

CITY OF MACKINAC ISLAND

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, September 27, 2024 at 1:30 PM

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

I. Call to Order

Mayor Doud called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm

II. Roll Call

PRESENT

Richard Chambers

Tom Corrigan

Steven Moskwa

Anneke Myers

Alan Sehoyan

Jason St. Onge

Mayor Doud informed the Council that now the winter service is being split between Arnold Transit and Shepler's Ferry

- Planning to use Shepler's vessels & assets from November 1st until ice forms
- Arnold Transit is hoping to have the repairs on the Ottawa completed by December 1st to use for winter service
 - o No Huron this year – repairs are still being held up by the Coast Guard
- Attorneys Cavanaugh and Evashevski both recommend amending the Winter Service Agreement with Arnold Transit
 - o Attorney Evashevski did note that further information and clarification is needed from both Arnold Transit and Shepler's about who is handling what and what assets will be used
 - o Need to know what docks will be used for winter service in St. Ignace and on the Island
 - Councilwoman Myers reminded the Council that Shepler's stated in a meeting that they would be using the old Arnold Main Dock in St. Ignace (previously Mackinac Island Ferry Company St. Ignace Dock 2) and the old Arnold Main Dock on the Island (previously Mackinac Island Ferry Company's Mackinaw City departure dock)
 - Now hearing that they plan to continue to use the Shepler dock in St. Ignace after November 1st
 - Councilman St. Onge reminded the Council that ice forms in the bay in St. Ignace much earlier than everywhere else, which will quickly cut off access to the Shepler St. Ignace dock
- Councilman Moskwa mentioned Arnold Freight's Maverick
 - o Was passed by the Coast Guard before departing port prior to her trip to the Island
 - o Was re-inspected in Michigan by the Coast Guard and did not pass
 - o Can haul 150 passengers
- Councilwoman Myers noted that she would like to know more about what will be available for winter parking
- Mayor Doud has asked Arnold Transit to provide a presentation on how they plan to run the winter service at the October 2nd Council meeting
- It was discussed that there is not enough capacity on the 7:30 am boats out of both ports
 - o Passengers are made to ride on the top of the boat, exposed to elements – the weather is only going to be getting worse
 - o Some workers getting to the dock 45 minutes prior to departure time to ensure that they get a seat inside

Motion by Myers, second to the motion by Chambers, to inform Shepler's Ferry that they need to run an additional 7:30 am boat, Monday through Friday, out of both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City to accommodate the large number of morning commuters. More capacity is required to ensure that customers are not forced to sit on the top, open level of the boat where they are exposed to the weather.

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

- Councilman St. Onge suggested waiting to discuss this with company representatives at the October 2nd meeting

Motion by Myers, second to the motion by Chambers, to rescind their motion previously made regarding Shepler's running an additional 7:30 am boat.

Ayes: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan, St. Onge

Mayor Doud will reach out to Shepler's regarding the issue in the meantime

- Councilwoman Myers suggested asking Shepler's to bring one of their larger boats to St. Ignace to help accommodate the larger number of customers on the first boat

Motion by Moskwa, second to the motion by Corrigan, to enter in to closed session at 2:00 pm to discuss a written attorney opinion regarding ferry boat matters.

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

Councilman Sehoan left the closed session and meeting at 2:50 pm.

Councilman St. Onge left the closed session and meeting at 3:40 pm.

Motion by Myers, second to the motion by Moskwa, to leave closed session at 3:45 pm.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers

Motion by Chambers, second to the motion by Moskwa, to enter in to open session at 3:45 pm.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion made by Myers, Seconded by Chambers, to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 pm.

Voting Yea: Chambers, Corrigan, Moskwa, Myers

Margaret M. Doud, Mayor

Danielle Leach, City Clerk