

CITY OF MACKINAC ISLAND

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 4:00 PM

City Hall – Council Chambers, 7358 Market St., Mackinac Island, Michigan

I. Call to Order

Mayor Doud called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

II. Roll Call

PRESENT

Richard Chambers

Tom Corrigan

Steven Moskwa

Anneke Myers

Alan Sehoyan

St. Onge

IV. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing for 2827 Cadotte Ave. held on June 26, 2024
 - o Mayor Doud stated that the minutes stood approved as presented.
- Minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals Special Meeting for 2827 Cadotte Ave. held on June 26, 2024
 - o Mayor Doud stated that the minutes stood approved as presented.
- Minutes of the June 26, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
 - o Mayor Doud stated that the minutes stood approved as presented.
- Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting held on July 3, 2024
 - o Mayor Doud stated that the minutes stood approved as presented.

V. Approval of the Treasurer's Report

Motion made by Moskwa, Seconded by Sehoyan, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

VI. Approval of Payments for:

Motion made by Myers, Seconded by Sehoyan, to accept the payroll and payables as presented.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

VII. Additions to / Adoption of Agenda

Mayor Doud informed the Council of the following

- o At the July 9, 2024 Historic District Commission (HDC) meeting, Alan Sehoyan took over as chairman until the first of October when the position will be re-evaluated
- o Erin Evashevski to be the official attorney for the HDC
- o The formal resignation from Gary Rentrop was accepted

▪ Attorney Rentrop will stay on as a consultant as needed by Attorney Evashevski
Councilman Moskwa inquired if this was not Erin's area of expertise, maybe the City should look for another attorney with a background centered in that area.

- o Mayor Doud responded that Erin will stay on for now and we will see where it goes

Motion made by Moskwa, Seconded by Myers, to accept Mayor Doud's appointments of Alan Sehoyan as Chairman and Erin Evashevski as the attorney for the Historic District Commission.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, St. Onge

Abstained: Sehoyan

X. Old Business

- Quote from Schwab Contracting for the roofing of the Community Hall
 - o Attorney Evashevski noted the following
 - There is no requirement for the City to hire the lowest bidder as bidding on contracts does not require the lowest bid
 - There should be valid reasons as to why the City is going with the higher bidder, however there is no law or ordinance requiring this
 - Councilman St. Onge commented that the City has any and all reasons to reject a bid, but it is a pretty dangerous thing to take bids and then not take the lowest
 - o Councilman Corrigan noted that he felt that Dennis Dombroski and Mike Ruddle had very valid reasons to hire Schwab Contracting, and does not think the difference of \$5,000.00 is notable at this time or with the overall job price. Noted that Councilman St. Onge had valid concerns, but this project needs to be scheduled as soon as possible.

Motion made by Corrigan, Seconded by Chambers, to accept the contracting bid from Schwab Contracting for the new roof on City Hall.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan

Voting Nay: St. Onge

XI. New Business

- Mayor's appointments of members to the Internet Study Committee
 - o Mayor will appoint in 2 weeks
 - o Councilman St. Onge suggesting speaking with someone from Cloverland and including them in the overall discussion

- Approval of Larry Saylor's Fee Agreement / Engagement Letter

- o Anti-trust lawyer to assist with the boat line merger

Motion made by Myers, Seconded by St. Onge, to hire Larry Saylor and accept his Fee Agreement.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

- Increased pay rate for Officer Dwayne Miedzianowski
 - o Recommended to increase to the 5th year Police Officer rate
 - o Officer Miedzianowski has well over 20 years of experience prior to working on Mackinac Island
 - o A letter signed by the local Union Stewards in support for the raise was providedMotion made by Moskwa, Seconded by Chambers, to approve the pay raise for Officer Miedzianowski.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge.

- Increased pay rate for Police Department Administrative Assistant
 - o Raise to \$20.00 per hourMotion made by Myers, Seconded by Moskwa, to approve the raise for the Police Department Administrative Assistant

- Provision of 20 commuter tickets to the seasonal Police Officers and the Police Department Administrative Assistant
 - o Jenny Gezella of Hoffman Marine approached the Council and proposed that Shepler's Ferry would like to donate these tickets for the seasonal officers and the Police Department Admin Assistant
 - o Council members and Mayor Doud thanked Ms. Gezella and Shepler's Ferry for their generous donation

Motion made by Myers, Seconded by Moskwa, to accept the donated commuter tickets from Shepler's Ferry.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

- Hiring of one (1) full time and one (1) part time Public Safety Assistant (PSA) for the Police Department
 - o Have two hires lined up already
 - Justin Johnson is a J1 visa holder, which is allowable for the City to hire.
 - Gavin Caulder will also make a good candidate.
 - o Job duties include, but are not limited to:
 - Straightening bikes parked on Main Street, reminding people to walk on the sidewalk, helping people find what they are looking for, assist with missing individuals when needed, assist EMS with traffic control
 - PSA's cannot enforce any laws or ordinances, but they are encouraged to contact the Police Department if they see something that needs to be addressed
 - o Chief Gruits noted that he feels that having these additional PSAs in addition to the additional seasonal officers will make great improvement in this summer's enforcement effort

Motion made by Sehoyan, Seconded by Corrigan, to approve the hiring of the one (1) full time and one (1) part time Public Safety Assistants for the Police Department.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

- Use of allocated funds to the Hubbard's Annex Housing Association (HAHA) – dust control
 - o Jeff Steiner of HAHA thanked the Council for their recent work on the roads in the Annex.
 - o HAHA is requesting to use allocated funds, approved at the June 12, 2024 City Council meeting, for dust control to purchase an industrial sprayer that will be hauled by horses.

