

CITY OF MARQUETTE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



VISION

The City of
Marquette is
the Superior
location to
live, learn,
work, and
enjoy life!



MAYOR AND COMMISSION



Mayor
SALLY DAVIS



Mayor Pro-Tem
JESSICA HANLEY



Commissioner
JENNA SMITH



Commissioner
CODY MAYER



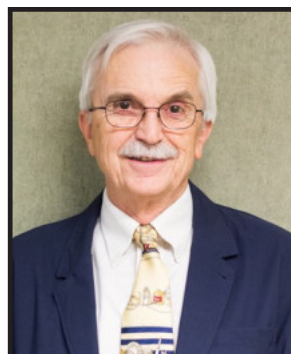
Commissioner
JERMEI OTTAWAY



Commissioner
MICHAEL LARSON
Appointed Feb. 2023



Commissioner
PAUL SCHLOEGEL
Elected Nov. 2023



Commissioner
FRED STONEHOUSE
Term Concluded Nov. 2023

CITY MANAGER

This report highlights some of our many accomplishments from 2023. The progress summarized in this report expresses examples of how the city continues to strategically invest in programs and services that will ensure the residents and businesses of Marquette have the opportunity to thrive for years to come. The accomplishments remain consistent with the priorities listed in the current Strategic Plan which focuses on areas such as economic development, climate change, housing and transportation, essential services, and city-owned facilities and infrastructure.

I remain particularly proud of our dedicated efforts to collaborate with our regional partners (municipalities, community organizations, institutions, etc.) to tackle challenges and make progress on initiatives that share the common goal of making our community stronger, better, and more vibrant. These partnerships have been particularly important over the past year as we increased our focus on economic development in key areas impacting our region, such as housing, childcare, outdoor recreation, and air service.

We continue to work closely with the Northern Michigan University Foundation (NMUF) in supporting the redevelopment of the former Marquette General Hospital site. The City is also serving as a pass-through entity for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) blight elimination funding to assist with building demolition which has a significant barrier to development in and around that area. This past year we celebrated many milestones including the commencement of demolition which caught the Governor Gretchen Whitmer's attention and support with her attendance at the groundbreaking celebration. The proposed project, beginning with demolition and eventually moving towards redevelopment is massive. It will, without a doubt, transform and revitalize a promising area tucked in the heart of one of our neighborhoods. City staff and city officials continue to assist with the development of a preliminary site plan and advocating for much needed housing.

Throughout the year, the city remained focused on the pressing need to increase housing availability. City staff participated in several work groups focused on housing, including the Regional Statewide Housing Partnership and the Marquette County Intergovernmental Housing Task Force. The City Planning Commission and City Commission supported various proposed housing developments that have potential to add nearly 500 units of housing in Marquette within the next 5-7 years. This includes a recently approved development for 50 units of low-income housing that is expected to break ground in the next year. The City Commission also recently approved the sale of a city-owned parcel to Habitat for Humanity for a proposed housing development that could add eight affordable homes to our community.

It has often been stated that Marquette is considered a leader in the Upper Peninsula when it comes to innovation and climate preparedness. Our resiliency has been tested as we dealt with eroding shorelines, increasing storm frequency and intensity, and other perceived consequences of climate change over the recent years. In 2023, we were selected by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to participate as a Resiliency Assessment Pilot Community. Through this program, consultants reviewed our existing plans and progress and created a roadmap towards adopting a climate action plan. It is intended that the completed road map will be incorporated into the Community Master Plan. In addition to the MEDC's Resiliency Assessment Pilot Community program, we also participated in the MiNextCities program which explored city fleet electrification. The program also provided grant funding to purchase two electric transit vans and an electric mower which were put into use in late 2023.



I remain particularly proud of our dedicated efforts to collaborate with our regional partners... to tackle challenges and make progress on initiatives that share the common goal of making our community stronger, better, and more vibrant.

