Work Session

The City Commission will hold a work session on March 28 at 4 p.m. to discuss repurposing the old Duke LifePoint Marquette General Hospital and provide an update on the Municipal Service Center Relocation Project.

Residents are welcome to attend and the agenda can be found at: mqtcty.org/commission-city-meetings.php.
Welcome to mid-winter. Depending on how you look at it, it’s either been a good winter or a bad one. For us here it’s kind of in between. Just enough snow and cold weather to keep us busy, but not enough to overwhelm us. The last time I wrote, I told you about the successes we were having in concluding our negotiations with the Duke LifePoint project. I’m happy to report that everything is still full speed ahead with groundbreaking to occur in May or June this summer.

We’ve now turned our attention to the building of the new Municipal Service Center on Wright Street. If you recall, we committed to building the new Service Center after displacing the old one and selling that property to DLP. And if you’re wondering at all, this is all good. Marquette will have a new state of the art hospital and a new Service Center to better serve our community. Continuing on the building theme, I can’t help but be continuously awed by the amount of new construction that is currently happening or will be happening in Marquette, all starting this spring or summer. In addition to the DLP and Service Center projects, new construction will begin on the “Old Orphanage” which will be converted to specialized housing and is long overdue.

The Marquette Board of Light and Power will begin construction on their new Energy Center that will include the construction of a large building that will house three new gas/oil generators at their Wright Street location. The Landing Development Group is scheduled to begin construction of another phase of their Founders Landing project with the building of a planned parking ramp topped with apartments and retail space. Northern Michigan University is expected to begin a construction project of their own with the construction of new residence and dining facilities.

Those are just the biggies. On a smaller scale the City, along with the Lambros and Butler families, will begin construction on the new Clark Park located just south of the Dead River on Lakeshore Boulevard. Last, but not least, construction will begin on refurbishing and upgrading to Father Marquette Park on South Front Street.

All in all, it is great news for the City of Marquette, but I must warn everyone that it could be trying, and at times difficult, to navigate through the City. I suspect there will be road closures and other delays that could affect vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic throughout the summer and possibly future summers, so let’s all be patient and enjoy the success.

Pigs-N-Heat

The puck is dropped…the Fire Department breaks it out, Hillier’s strong, right side, passes to Talvensaari ….
SCORE!!!! Top shelf!!....

If you haven’t been to this event before, it is a must see! Join the Police and Fire Departments at Lakeview Arena on Wednesday, March 16th at 7 p.m. for the best fundraising event of the season: the Pigs-N-Heat hockey game. Tickets are $1 and available at Fire Station #1, 418 South Third Street.

The City of Marquette Fire Department has competed in this annual hockey game for over 30 years. The goal is to raise money for the Fire Relief Fund, which helps Marquette County residents who have experienced devastating loss due to fire. Since its inception in 1984, over $380,000 has been dispersed!

Besides the excitement of watching the Firefighters and Police face-off, there is an abundance of prizes to be won. Help support the effort and pack the rink. It’s anyone’s game to win, but the Fire Department is claiming that this year the HEAT is on!
Marquette Matters, MARCH/APRIL 2016, Page 4

**Mayor**

Dave Campana
(h) 906-226-3621
dcampana@mqtcty.org

**Mayor Pro Tem**

Sarah Reynolds
(c) 906-869-7583
sreynolds@mqtcty.org

**Commissioner**

Tom Baldini
(h) 906-228-9579
tbaldini@mqtcty.org

**Commissioner**

Sara Cambensy
sacambensy@mqtcty.org

**Commissioner**

Mike Conley
(h) 906-228-5586
mconley@mqtcty.org

**Commissioner**

Peter Frazier
(h) 906-225-1953
pfrazier@mqtcty.org

**Commissioner**

Mike Plourde
mplourde@mqtcty.org

---

**Interested in serving your community?**

The City of Marquette has several openings for various volunteer advisory boards and committees.