- Will only need one spray this year due to the wet spring and therefore HAHA was able to decrease the dollar amount needed for the BioRain product, which can be put towards the industrial sprayer
- Mackinac Island Carriage Tours will store the sprayer for free
- Councilman Corrigan inquire who will be responsible for maintaining the industrial sprayer – the City or HAHA?
 - Mr. Steiner indicated that HAHA / himself would take responsible
 - City Council members stated that the City will not be responsible for any maintenance of the sprayer

Motion made by Sehoyan, Seconded by Chambers, to approve the use of the City's allocated Annex dust control funds, in an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00, to purchase an industrial sprayer for dust control on the roads in Hubbard's Annex.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

Motion made by Myers, Seconded by Sehoyan, to approve Jeff Steiner of Hubbard's Annex Housing Association to purchase the industrial sprayer on his personal credit card and to be reimbursed by the City.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge \

- Letter from Jennifer Sulkowski regarding recent issues with Mackinac Island Ferry Company
 - Mrs. Sulkowski's six (6) employees, who all hold employee commuter passes through Mission Point Resort, were not allowed to board a Mackinac Island Ferry Company boat on July 6, 2024 and were told that the tourist passengers were priority over commuters.
 - Jenny Gezella, President of Hoffman Marine, approached the Council
 - Ms. Gezella noted that she has received a copy of Mrs. Sulkowski's complaint as well as others held on file with the City
 - Councilman Corrigan inquired how issues with commuter tickets will be handled
 - Ms. Gezella noted that she had a meeting on this issue yesterday. There seems to be communication issues.
 - Policies have not changed, commuters come first, but it seems that some people have been taking advantage of commuter tickets
 - Councilman Corrigan inquired how expired tickets will be handled
 - Ms. Gezella noted that this is something that will be addressed and seems to be stemming from communication issues
 - Understanding that expired tickets are currently being honored
 - Mayor's Assistant Trista France noted that communication with Mackinac Island Ferry Company has been terrible
 - Councilwoman Myers thanked Ms. Gezella for coming and addressing these issues with the Council, and also noted that Mackinac Island Ferry Company's communication on a governmental level has been difficult
 - Councilman Sehoyan ask that, in the future, can Hoffman Marine come to the Council to give an update on any upcoming changes?
 - Ms. Gezella responded that she could absolutely do that
 - Councilman Sehoyan noted that keeping the community updated is very important
 - Ms. Gezella noted that the City will be the first to be updated on any changes
- Approval for Recreation Director, Dr. Mary Patay, to look in to a National Fitness Court
 - Year-round, outdoor workout area
 - Would need to raise \$155,000.00 (for this year, next year amount goes up) grants available but City budget has to match (cannot match through grants)
 - Considered installing the fitness court at Turtle Park
 - Traverse City has one and Dr. Patay will be going to check that out at the end of the month when she is in town for a conference
 - Court has QR codes on it with free workouts
 - Councilman Moskwa noted that he has no problem with Dr. Patay continuing to look in to the project, but it needs to be a budgeted project

Motion made by Myers, Seconded by Corrigan, that the City Council supports Dr. Patay continuing to look in to the purchase of an outdoor fitness court, and to pursue grants for the fitness court.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

XII. Miscellaneous / General Council Discussion / Additional Agenda Items

- Mayor Doud noted that the speed limit on M-185 and in the downtown area have been signed in to law
 - o Mayor asked that the State Park get working on speed limit signs
 - o Councilwoman Myers noted that there needs to do a public service announcement about this
- Councilwoman Myers noted that she has seen many e-bike riders towing non-e bike riders
 - o Chief Gruits noted that he has also seen a lot of this. Thinks it should be addressed in an ordinance.
- Dave Jurcak, Grand Hotel commented on the amount of speeding coming down coming up and down the hill.
 - o Working on addressing this with Grand Hotel employees, but overall enforcement needs to be enacted
 - o To further address the speeding issue, Mr. Jurcak informed the Council that the Grand Hotel is considering requiring people to walk their bikes on the road in front of the hotel, which is a private road
 - Will be putting signs back up that say "no bikes" but will allow people to walk their bikes in front of the hotel to help ensure safety
 - Councilman Sehoan noted that if people don't want to walk their bikes, they will most likely avoid taking that route
 - o Chief Gruits noted that the Police Department does have a plan in place in regards to the speeding
 - Will have 2 officers on shift each day - one officer needs to be close to the vehicle (6 minute response time) and the other will take the "upper zone" to be in the Cadotte area / up the hill
 - Hoping to open the sub station as well and will provide assistance from there
 - o Dave Jurcak suggested widen sidewalk from the Gate House up to the Grand Hotel (cannot put sidewalk on other side of the hill due to liability) and the Golf Course

Motion by Myers, Seconded by Moskwa, to enter in to closed session at 5:15 pm to discuss a written legal opinion regarding the Mackinac Island Ferry Company acquisition and electric bikes.
Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoan, St. Onge

Motion by Myers, Seconded by Moskwa, to leave closed session at 6:16 pm.
Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoan, St. Onge

Motion by Myers, Seconded by Moskwa, to enter open session at 6:17 pm.
Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoan, St. Onge

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion made by Myers, seconded by Moskwa, to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 pm.
Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoan, St. Onge

Margaret M. Doud, Mayor

Danielle Leach, City Clerk