As we reflect on the year, we continue to look towards the future with great enthusiasm and optimism. Over the course of the past year, we solicited community feedback and data to incorporate into the updated Community Master Plan, which will provide a long-term broad vision for the city. The community engagement activities for the Community Master Plan update included online surveys, an open house style event, hands-on scenario workshops, and guided small group listening sessions. The community participation has been impressive with nearly 4,000 survey responses and over 500 people in attendance at events. The consultants worked through the thousands of comments received and combined them into areas of focus or emerging themes. It did not come as a surprise that the community expressed an interest in themes such as adding a variety of housing, protecting the lakeshore, remaining environmentally cautious in the presence of climate change, protecting the integrity of historic structures, neighborhood cohesion, and economic development. It was truly amazing to see the momentum our community is creating for the future. The updated Community Master Plan will be finalized and rolled out in early 2024, which will be a guiding document to update our Strategic Plan in the next year.

In closing, I encourage the community to continue to be engaged and help define a grander Marquette. It is obvious that we are a community full of intellect, talent, and ambition and we are primed for great opportunities in the coming years.

I hope you enjoy reading the 2023 Annual Report and join us in celebrating the progress and accomplishments of this year!

A large, bold, black handwritten signature that reads "Karen Love". The script is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "K" and "L".

CITY ATTORNEY

The City Attorney acts as the legal advisor to the City Commission and provides legal advice to other City officers and Department Heads. The City Attorney prosecutes ordinance violations and handles the City's cases in courts and before other legal tribunals. The City Attorney prepares or reviews all ordinances, contracts, bonds, and other written instruments on behalf of the City. The City Attorney works closely and cooperatively with the City Manager, Department Heads and other staff, and provides information, reports and legal services on behalf of the City as requested by the City Manager and/or the City Commission, and performs other duties as needed.

The City Attorney continues to assist with most of the City's projects and activities, with some of the more significant work over the last fiscal year including:

City Commission Meetings: The City Attorney assisted City departments with agenda items and coordinated with the Manager's Office to finalize each item prior to each Commission meeting. The City Attorney attended 23 regular Commission meetings, one special City Commission meeting, and one City Commission work session. The City Attorney provided legal advice to the Commissioners on agenda items and other related matters, and acted as the parliamentarian for City Commission meetings.

Code Enforcement/Zoning: The City Attorney regularly advised both Zoning and Fire Department staff regarding various property maintenance code, city code, zoning and rental safety code violations and questions throughout the course of the year.

The City Attorney routinely advised planning and zoning staff regarding zoning questions, condominium projects, analysis of the Land Development Code pertaining to resident and developer projects and assisted with updating language in the Land Development Code.

Contracts:

2% Requests: The City Attorney drafted four agreements for the pass-through of 2% funds, and worked with requesting parties to ensure the requests complied with allowable municipal expenditures as required by State law.

Leases: The City Attorney drafted nine leases for the rental of City space, drafted five agreements for ice use by the figure skating club and local hockey teams, and drafted/reviewed leases for use of City property for EV chargers and bike rentals.

Licenses: The City Attorney drafted four short-term right of entry licenses and five revocable licenses. These included standard licenses to allow individual property owners to use City right of way for private purposes when the appropriate criteria for such use was met.

Special Event Permits: In coordination with staff, the City Attorney drafted ten special event permits and coordinated insurance and other requirements for each of these events. These special event permits are drafted annually for the festivals, races, and other community events taking place each year at Lakeview Arena, Mattson Lower Harbor Park, Tourist Park, and other City venues. The City Attorney also drafted multiple permits to allow user groups to help maintain City-owned outdoor recreational facilities, such as ballfields.

Additionally, the City Attorney drafted, reviewed, revised, and approved all other agreements for the City including technology agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, grant documents and agreements, construction contracts, professional services agreements, and all other agreements that arose over the course of the year.



Human Resources: The City Attorney assisted the management team in negotiating the City's collective bargaining agreements and wage reopeners that were subject to bargaining this fiscal year.