Check out the City’s website for the most up-to-date vacancy information, and for an application: [www.mqtcty.org/government.php](http://www.mqtcty.org/government.php)

- Arts and Culture Advisory Committee — One Opening
- Board Of Review — One Opening
- Board Of Zoning Appeals — Three Openings
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority — Two Openings
- Harbor Advisory Committee — One Opening
- Local Development Finance Authority — One Opening
- Local Officers Compensation Commission — One Opening
- Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Advisory Board — One Opening (Alternate)
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board — One Opening
- Planning Commission — One Opening
- Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee — One Opening
- Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee — One Opening

**Holiday Closure**

City offices located at Marquette City Hall, 300 W. Baraga Ave.; the Lakeview Arena, 401 E. Fair Ave.; the Marquette Arts & Culture Center, 217 N. Front St. (Peter White Public Library); and the Municipal Service Center, 850 W. Baraga Ave. will be closed on Friday, March 25 for Good Friday. The Fire and Police Departments will remain open and staffed during this time.

**Manager Open Office Hours**

City Manager Mike Angeli holds community office hours on the second Wednesday of each month, from 10 a.m. until noon in the main floor conference room of the Peter White Public Library. The next community office hours sessions are scheduled for March 9 and April 13.

The meetings are intended to provide informal opportunities to discuss issues within the community, and to give citizens a chance for direct dialogue with City staff about interests and concerns.

**Winter Parking Ban**

Marquette City residents, NMU students, and visitors are reminded the City’s winter parking ban is in effect until April 1. The winter parking ban requires owners of vehicles to find off-street parking between the hours of 1 and 6 a.m. daily. The fine for violating the parking ban is $50.
March 6-15 marks the fifth annual Eastside Original Restaurant Week in Marquette. The Eastside Originals participating restaurants, consisting of independently owned and operated restaurants within Marquette’s Eastside, will offer $10 fixed price lunch menus and select dinner meals for $25. This year, there are 16 participating restaurants, each with unique and delightful dishes. Restaurant Week provides the community the opportunity to experience a wide variety of culinary opportunities for foodies to enjoy. Whether it is fine dining, local seafood, artisan baked goods, pub grub, authentic ethnic cuisine or just a good sandwich, enjoy these Eastside gems at an affordable price. Check out the full list of participating restaurants, along with all of their exciting offers at www.downtownmarquette.org/restaurant-week/.
Downtown Marquette Farmers Market

Plans are underway for another spectacular season of the Downtown Marquette Farmers Market. The season opens May 21 and runs through Dec. 17 at the Marquette Commons, 112 S. Third St. Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendor applications are available online at mqtfarmersmarket.com or at the Marquette Downtown Development Authority office (203 S. Front St., Suite 1-B) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is room for both season vendors, those that will commit to attending each week, and daily vendors, those who only attend occasionally. Live music will be scheduled each week and numerous demonstrations throughout the season.

The Downtown Marquette Farmers Market accepts various forms of payment, cash, credit/debit cards, Michigan Bridge Card, WIC Project FRESH and Senior Market FRESH. The market also distributes Double Up Food Bucks and Hoophouses for Health vouchers.

For additional information call 906-362-3276 or e-mail marketmanager@mqtfarmersmarket.com

See you at the market!
The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center (MACC) is located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library at 217 N. Front St. in Marquette. For more information or questions on any of the articles on this page or the following, please call 906-228-0472 or email arts-culture@mqtcty.org.

**Upcoming Gallery Exhibits:**

**March**
- **LSAA**
  - NMU Student Show, Mixed Media
- **SmallWorks**
  - Dominic Davis, Photography

**April**
- High School Art

---

**LSAA Exhibit: NMU Student Collection**

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center announces its March LSAA Exhibit featuring artwork from 25 Northern Michigan University students. Visitors to the exhibit will be treated to a variety of work including photography, jewelry, furniture, digital art and printmaking.

**Smallworks Exhibit: Dominic M. Davis**

The March SmallWorks Gallery will feature photography by Dominic M. Davis. A graduate of NMU himself, Davis earned his bachelor’s degree in English with a minor in Art History. His exhibit will feature a collection of contemporary photographs with a deeply nostalgic undertone.

