
CITY OF MARQUETTE



COMMUNITY PROFILE – CITY MANAGER SEARCH 2021

“The City of Marquette welcomes your interest in joining our beautiful, superior community in Michigan’s picturesque Upper Peninsula”. Mayor Jenna Smith



Apply: Send Cover Letter, Resume, and Five (5) Professional References to: walshmuni@gmail.com

WELCOME TO MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

Lake Superior. Fresh Air. Year-Round Playground. Majestic Trails. Paddling. Hiking. Fishing. Arts. Culture. Biking. Theater. University Athletics. Fine Dining. Skiing. Waterfront Picnics. Beach Days. Kayaking. Snowshoeing. Snowmobiling. Hockey.

We are the proud home of Northern Michigan University and the freshest Whitefish in the United States.

The City of Marquette, Michigan (population 21,355) is seeking a remarkable leader to serve as their next City Manager. The current City Manager is retiring after 45 years of service, with the last five as the top appointed official. Marquette is located in Michigan's revered Upper Peninsula and is referred to by locals as "U.P.'s Capital City".

People of all ages flock to Marquette. The City is known for their warm hospitality and so much more. With the award-winning Marquette Area Public Schools, and unparalleled recreational opportunities, families from all over the country choose Marquette. With live theater, public art, exemplary health care and a plethora of dining options, Marquette is fast becoming a hub for active retirees and young professionals.

The Marquette community offers something for everyone. You don't have to travel to enjoy the U.P. 200 Sled Dog Race, the Art on the Rocks, the U.P. Beer Fest, the Marquette Blues Fest, the Ore to Shore Bike Race, Marquette's Blueberry Festival or the Hiawatha Music Festival. The unique offerings of Marquette mirror that of any large urban city. However, we boldly match our arts and culture with a relaxed environment surrounded by natural beauty.

There really isn't another Marquette that blends urban offerings with small town charm.

We hope you will consider Marquette as your "community of choice". Our next City Manager will inherit a wonderful opportunity nestled along Lake Superior and surrounded by a breathtaking landscape.



MARQUETTE'S RICH HISTORY

Located along the alluring shorelines of Lake Superior, Marquette was established in 1849 as the shipping port for the vast deposits of iron ore discovered in western Marquette County. First named Worchester after one of the original founder's hometown in Massachusetts, it was soon changed to Marquette to honor the famous explorer and Jesuit Priest Jacques Marquette.



Marquette is proud of our Native American heritage. Throughout history, Ojibwa, Odawa, Potawatomi, collectively known as Anishinabe, have inhabited, and brought strength to the Upper Peninsula.

As the iron mines developed the city did too, becoming the premier port on Lake Superior, a position it held until the 1890's when the great Minnesota deposits came online. Until then, Marquette was THE center of the iron trade providing 60 per cent of the ore used by the Union during the Civil War. The city was fully in the midst of the Industrial Revolution. A constant stream of the great ore freighters came to the city's special pocket docks, loaded and left for the roaring steel mills of the Lower Lakes. Marquette Harbor Lighthouse's steady beam guided them in and out of port.



Other industries took root too! Large sawmills cut millions of feet of wood, small gas furnaces produced specialized "blooms" of iron and commercial fishermen shipped their catch to cities like Chicago and Detroit. Heavy equipment operators like Lakeshore Engineering built specialized mining equipment both for local mines and export.

Passenger ships and railcars brought hordes of tourists to the city, all eager to escape the grime and pollution of the big cities for the clean, crisp air of the Lake Superior North Woods.



As the city transitioned from the industry of the past to that of the 21st Century, the Lower Harbor in the heart of downtown became recreation focused. A unique jewel for residents and tourists. As we look to the promising future, we will never forget our past.

THE CITY'S OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

With City Commission and community guidance, manage our ten miles of public waterfront with sustainability in mind.

Implement a solid financial plan to complete the Lakeshore Boulevard Project.

Implement proven programs and policies to increase home ownership.

Finalize the sale of the Cliff Dows property for residential development.



Familiarize yourself with the findings of the recently completed Affordable Housing Report.

Prepare a short and long-term financial outlook given the effects of COVID-19.

Present recommendations to maintain, or replace, our facilities such as Lakeview Arena and Fire Stations built in 1913 and 1970.

In every decision appreciate the community's desire to maintain greenspace.

Develop a plan to incorporate metrics for determining success of Marquette's Strategic Plan.

Develop a cost-benefit analysis for providing reliable utilities incorporating resident's ability to pay.



MARQUETTE'S AMENITIES AND ATTRACTIONS

The UP200 Dog Sled Race covers 238 miles of challenging Marquette terrain.

Northern Michigan University's Campus Life.



The 62nd Annual Arts on the Rock draws thousands of art lovers to the inviting shores of Lake Superior.

The U.P. Beer Fest on the scenic Mattson Lower Harbor Park includes over 600 locally crafted beers.

The Marquette Area Blues Fest features three days of world-class blues music.

The Ore to Shore Mountain Bike event brings families from across the Midwest to Marquette.

The Marquette Blueberry Festival features family fun in vibrant downtown Marquette.



