire meeting.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs said October 12-15 is State of the Arts in the area, and she said the Art Awards are planned for October 15. She reminded residents of her upcoming community office hours.

Adjournment

Mayor Mayer adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Cody O. Mayer, Mayor

Kyle Whitney, City Clerk

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