---

**Watercolor Workshop with Carl Mayer**

Tuesday, March 22
1-4 p.m. -$45 registration fee
Students must bring their own supplies and sign up prior to class by calling 906-226-8834.

---

**Call for Instructors 2016 Workshop Series – Creative Community**

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center invites qualified nonprofits, artists and community art organizations to utilize space at the art center to host creative workshops and meetings as a part of the Creative Community Series. During this series, rental fees will be offset by a grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

The MACC offers a great location, a wide range of available hours, affordable rates and other benefits that make it the perfect fit for an art class. The MACC has previously hosted classes in many creative disciplines including: illustration, watercolor painting, wood burning, photography, tai chi, voice lessons, origami, collage, movement and music, ceramics, acting, language courses and clothing design.

We are now accepting rental applications for any and all artistic courses. Rental information is available on the City of Marquette website or at our offices located at 217 N. Front Street in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library. Potential instructors are welcome to submit rental applications for workshops at any time.

For more information or questions, please contact (906) 228-0472 or email arts-culture@mqtcty.org.
MACC Seeking High School Artists for Show

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center will host the fourth annual High School Art Show in April in the Small-Works Gallery and LSAA Gallery of the MACC located at 217 N. Front St. in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library in Marquette. Any high school age student (including homeschooled students) living in Marquette County may enter a piece for this non-juried show. Any medium is welcome, including paint, ceramics, drawing, mixed media and video.

All art must be ready to hang. Please drop off work by Thursday, March 31. The show will be on exhibit from April 4 to 29 with an opening artist reception on Thursday, April 7 from 6-8 p.m.

Senior Arts Series – Performing Arts

Experience the visual arts at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center. These classes are open to individuals ages 60+ and cater to a wide variety of skill levels. Participation is FREE to City of Marquette residents, but non-residents are welcome to attend for a small donation of $5 per class to help cover the cost of supplies and instruction. Registration is required for all classes, please call the Senior Center at 906-228-0456 to reserve your spot.

March 1 and 15 – Beginning Loop Earring Making with Bonnie Badour. Each participant will leave class with at least two pairs of earrings that they’ve made.

April 5 and 19 – Acrylic Painting with Gene Bertram.

City Conducts Early Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Assessment for MGH Relocation

The City of Marquette (City) is conducting an Early Preliminary Engineering (EPE) study and preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for proposed transportation system improvements related to the relocation of the Marquette General Hospital (MGH). MGH is proposed to be relocated from its existing location on West College Avenue to a proposed site on West Baraga Avenue. The included map (image on right) shows the location of the proposed MGH site and the study area.

As a result of the hospital relocation, roadway, non-motorized facility and access improvements will be needed to accommodate increased traffic volumes, traffic pattern shifts, and access between the hospital and US-41/M-28. Potential improvement alternatives being considered include construction of new hospital drive accesses onto US-41/M-28, Baraga Avenue, and Washington Street; a bridge carrying Grove/7th Street over US-41/M-28; intersection upgrades (signalization and roundabouts); widening 7th Street; non-motorized facilities; re-configuration/removal of parking, and re-alignment of local roads.

During the course of the study, detailed investigations will be undertaken to identify potential Social, Economic, and Environmental (SEE) impacts related to the improvements being considered. These SEE impacts will be documented in an EA as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In addition to meeting the requirements of NEPA, compliance with other relevant environmental regulations (e.g., Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, etc.) will be accomplished during the EA process.

The EA process will be ongoing throughout early summer 2016.
Purposeful Redevelopment, Marquette’s Brownfield Conviction

In recent years, the City of Marquette has gathered something of a reputation for its brownfield redevelopment projects.

Railyards have been transformed into condominiums, a manufacturing facility into a bed and breakfast and a commercial bakery into a large mixed-use development. The City is fast becoming the northern poster child of renewal and rebirth.

“Brownfield” projects – established pursuant to authority under Michigan Public Act 381 of 1996 – deal with contaminated, and occasionally blighted, properties. Brownfield designations, most common on former industrial sites, allow for a developer to receive reimbursement for some costs incurred. The goal of the program is to facilitate development on otherwise neglected properties.