Marquette offers some of the best-groomed cross-country ski hills and downhill skiing in Michigan.

The Marquette Marathon is widely known as the most scenic 26 miles in Michigan.

Marquette's Hiawatha Music Festival has something for all generations.

Marquette Mountain Ski Resort is simply Paradise!

The Marquette City Band, Symphony Orchestra and the Chorale Society.

The Superior Dome...the world's largest wooden dome!



MARQUETTE.....THE “BEST” RANKINGS

Located on the banks of Lake Superior on the Upper Peninsula’s northern shore, Marquette is the ultimate Great Lakes Town. Outdoor enthusiasts are blessed with abundant year-round activities, including awesome steelhead and salmon runs. Public access to grouse and woodcock, deer, ducks and turkey is near at hand on the spacious Hiawatha and Ottawa national forests.



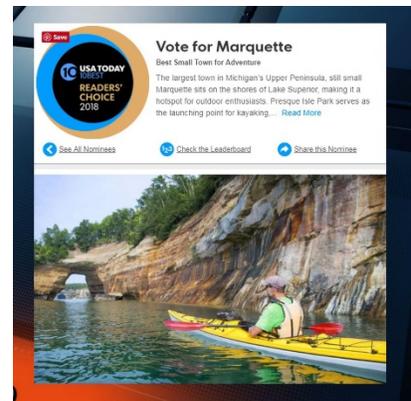
“BEST SMALL TOWN FOR ADVENTURE”
-USA TODAY

“1 OF 50 BEST WINTER VACATION SPOTS IN AMERICA”
-MEN’S JOURNAL

“RANKED THE 2ND BEST TOWN IN THE UNITED STATES”
-OUTDOOR LIFE

”AMERICA’S BEST HOCKEY TOWN”
-KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE

“ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO LIVE IN MICHIGAN”
-NICHE



MARQUETTE WINS KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE

How many communities can say they have been named “The Most Passionate Hockey Community in America”? The answer: Marquette, Michigan.

In 2016, Kraft Hockeyville USA named Marquette #1 in America and awarded the community \$150,000 in upgrades to Lakeview Arena. That’s not all, with the award came the honor to host a National Hockey League (NHL) contest between the Buffalo Sabres and Carolina Hurricanes.



Marquette was just one of more than a thousand communities across the country that submitted stories showing their hockey spirit and passion.

Marquette is rich in hockey heritage and Lakeview Arena stands as a pillar of the community, stimulating the local economy since it opened in 1973. The local rink is a hub of activity, excitement, entertainment and fun. Marquette is a place where the love of hockey energizes the entire community.

The hockey game was more than a simple drop of the puck. Hockey players from Northern Michigan University, who play right next door at the Berry Center, served as ushers for fans throughout the arena. The hockey game became a week-long event that fed the soul of Marquette’s close-knit community.



THE U.P.'S EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The City of Marquette is surrounded with an abundance of excellent educational opportunities.



Established in 1899, Northern Michigan University (NMU) is home to 7,500 undergrad and graduate students who embrace a quality education in a picturesque setting. Founded as the Normal State College, NMU became the Northern Michigan College in 1955. In 1963, through the adoption of a new state constitution in Michigan, NMU was designated a comprehensive university. Enrollment flourished following the 1957 opening of the Mackinac Bridge.

NMU offers 180 Undergraduate and graduate degree programs. President Fritz Erickson, and the Board of Trustees, are proud to be accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association.

In most sports, NMU's Wildcats compete in the NCAA's Division II Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The Wildcats' hockey team competes in Division I. Proud former NMU athletes include Lloyd Carr, Steve Mariucci, Robert Saleh and Hall of Famer Tom Izzo.

With an exemplary staff and rigorous curriculum, Marquette Area Public Schools (MAPS) mission is to maximize the academic potential of every child.



With an enrollment of just over 3,200 students, in 2019, MAPS was ranked #12th in Athletics, #73rd Best Teachers and #98th Best High School in Michigan. The rankings are quite impressive as compared to 568 Michigan public schools.

Whether you are looking for preschool opportunities, or a graduate degree in nursing, Marquette, Michigan offers quality, access and affordability.



HOW LOCALS DESCRIBE MARQUETTE

- An Urban Zeal with a Laid-Back Lifestyle
- Unbridled Recreational Opportunities from Youth to Seniors
- Clean, Safe, Walkable and Unpretentious
- Friendly, Welcoming and Forgiving
- Gritty and Hard Working
- Hometown Cafes to Fine Dining
- Historic with a Vision for the Future
- Outstanding Regional Healthcare
- Unparalleled Public Waterfront
- Family Centered
- Environmentally Conscious Focused on Sustainability
- U.P.'s Hockeytown
- Proud University Town and Gown
- Creative Arts and Culture



Marquette offers the perfect blend of campus life, historic value, recreation, urban amenities, publicly protected waterfront and one of America's great cities!



CITY OPERATIONS AT A GLANCE

The new City Manager will inherit a talented team supported by an engaged City Commission. Here is a snapshot of city operations.

