



**Meeting Minutes
City Commission**

**Monday, January 29, 2024
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers**

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

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

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

Mayor Davis talked about the upcoming 175th anniversary (the demisemiseptcentennial) of the incorporation of the City of Marquette.

She also noted that the City Commission's February meeting schedule will be a bit different, due to the Presidential Primary election and the Presidents' Day holiday, with the month's two regular meetings held on February 12 and 20.

Boards and Committees

1. Appointment(s)

Kevin Clegg, Board of Zoning Appeals as the Planning Commission Representative, for a term ending 2-15-25

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

2. Reappointment(s)

Callie New, Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, for a term ending 2-1-27
James Rankin, Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, for a term ending 2-1-27
Jamie Glenn, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, for a term ending 1-29-27
George Patrick, Board of Zoning Appeals, for a term ending 2-15-27

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to Approve the reappointments 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.

Craig Patterson, on behalf of the Woda Group, offered an update on the Blackrock Crossing development being planned on West Ridge. He said the plan now includes project-based vouchers, which has resulted in a need additional due diligence and paperwork. He said additional documents were recently delivered to the city for review and endorsement.

Margaret Brumm spoke about the Enterprise vehicle lease agreement on tonight's agenda. She said she hoped that this agreement allows for flexibility for the city fleet to shift to become more green-friendly moving forward.

Presentation(s)

3. Marquette Employee Recognition, by City Manager Karen Kovacs

City Manager Karen Kovacs offered an update on a dangerous situation that took place near the City Police Department last week. She praised the response of the police and emergency responders, but also highlighted the forward-thinking actions from staff throughout the building -- from the IT Department to the Senior Center and Human Resources offices. She said the responses by various employees helped to share vital information and maintain the safety of city staff.

4. Marquette Police Service Awards, by Police Chief Ryan Grim

Police Chief Ryan Grim and Captain Greg Kinonen stood to present awards.

Chief Grim made a brief statement, indicating that last week, an individual with a loaded handgun entered the Police Department hallway, confronted a citizen with the weapon and demanded to speak with officers. Grim said that following a lengthy negotiation, an opportunity to end the threat presented itself and the three officers being recognized tonight were able to disarm and subdue the subject. He said the incident was resolved without injury and said he was extremely proud of his entire staff and lucky to work with such dedicated officers.

He presented Officer Czarny with the Meritorious Service Award and Officer Braun received the Accommodation Award. He also honored the actions of Officer Takala, who was not able to attend the meeting. Finally, Chief Grim recognized the City Fire Department for their efforts during the incident.

Mayor Sally Davis then thanked the staff, the Police and the members of Fire Department. She said the bravery and professionalism of those involved led to a safe resolution of a tenuous and dangerous circumstance.

5. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Jennifer Smith moved to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously.

5.a. Approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024 regular Commission meeting

5.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$2,540,098.30

- 5.c. 2024 Meijer State Games Fireworks Display
- 5.d. Camera Server and Storage Replacement
- 5.e. FEMA Grant Application for Fire Department Ladder Truck
- 5.f. Noquemanon Trails Network - Office and Storage Lease Agreement
- 5.g. Schedule Public Hearing - Downtown Development Authority TIF Plan

New Business

6. Enterprise Vehicle Lease Agreement

Commissioner Jermey Ottaway moved to Approve the lease agreements with Enterprise FM Trust, authorize the City Clerk and Mayor to sign the agreements, and authorize the City Manager or her designee to approve all motor vehicle lease documents, seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Smith and Carried Unanimously.

7. Firefighters Labor Agreement

Commissioner Paul Schloegel moved to Approve the Marquette Firefighters Association Labor Agreement effective October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Jermey Ottaway and Carried Unanimously.

8. City Manager and City Attorney Evaluation Subcommittee

Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Hanley moved to Approve three Commissioners to serve on the City Manager and City Attorney Evaluation Subcommittee for calendar year 2024 with an immediate charge to review the City Manager's and City Attorney's compensation and bring back a recommendation at the City Commission's March 11th regular meeting and continue serving on the subcommittee for the year including conducting their evaluations in the fall, seconded by Commissioner Jermey Ottaway and Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Davis said she will make a decision of who to appoint to this group in the coming days.

Public Comments - Comments may not exceed three minutes per person. Please state your name and physical address when making public comments.

City Fire Department employee Pete Windsor, president of Local 643, thanked the City Commission for approving the proposed contract at tonight's meeting. He said it should help tremendously with recruiting and retention for the department.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Smith thanked the staff for the response to last week's incident in City Hall.

Commissioner Larson thanked the Police Department. He talked about the Marquette 2049 discussion last week and said things like the Enterprise agreement approved tonight help to give the City flexibility moving forward.

Commissioner Mayer said he also attended last week's task force meeting mentioned by Commissioner Larson. He also praised staff about the emergency response last week and said he was happy to see the new labor agreement approved tonight.

Commissioner Ottaway praised the staff involved in last week's incident. He also mentioned the tragic death of Tara Gluski, who died recently in a car accident. He said Tara was very involved in the community, including as chair of the City's Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee, and we be sorely missed.

Mayor Pro Tem Hanley thanked the professionalism of staff and said it struck her that the situation could have gone far differently if different people had been involved in the response. She said she wanted to point out that there was a huge grant application on the consent agenda. She said the purchase of a fire truck is a large expense but is an absolute necessity for the city and this grant could be a way to offset some of the high cost.

Commissioner Schloegel praised the staff response last week and also mentioned the passing of Tara Gluski, which he said was a tragic loss.

Mayor Davis talked about the Marquette 2049 climate adaptation task force. She said the Enterprise lease should allow for the integration of electric vehicles, once that's a feasible shift for the City. She said the commission is excited about the Blackrock Crossing project, and that staff is working through the specifics.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Karen Kovacs talked about the Blackrock Crossing project and the ongoing staff review of the requested documents. She also praised the City motor pool staff, regarding their ability to extend the life of the current fleet, including a fire truck, while still planning for replacement.

Adjournment

Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 6:40 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.