Yet no brownfield project – perhaps no development in the City’s history – will be as dramatic, or as visible, as Duke LifePoint Healthcare’s construction of a new regional medical center, a project with a price tag in excess of $300 million.

The project, scheduled to be completed in late 2017, is the most recent step for a hospital, which has, in one form or another, been in the City of Marquette for more than a century. Long ago, two local facilities merged to create Marquette General Hospital, the nonprofit entity that anchored healthcare in the Upper Peninsula for decades. That name was changed after the organization – the only Level 2 Trauma Center in the Upper Peninsula – was purchased in 2012 by Duke LifePoint, a joint venture of Duke University Health System and LifePoint Health.

In addition to the tax benefits created by a for-profit hospital, the hospital is a vital part of the local economy, according to Marquette City Manager Mike Angeli.

“MGH was always a strong partner with the City, with the most obvious benefit being the creation of a significant number of jobs,” he said. “Because of their commitment to growth came the commitment to creating more jobs with the coinciding benefits to our economy.”

Duke LifePoint officials estimate the new facility will create 150 additional jobs, and that Duke LifePoint will soon employ a total of 2,500 employees in the Marquette area.

When Duke LifePoint announced in 2013 that they would be seeking a location to construct a replacement hospital, City officials had several reasons to try to keep the hospital, now labeled UP Health System – Marquette, in the City limits.

“The most obvious to me is the greater access to state-of-the-art healthcare. This hospital is planned to be a significant improvement over the current hospital,” Angeli said. “Other benefits include an improved tax base from the new hospital; an increase in potential residents from new hospital staff that might be drawn to the area, which could also be a benefit to the local school system through new students; potential new business creation in support of the hospital; and an increase in existing business as a result of people who come to the area for hospital services.”

“Furthermore, located just one mile from Northern Michigan University, it also will offer easy access to the hospital and medical offices for many in the community while enhancing collaboration between the hospital and the university,” he said. “Additionally, the new hospital campus will offer major benefits to the Marquette community and add to ongoing revitalization of the downtown area, an effort UP Health System – Marquette and Duke LifePoint Healthcare proudly support.”

The City also agreed to assist where possible in the establishment of a 12-year, 50-percent real property tax abatement, and to facilitate the creation of a new brownfield project for the hospital.

(Continued on next page)
Under a brownfield designation, a tax increment financing district is created on the relevant property using the current property valuation as a baseline. As the value of the property rises with redevelopment, the additional taxes that are generated get siphoned off to be used as a reimbursement to the developer for specific project expenses. Even in Marquette, where brownfields are fairly common, the Duke LifePoint project stands out.

“Certainly, this is our most detailed project,” said Kellie Holmstrom, chair of the Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. “It’s more complex than anything we’ve ever done before.”

The MBRA manages the TIF funds and reimbursements for City brownfield projects and a presentation to the MBRA board represents the first step for any developer pitching a prospective project. Ultimately, the plans must also be approved by the City Commission and, to qualify for certain tax capture, at a state level. While the plan is certainly detailed, Butler said that for Duke LifePoint, the brownfield component allowed the organization to think big.

“The Brownfield designation allowed Duke LifePoint to significantly expand the scope of the new hospital project,” he said. “With this new, 500,000-square foot, state-of-the-art facility, residents of Marquette and surrounding communities will have greater access to round-the-clock emergency services, surgical services, pediatric and behavioral healthcare, women’s services, cancer care and laboratory and imaging services. Furthermore, the hospital can expand its more specialized services, like cardiology and neurosurgery, bringing quality care close to home for the people we serve.” The Duke LifePoint project has received approval for tax capture not only locally, but also at the state level, and is eligible for more than $55 million of state and local reimbursement. In addition to reimbursements to Duke LifePoint, the plan provides for reimbursement to the City to fund the relocation of the Municipal Service Center.

Butler called the brownfield project a “major catalyst for the strong relationship and partnership that has developed between the City of Marquette and hospital leaders” and said the designation helps both sides.