Additionally, the City Attorney assisted the Human Resources department with a variety of employment matters, including assisting with employee issues, union grievances, and the review of updated contract and plan documents for new health insurance and other employee benefits.

City Charter: The City Attorney worked with the Clerk, the Deputy Clerk and the City Manager to thoroughly review the City Charter chapter by chapter and formulate recommendations to the Commission to consider updating via charter amendments. The suggested Charter amendments are expected to be prepared and put to the public vote in the next fiscal year.

Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act, and Ethics Questions: The City Attorney reviewed and responded to OMA questions, worked with the Clerk's Office to review and respond to numerous FOIA requests, and reviewed and advised Commissioners and Board/Committee members regarding a variety of ethics and conflict of interest questions related to their service to the City.

Ordinances: The City Attorney worked with various departments regarding the interpretation and application of ordinances to various questions and violations that arose throughout the course of the year.

Tax Tribunals Appeals: The City Attorney defended the Michigan Tax Tribunal appeals filed by City taxpayers during the fiscal year. All of the appeals filed in 2022 have been successfully resolved, and the City Attorney continues to work on the appeals filed in 2023.

2020 Census: The City Attorney prepared and submitted a Post Census Group Quarters Review request, which the Census Bureau approved. This resulted in a more accurate count of the number of students living on Northern Michigan University's campus and increased the City's census count by almost 1,200 residents.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Human Resources

The mission of the Human Resources division is to attract, develop, motivate and retain a diverse and highly qualified workforce. We take great pride in employing people with a strong desire to serve this community so that Marquette remains a superior place to live, work and visit. The Human Resources Department continued to focus on employee recruitment and retention through one of the most interesting and challenging labor markets in history. Human Resources and departmental staff reviewed and processed 521 applications for City job opportunities. We hired 15 full-time employees and onboarded 83 part-time/seasonal employees. Of the 18 total full-time employee terminations, the Director conducted 12 exit interviews; eight of which were for retirements. Of the eight retirees, five were from the Marquette Police Department. Human Resources also processed six interns for various City departments to host students receiving course credit in lieu of wages.

Staff proudly fostered collaborative working relationships with the City's five unions and other employee groups through open communication and regular meetings. Significant time was spent on negotiations for various required wage reopeners, contract extensions, and/or successor contracts.

In October 2022, the City Commission approved a 2% wage increase for year two wage reopeners required by several union contracts including the Supervisory, Department of Public Works and Utilities (DPW), and the City Hall/Clerical employees. The City Hall and DPW units also received a negotiated one-time payment to each member of \$250 and \$625, respectively. In September of 2023, the City and Clerical employees agreed to a wage increase of 5% for the final wage reopener year in their contract in addition to a two-year extension with scheduled increases of 3% annually for 2024 and 2025. Also executed in September was a new four-year deal with the Supervisory employees' union including a wage increase of 5% for 2023, and 3% annually for the following three years. The Director prepared a career ladder program in the city hall unit, which was further agreed upon in negotiations, to allow for certain positions to increase their responsibilities and credentials and promote in place.

The City Commission approved a 3% wage increase with the Police Officers' union for year two of their two-year contract in November of 2022. In September of 2023, a two-year contract was executed with this union and included scheduled wage increases of 5% for 2023 and 3% for 2024 in addition to a one-time retention bonus of \$625 per member.

Letters of Understanding were executed with the Supervisory and DPW unions to allow for summer flexible schedules—a program that is in-step with changes in work occurring across the nation and expected to aid in recruitment and retention.

Employee Benefits: After over a year of planning and preparation, City group health insurance coverage moved to the Western Michigan Health Insurance Pool effective July 1, saving employees money and preserving the high-level of coverage our affected families are used to through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan network coverage. The health insurance committee, comprised of a representative from each union as well as management and Human Resources staff, worked together to offer a variety of plans.

