

City of Marquette Council Meeting
Marquette City Hall
Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 6:00PM

Mayor Weipert called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 PM with roll call and pledge of allegiance. In attendance: Hemmer, Melver, Schneider and Gilman arrived at 6:08PM. Absent: Cornell. Motion by Schneider, second by Hemmer to approve consent agenda to include: agenda, 08/08/23 minutes, bills & claims from 08/09/23– 09/12/23 of \$67,752.72, August bank reconciliations, treasurer's report, and budget report with \$112,502.06 in revenue, \$62,723.98 in expenses. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Public comment: Marie Kravchuk asked the Council to consider naming the Timber Ridge park "Winter Park" in memory of Jason Winter. City Hall has also received a request for a memorial bench. Council is in favor of the idea. Robyn Denning with work with Timber Ridge residents to develop a park plan to present to council. Michelle Barness, with UERPC, presented a summary of the draft Comprehensive Plan. The Zoning Committee was in attendance to report that they had provided input after their review and were attendance as a collaborative effort to discuss any potential changes or corrections. Council had no concerns with the draft. Motion by Melver, second by Gilman to set a public hearing for October 10, 2023 to receive additional public comment on the Comprehensive Plan. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Meaghan Schnieder presented an estimate to repair the bench playground equipment that is 18 years old. The estimate was for equipment only and did not include installation. It was agreed that it may be best to invest in new equipment. An idea to move the sledding hill was also presented. Meaghan and other interested citizens will work with the parks committee to gather estimates and plans for updating the playgrounds. The personnel committee presented an offer to Mildred Stewart for the City Manager position. Motion by Melver, second by Hemmer to hire Mildred Stewart for \$65,000 annual salary as city manager. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Robyn Denning presented a proposal to amend the Timber Ridge covenants to allow duplexes on other lots since all lots allocated for duplexes contain single family homes and would include language that limits solar to roof mount systems only. Council had no objections. Denning will have the attorney draft the covenant amendment for Council and Timber Ridge residents approval.

Committee Reports: Chamber and DAWC provided written reports. Public works completed street painting, sealed cracks and painted the exterior of the old section of the Depot and plans to begin work on staining projects. Public works is willing to find projects for MFL students that need volunteer hours. Police provided a written report and reported that a vehicle had hit the Cobblestone. He is working on a quote for city cameras for which there may be a grant possibility and potential collaboration with DOT for monitoring road conditions. Police gave information on blocked railroad crossing and reporting procedures to FRA.

After discussion on training costs and employee benefits, motion by Schneider, second by Gilman to approve Resolution 2023-17 setting employee compensation for Jason Doeseckle for Drinking Water Grade II certification from \$23.55/hr. to \$24.30/hr. Roll call vote; all ayes, motion carried. Motion by Hemmer, second by Schneider to change status of seasonal parks employee, Brooks Niedziejko, to permanent part time. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. Motion by Melver, second by Gilman to approve Resolution 2023-18 to approve the Employee Handbook for change to employee benefits by creating a exempt/non-exempt class based system. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Melver, second by Hemmer to Resolution 2023-19 approving FY 22/23 Urban Renewal report and TIF debt certification. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. Motion by Hemmer, second by Gilman to approve Resolution 2023-20 to support 2024 Iowa Tourism Grant submission with up to \$1250 in matching funds. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried. Motion by Melver, second by Gilman to set Oct. 21, 2023, for Fall Clean Up from 8am-11AM. Mayor reported meetings set with Delta 3 to review plans for sidewalks to the new handicap fishing pier location and a proposal for monitoring the Cobblestone structure with cost share per the condo agreement. Motion by Schneider, second by Melver to adjourn at 7:59PM. All ayes, motion carried.

Attest:

Stephen Weipert, Mayor

Bonnie Basemann, City Clerk