“The Brownfield designation – which at $55 million is the largest in state history – will pump new life into historic, downtown Marquette, transforming a former industrial site into a community asset that will contribute to the vitality of the area, provide jobs and offer quality healthcare services close to home,” he said.

Polling Location Change

Registered voters in the City of Marquette’s Precincts 3, 4 and 5 will have a new polling location for the March 8 Presidential Primary. Voters from those three precincts typically vote in the Michigan National Guard Armory, but will vote in March in the former U.P. Sportsplex building, located at 1110 Wright Street.

The change was spurred when the National Guard stated last month that there were elevated levels of lead dust in some armories, and announced that rentals of the local armory would be put on hold while inspection and remediation work was done.

In accordance with MCL 168.662, the Marquette City Commission approved the emergency relocation of the polling location during its Feb. 8 regular meeting. The City Clerk’s office has mailed new voter identification cards to more than 5,000 registered voters in Precincts 3, 4 and 5. Election Day signage will be posted, and a map can be found on the back page of this issue.

No official plans have yet been made for the Precinct 3, 4 and 5 polling location for future elections.
Marquette’s Marinas

Regardless of what the groundhog saw, we here in the UP can expect at least six more weeks of winter! Whether it is two, four, six or eight more weeks, the boating season is just around the corner and our marinas will be ready.

Cinder Pond Marina will open with a brand new harbor service building (seen below). The previous building failed due to earth movement during the extreme cold of the winter of 2014. At this time the new building is substantially complete with a few punch list items to be wrapped up in the spring prior to the May 1 marina opening date. Those items include installation of the exterior drinking fountains, some landscaping and sealing of the burnished block. Between now and then staff will be working to furnish the interior and set up the boater’s lounge as an additional revolving art gallery managed by the Marquette Arts and Culture Center. The new building occupies slightly less space, but includes some substantial improvements over the previous building.

The layout allows staff to have an unobstructed view of the entire marina, the boat launch and the fish cleaning station from the office. This is a drastic improvement over the previous view which allowed staff to only see about 35% of the facilities.

The new building was constructed with a metal roof and gutter system that should have a useful life well beyond the standard 30 years of an asphalt shingle. Central air-conditioning replaced wall units and, when combined with efficient methods of insulation and the white color of the roof, the new building is expected to be more efficient and much cooler than the previous building throughout the summer months. This building incorporates a helical pile system (seen below), much like giant screws, driven to a depth of 19 feet below grade with grade beams and the foundation system constructed on top of them. This design is a drastic improvement over the previous design and should eliminate the possibility of this building suffering the same fate as the last.

The final difference between the old and the new is that the building now has a public restroom on the corner closest to the boat launch. This will eliminate the need for a portable restroom and provide a much better service to the boating community that uses the lower harbor launch.

The new facility was funded in part by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterways Emergency Grant, Michigan Municipal League insurance settlement, and less than 7% Cinder Pond Marina enterprise fund. Though the entire project was unexpected and a major undertaking, Community Services staff believes the new facility will better serve the public and is extremely excited to move the facility into operation.

Presque Isle Marina will open with the first full season of the new boat launch facility. That facility was funded 50% by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterways Grant.

The rest of the marina will open with similar conditions and operations as in the past few years. The Harbor Advisory Committee has been working with the City Commission toward a planning process for a future pier replacement project. At this time there are three options on the table. The Commission will be looking at these options with the goal of a grant submission for the approved option April 1, 2017. This would allow for demolition of existing piers at the end of the 2018 season and installation of new piers prior to the 2019 season.

With these two projects being completed and an eye toward the future of the marinas of this wonderful Lake Superior city, we welcome the thaw and the opening of these facilities for the 2016 season!
CITY OF MARQUETTE
VOTING PRECINCTS

Former U.P. Sports Plex Building
North of Wright Street
1110 Wright Street
(Precincts 3, 4 & 5)

YMCA
1420 Pine Street
(Precincts 6 & 7)

Baraga Gym
300 West Baraga Avenue
(Precincts 1 & 2)

YMCA
1420 Pine Street
(Precincts 6 & 7)

Baraga Gym
300 West Baraga Avenue
(Precincts 1 & 2)