Telehealth provider, MDLIVE, was obtained at a better rate through AllyHealth, benefitting the City and covered employees through cost-savings and the efficiency of having the ability to retain this benefit for seeking medical intervention via telehealth with no copays. Utilization of this benefit helps everyone long-term by deferring claims that count against our experience rating, which in turn affects our renewal rates for medical insurance.

As of September 1, 2023, term life, long-term disability and accidental death and dismemberment insurance was transitioned to Madison National Life through National Insurance Services, saving the City an estimated \$11k per year.

Employee Assistance Program utilization increased from the previous year to roughly 10% for the year.

Retirement, Pension and OPEB: The City's Payroll Clerk processed 13 checks for 61 retirees in the police/fire pension system. In coordination with the City Treasurer, City Attorney and the City's Police/Fire Pension Board, a policy and procedure was implemented for eligible retirees to participate in Act 88 reciprocal retirement benefits. Letters were sent to all active employees in the system to ensure all were aware of this opportunity and how to apply.

The Human Resources Administrator coordinated the City's annual 457 Day to allow for staff to meet with approved vendors related to deferring additional compensation for retirement. In FY 22-23, 127 City employees participated in 457 plans, deferring roughly \$677,740 in earned income for retirement.

The Human Resources Administrator processed requests for monthly retiree health insurance reimbursements in the amount of approximately \$30,000 total.

Employee Compensation/Payroll: The Payroll Clerk processed requests for, and converted, a percentage of benefit days and/or vacation days to pay for 18 staff members. 359 W2's were processed and prepared for calendar year 2022 in addition to 7,430 paychecks with gross payroll of about \$14,683,000.

Compliance: Affordable Care Act reporting was completed for employer-provided health insurance offer and coverage information related for 221 employees for calendar year 2022.

COBRA coverage was provided to an average of three individuals/families throughout the fiscal year.

Staff conducted an in-house self-audit of I-9 forms to ensure compliance related to changes in the new form in 2023.

Worker's Compensation: Staff managed the state-mandated program for workers injured on the job and provided medical and lost time benefit coordination. Staff attended training to meet MIOSHA documentation standards more adequately. Staff completed the annual payroll audit.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

City Clerk

- Supported 27 City Commission regular meetings, special meetings and work sessions, including drafting and posting minutes from each
- Collected, organized, posted and retained minutes from nearly 200 meetings of more than 20 other boards and committees operating on behalf of the City
- Received and edited 244 public announcements, which were subsequently posted in City Hall and on the City's website, and were sent directly to the Public Announcements email list of more than 100 contacts
- Processed 72 requests for public records, made under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act
- Handled local licensing processes for business licenses, dog and cat licenses, and off-leash dog park passes
- Oversaw annual licensing processes for five marijuana retail establishments and one growing facility, as well as licensing for a temporary marijuana event that occurred in the City's Tourist Park in October of 2022
- Oversaw the ordinance/amendment process for the City Code, which included the adoption of nine ordinances this year
- Organized the 10-year review of the City Charter, as a part of the Charter Study Group appointed by the City Commission
- Conducted two citywide elections, in which 11,681 votes were cast

The current Marquette City Charter, which was approved by voters in 2012 and has been in effect since 2013, requires a study group be appointed every ten years to review the charter and determine whether there is a need for revisions. In December of 2022, the City Commission appointed a study group that included the City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk. This group conducted their review and made recommendations for several amendments, which were subsequently endorsed by the City Commission. This group will work in the coming year to draft ballot language and to complete the work necessary to get these proposed amendments in front of voters for consideration, with the aim being to place the proposal on the Presidential Election ballot in November of 2024.

The Clerk's Office took over management of the City's board and committee processes this year, meaning that applications for the City's various boards and committees are routed initially through this office. The Clerk's Office also collects and publicly posts minutes for these numerous boards.

