



**Meeting Minutes
City Commission**

**Monday, September 29, 2025
6:00 PM
Commission Chambers**

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

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

Commissioner Schloegel moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Mayer for personal reasons, seconded by Commissioner Davis and Carried Unanimously.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Cary Gottlieb moved to Approve the agenda as present, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously.

Announcements

The Mayor had no announcements.

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

Barb Owdziej spoke on the Brownfield Plan amendment for the old Marquette General Hospital redevelopment project.

Iris Katers spoke on the proposed Freedom Monument.

Presentation(s)

1. Senior Services Update, by Senior Services Manager Maureen McFadden

Senior Services Manager Maureen McFadden delivered an annual report to the Commission, detailing the progress and impact of aging services over the past year. She reaffirmed the Senior Services purpose, while also spotlighting a wide array of achievements.

Following her presentation, the floor was opened for questions and dialogue among the commissioners. A key concern raised was the growing demand for a larger senior center to adequately serve the increasing needs of the community. Overall, there was a strong sense of pride among the commissioners regarding the city's

senior services. They commended the dedication of Maureen and her staff and the meaningful support it continues to provide to older residents throughout the community.

2. Senior Services Recognition - Barb Susorney

The Mayor recognized city resident Barb Susorney for her dedicated service to the community, highlighting her years of volunteer work at the senior center and her assistance to participants needing help with tax preparation.

3. Michigan AWWA - Best Tasting Water Award, by Director of Public Works Scott Cambensy

Public Works Director Scott Cambensy unveiled the trophy for Michigan's 2025 Best Tasting Water. The winner was decided by the Michigan Section of the American Water Works Association. In recognition of this achievement, the Commission joined in a ceremonial toast.

Public Hearing(s)

4. Budget and General Appropriations Act - Fiscal Year 2026 - Roll Call Vote

City Manager Kovacs provide a high-level overview of the proposed budget. Following her presentation the public hearing was opened; there was no public comment.

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to Approve the attached resolution, adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and General Appropriations Act, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

5. Former Marquette General Hospital Brownfield Plan Amendment - Roll Call Vote

During the public hearing, Mark Paupore, a representative of Veridea Group, announced the company's plans to invest approximately \$200 million into the development of a 7-acre site. He emphasized that the project will feature a substantial residential component, include a senior living facility, and incorporate a community park.

Following the public hearing, Commission Cary Gottlieb moved to adopt the resolution approving the Former Marquette General Hospital Redevelopment Brownfield Plan amendment and direct the City Manager to prepare a development agreement that includes at 15-year period for private TIF reimbursements for review at a subsequent meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Paul Schloegel.

The mayor highlighted the increase investment that will be made by amending the Brownfield Plan to allow for integrated parking rather than surface parking, in return increasing the taxable value.

Then Commission then voted on the motion. The motion Carried Unanimously by

Roll Call Vote.

6. Rezoning of 480 River Park Circle - Roll Call Vote

There was no public comment during the public hearing.

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to adopt Ordinance 25-12 to rezone the property at 490 River Park Circle to Industrial - Manufacturing, seconded by Commissioner Sally Davis and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

7. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Cary Gottlieb moved to Approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jermey Ottaway and Carried Unanimously.

7.a. Approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 work session

7.b. Approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025 regular Commission meeting

7.c. Approve the total bills payable in the amount of \$12,143,419.75

7.d. 2025 Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

7.e. Budget Adjustment - Fiscal Year End 2025

7.f. Lakeview Arena HVAC Rooftop Unit Replacement

7.g. License to Use City Property adjacent to 1401 Presque Isle Avenue

7.h. Marquette Area Public Schools - Ice Contract

7.i. Marquette Area Public Schools - Locker Room Lease

7.j. Marquette Figure Skating Club - Ice Contract

7.k. Marquette Junior Hockey Corporation - Concession Lease Agreement

7.l. Marquette Junior Hockey Corporation - Ice Contract

7.m. Police Labor Agreement

7.n. Public Art - Freedom Monument

7.o. Schedule Public Hearing: Conditional Rezoning Request for 1700 Division Street

7.p. Water and Wastewater Treatment Chemicals BP25-07

New Business

8. Solid Waste Collection Parking Resolution -Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Michael Larson moved to approve the parking resolution implementing parking restrictions associated with curbside residential collection services, seconded by Commissioner Cary Gottlieb.

The floor was then opened for discussion by the commission and comments by staff. Discussion surrounded the solid waste collection agreement with Waste Management, the logistics of implementation and recognition of the adjustments the community will have to make.

The Commission then voted on the motion. The motion Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

9. City of Marquette Fiscal Years 2026-28 Strategic Plan - Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Sally Davis moved to Approve the City of Marquette Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2026-28 and adopt the Strategic Plan Resolution as presented, seconded by Commissioner Michael Larson and Carried Unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

10. City Attorney Evaluation

Commissioner Jerney Ottaway moved to Approve the City Manager's annual performance evaluation and amend the contract to reflect a 5% salary increase and term extension to September 30 2028, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Paul Schloegel and Carried Unanimously.

11. City Manager Evaluation

Mayor Pro Tem Paul Schloegel moved to Approve the City Manager's annual performance evaluation and amend the contract to reflect a 5% salary increase, term extension to September 30, 2028, and a modified severance clause, 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.

There was no public comment.

Comments from the Commission

Commissioner Schloegel reflected on his attendance at the Michigan Municipal League conference, which showcased best practices, topics of interest and potential opportunities. He noted that Marquette was frequently acknowledged by other communities for its community driven projects, citing it as one of the many reasons he is proud to call Marquette home.

Commissioner Ottaway expressed gratitude for the many residents who had contacted him with a range of questions and concerns, emphasizing his appreciation for the community's ongoing engagement. He encouraged the public to continue sharing

their input. Ottaway also voiced optimism that newly implemented parking restrictions would lead to improvements in garbage collection efficiency. Lastly, he acknowledged the public comment regarding the Brownfield Plan for the former MGH redevelopment site, noting concerns regarding traffic and the impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

Commissioner Davis highlighted the numerous recent accomplishments of the city siting senior services, the volunteer efforts of Barb Susorney, the Michigan 2025 Best Tasting Water Award, the public good that will come out of the old MGH Brownfield Plan amendment, new public art, along with the city's budget and Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Gottlieb brought attention to the wide range of items that were passed in the consent agenda. He also acknowledged public concerns surrounding the Brownfield Plan amendment.

Commissioner Larson emphasized that tonight's meeting represented the culmination of a large number of things, serving as a testament to staff's hard work. He acknowledged staff's informative work sessions and staff's consistent availability to address questions; recognizing the action tonight was due to many months of work.

The **Mayor** had no comments.

Comments from the City Manager

City Manager Kovacs brought attention to the old MGH redevelopment site stating it is by far one of the largest redevelopment investments in the Upper Peninsula, recognizing both the challenges and opportunities that come with it. She highlighted the recently passed fiscally responsible budget and the best tasting water from the city's water filtration plant that provides about 2 million gallons of water a day to city residents; all of which would not be possible without the continuous conversations and efforts by staff and the commission.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Jessica Hanley, Mayor

Rachel Quayle, Deputy City Clerk

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