CITY COMMISSION

The seven-member Marquette City Commission acts as the legislative branch of city government. The non-partisan members are elected in overlapping terms. Every year, the Commission elects one of its members to serve as mayor and one as mayor pro-tem. The members serve three-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive terms in office.



ANNUAL BUDGET

The total FY 2021 Budget is \$70,000,000. The annual budget includes appropriations to the General Fund of \$23,000,000, Police \$5,300,000, Fire \$3,500,000, Water and Sewer \$12,000,000, and Stormwater \$1,900,000. The City's total taxable value is \$936,300,000. The City holds an AA Standard & Poor's Bond Rating.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Marquette Police Department is committed to safe, responsible and effective policing. The department has 34 sworn officers and is one of the few departments in Michigan to be fully accredited by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.



FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Marquette Fire Department takes great pride in safeguarding the lives of the City's inhabitants and visitors. The department boasts an impressive Public Protection Rating of 4. The community is well protected by Marquette's superior police and fire departments.

ARTS & CULTURE

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Division serves to encourage, develop and facilitate a rich environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity. The Arts Center is located in the lower level of the Peter White Library. The group welcomes over 260 visitors per day.



MARQUETTE'S PREMIER PARK'S SYSTEM

You don't have to travel far to admire one of Michigan's premier parks systems. Marquette offers residents and visitors with world-class recreational opportunities.

Presque Isle Park

You can view 100 species of native plants and breathtaking sunsets on this 323-acre jewel, located off Lakeshore Drive. It is arguably one of Marquette's most beloved attractions.



Tourist Park Campground

This seasonal campground is located on 73 acres of wooded land adjacent to the Dead River. The campground sits on approximately 20 of the 73 acres. The park includes electrical and water hookups and an off-leash dog park.



Ellwood A. Mattson Lower Harbor Park

This popular 13-acre waterfront park is the setting for various summer festivals as well as the mooring location for small cruise ships as well as tall ships.

Shiras Park

Shiras Park is 16 acres located on the shore of Lake Superior near the Picnic Rocks.

This popular park is a local and tourist favorite for unending views and perfect picnic spots.

Public Trails

There are 16.5 miles of multipurpose trails and 49 miles of world-class mountain bike trails in the City of Marquette.



Fit-Strip Trails

If cross-country skiing is on your to-do list, check out Fit-Strip Trails. The trails are provided by the Noquemanon Trail Network and are lit until 11:00 PM during the winter months.

THINK INDEPENDENTLY.....ACT REGIONALLY

The City of Marquette prides itself in acting in a thoughtful, independent, yet regional voice. Our community is viewed as the economic hub of the U.P. We are known for our cooperative spirit.

INVEST UP

Invest UP is a regional economic organization that looks to drive prosperity across the Upper Peninsula. The group is a resource for the private sector, our institutions and our communities that looks to remove barriers that stand in the way of growth and development. Their core values are collaboration, leadership and relationship building. The membership consists of some of the more dynamic employers across the entire Peninsula.



Invest UP does business in 15 counties and works in at least 15 industry sectors.

PETER WHITE LIBRARY



The historic Peter White Library has been a staple of Marquette since 1871. The stately building adorns downtown Marquette at the corner of Front and Ridge Streets. The library serves over 300,000 patrons per year with a vast circulation exceeding 335,000. The regional approach to library service includes the City of Marquette and nine adjoining townships. Over 36,000 residents have library service available to them through this cooperative approach.

BOARD OF LIGHT & POWER

In November 1889, Mayor F.O. Clark flipped the switch to put the city aglow. From this point forward, the community has been served by the Marquette Board of Light & Power. With 300 regional distribution lines, this regional approach to electricity serves 17,000 customers in Marquette and nine regional townships.



THE RIGHT FIT

The Marquette City Commission and staff are searching for a candidate who will be more than a manager. We are focused on recruiting a leader. While education and experience matter, we will embrace a proven leader who is genuine, humble and respectful across our region.

The ideal candidate must bring the following personal characteristics:

Understand and appreciate what it means to be a part of life in Marquette. It's a quality of life that blends tranquility, paradise and urban offerings.

A demonstrated ability to be a teambuilder. We desire a collaborative leader who will embrace our community with vision and high energy.

Bring an unbridled commitment to take our community beyond our current goals. Think long-term.

Have a deep passion for the environment. Protecting greenspace, managing our vast shoreline and sustainability are crucial elements of Marquette's future.

Provide a demonstrated background that embodies a progressive, innovative thinker. Fresh ideas with a U.P. spirit will lead to success.

Develop trust amongst the City Commission, staff, community and regional partners.

Be a calm and thoughtful leader who has the ability to oversee outstanding city operations and provide excellent customer service.

Display unparalleled communication skills. The foundation of the Manager's success will rely on consistent and trusted communication.

Take the time to listen to the community. Work collaboratively with community resources.



THE MARQUETTE PROCESS

DEADLINE TO APPLY: FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2021

Please submit your cover letter, resume and five professional references to Frank L. Walsh, Walsh Municipal Services, LLC. Applications will be received at walshmuni@gmail.com. Please indicate on your cover letter whether you desire confidentially as allowed under the Michigan Open Meetings Act. The City of Marquette is an Equal opportunity Employer.

