



**Meeting Minutes
City Commission**

**Monday, June 9, 2025
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers**

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

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

Mayor Pro Tem Schloegel moved to excuse Commissioner Mayer's absent for personal reasons, seconded by Commissioner Larson, Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to place item 6 after the City Manager's comment, seconded by Commission Gottlieb, Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

The Mayor had no announcements.

Boards and Committees

1. Reappointment(s)

Amy Manning, Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority, for a term ending 7-1-2028

Commissioner Jermey Ottaway moved to Approve to reappoint Amy Manning to the Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority, for a term ending 7-1-2028, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem 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.

Matt Luttenberger voiced concerns regarding the College Avenue detour, seeking clarification on the projected timeline for reopening the road and updates on other city projects such as Lakeshore Boulevard.

Margaret Brumm highlighted positive contributions within the community. She recognized Kathy Rupert for her collaboration with the State of Michigan to secure an emergency large-animal trailer for the Upper Peninsula. Additionally, she praised City Manager

Kovacs for her enthusiasm in supporting cleanup efforts at Presque Isle Park.

Presentation(s)

2. Board of Zoning Appeals, by Chair Heather Dombrowski

Heather Dombrowski, Chair of the Board of Zoning Appeals, presented a summary of the past year's activities. She noted that seven meetings were canceled in 2024 due to a lack of appeal requests, which she attributed to successful revisions within the Land Development Code (LDC) and the efforts of the Planning Commission and city staff. She also provided a brief overview of the types of requests typically addressed by the Board.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the Board's work, acknowledging their service and extending gratitude to its members and encouraged creative way to recruit new members.

3. Consent Agenda - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Jermei Ottaway moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Cary Gottlieb and Carried by Roll Call Vote .

3.a. Approve the minutes of the May 27, 2025 regular Commission meeting

3.b. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$346,759.08 which excludes \$657 in City Commission travel reimbursement, this reimbursement will be New Business item #4.

3.c. AWH Change Order - Presque Isle Bandshell Professional Services

3.d. Application for License to Use City Property adjacent to 1148 W. Washington Street

3.e. Becky's Roadside Refreshment, LLC - Presque Isle Park Concession Lease Agreement

3.f. Becky's Roadside Refreshment, LLC - Mattson Park Concession Lease Agreement

3.g. MERS Resolution Establishing Military Service Contribution Requirements for Defined Benefit - Roll Call Vote

3.h. Schedule Public Hearing- 01-PUD-03-25

3.i. Schedule Public Hearing- Abatement of a Dangerous Structure - 308 S. Fifth Street

New Business

4. Commissioner Davis Travel Reimbursement

Commissioner Larson moved to approve travel reimbursement for Commissioner Davis in the amount of \$657 for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, seconded by Commissioner Gottlieb, Carried Unanimously with Commission Davis Abstaining for the vote.

5. Superior Watershed Partnership 25th Anniversary Proclamation

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the Proclamation and authorize the Mayor to sign, seconded by Commissioner Ottaway. The item was then opened for discussion.

Commissioner Davis recognized the SWP for 25 years of service, expressing appreciation for their long-standing partnership with the city. She gave special recognition to Carl Lindquist, noting that Carl was the first employee of the SWP and has since expanded the organization to 40 employees across three locations.

Mayor Hanley emphasized the critical role the SWP plays in advancing Marquette's environmental and community well-being. She highlighted several projects spearheaded by the organization and acknowledged the substantial funding they have secured through state, federal, and private grants.

The mayor presented the proclamation to Tyler Penrod with the SWP. Tyler then briefly spoke, expressing gratitude toward the city for their 25-year partnership and to the Commission who supports the mission of the SWP.

The Commission then voted on motion. The motion 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 highlighted her collaboration with the SWP on cigarette butt collection, emphasizing their joint efforts to reduce litter. She also shared her views on increasing signage at Presque Isle Park to remind visitors that dogs are not allowed and to illustrate wildfire dangers.

Barb Owdziej brought attention to the recent housefire on East Kaye Avenue and gave recognition to the neighbor, Christopher Murdock for his quick action during an emergency.

Matt Luttenberger spoke about the future of Lakeview Arena.

Tyler Penrod invited the City Commission and staff to the SWP 25th Anniversary celebration taking place on June 20th. He also responded to previous public comment surrounding wildfire concerns, stating the SWP is prioritizing potential wildfire hotspots in the Upper Peninsula.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Davis congratulated city employee, Anne McIlhagga for receiving the

"Making Democracy Work" award presented by the Marquette County League of Women Voters. Davis stated Anne received this award for her efforts in organizing the Citizens Academy.

Commissioner Gottlieb thanked the City Manager, Public Works Administrative Assistant Nicole Bennett and staff for their continued efforts in working with Waste Management to resolve issues residents have experienced with their garbage collection.

Commissioner Larson had no comment.

Commissioner Schloegel expressed frustrations with Waste Management's recent level of service and thanked the City Manager for her recent radio interview addressing residents' concerns.

Commissioner Ottaway provided positive feedback regarding the success of the Bike Rodeo. He thanked staff and specifically Eric Paupore for putting together the event and thanked the community for their volunteer efforts. He also gave recognition to Police Chief Grimm and the Police Department for their ability to respond quickly when called upon. Lastly, he acknowledged concerns surrounding Presque Isle Park suggesting the idea of a ranger station located at the island.

Mayor Hanley had no comment.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Kovacs addressed concerns expressed during public comment regarding the street closure on College Avenue, allowing City staff to elaborate. Staff indicated the street would remain closed as College Avenue is directly impacted by development in that area and will require a traffic study.

Kovacs also stated the Lakeshore Boulevard project is expected to be complete in October.

Lastly, she shared the Commission's sentiment of frustrations with the level of service Waste Management is providing to city residents and thanked the community for their patience as the City works through these issues and recent changes.

6. Attorney-Client Privileged Memo – Kruhak v City of Marquette, et al.

Commissioner Larson made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, [MCL 15.268(8)(h)] to "consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute", which exemption includes the consideration of "information or records subject to the attorney-client privilege" pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g), seconded by Commissioner Ottaway, Carried Unanimously.

The Commission then entered into closed session.

Upon returning from closed session Commissioner Larson moved to direct the City Attorney to take action as described in the attorney-client privileged memorandum, seconded by Commissioner Ottaway, and Carried Unanimously.

Adjournment

7:02

Jessica Hanley, Mayor

Rachel Quayle, Deputy 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.