The Office of the City Clerk is responsible for coordinating, planning and executing elections in the City of Marquette. The Clerk also chairs the City Election Board, which is charged with verifying local candidates for office, appointing election workers and establishing precinct boundaries. While election processes are constantly changing, Proposal 2 of 2022 – approved by a wide margin in November of 2022 – represents a major shift in how elections are conducted. For 2024, the Clerk's Office is working to prepare for new early voting requirements, as residents will be provided nine days of early voting ahead of every statewide election.

While anticipating this shift to in-person voting habits, staff in the City Clerk's Office has already been dealing with a major shift in voting patterns, as voter preferences have shifted rapidly toward absentee balloting. State-level changes to absentee balloting

regulations in 2018 made it possible for anyone to vote absentee without needing a reason; that, coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, greatly increased people's interest in absentee voting. Most recently, Proposal 2 of 2022 made it possible for voters to submit a single request and to automatically receive absentee ballots for every subsequent election. In the 2016 Presidential Election, the City processed roughly 2,000 absentee ballots. In preparation for the 2023 local November General Election, which has a much lower turnout than a Presidential Election, the Clerk's Office mailed out more than 3,400 absentee ballots. These shifts have meant major shifts in the way records, applicants and ballots are processed, retained and stored, and it has changed the way the City must staff and prepare for elections.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Information Technology

- Supported 125 mobile devices, 112 PCs, 20 laptops, and 120 desktop phones
- Managed 62 security cameras, 22 servers, and 25 switches
- Maintained 11 miles of fiber optic cable
- Processed over 500 internal service requests from all departments
- Provided quarterly cyber security training with frequent phishing and social engineering testing

As part of ongoing equipment life cycle replacement, IT staff replaced 50% of the fiber ring switches. Supply chain issues limited switch availability which caused these projects to be delayed.

Staff maintained seasonal site cellular equipment, point of sale equipment, phones, and network connectivity for the City's marinas and campground.

Fifteen downtown cameras were replaced according to the equipment lifecycle schedule. The new cameras were less expensive than the original and have a higher resolution and overall quality.

IT staff provided technical support and testing for election computers, laptops, and printers during each election cycle including setting up cabling and copiers where needed in the precincts.

IT staff worked in conjunction with Marquette County to configure Fire Department tablets to improve communication and data access between the two agencies. IT staff continued to work with the Fire Department to replace equipment for their vehicles. This includes tablets/computers as well as new vehicle antennas and mounting systems.

Staff configured and maintained ruggedized laptops, iPhones, and printers for the Police patrol vehicles.

Staff worked with the Wastewater Treatment Plant staff to replace their end-of-life switches. They are configured and ready to be installed. IT staff will work with Wastewater staff to complete this project early in Fiscal Year 2024.

Staff recorded and broadcast all City Commission meetings. The meetings were streamed live to YouTube and on channel 191. All meetings were then loaded to be viewed on YouTube and rebroadcast on channel 191.

A Request for Proposal for server replacement was sent out in December of 2022 and a vendor was selected in January of 2023. The replacement project has begun and should be completed early in Fiscal Year 2024.

IT staff implemented changing industry standards including emerging security improvements and critical updates, maintaining a lifecycle of hardware, and updating software to maintain compliance and functionality of applications/programs. Throughout the year, IT staff focused on the stability, functionality, and security of systems and data, while planning for future needs and capabilities.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Overview/Strategic Development

The Community Development Department is responsible for a wide range of land development functions within the city. Whether it is facilitating a long-range planning process, designing and installing infrastructure, or providing for enforcement of the City Code, we have you covered.

Strategic Projects

The Department plays a major role in facilitating private development and provides key support for public projects.

During the 2023 fiscal year, the Department continued to provide leadership and/or assistance with the following:

Community Master Plan Update

Facilitated Phase I (Community Engagement) of the project to include nearly 4,000 survey respondents, and multiple listening sessions, an open house, and two redevelopment workshops.

Provided support to the consultant team for the ongoing Phase II (Text Drafting) of the project.

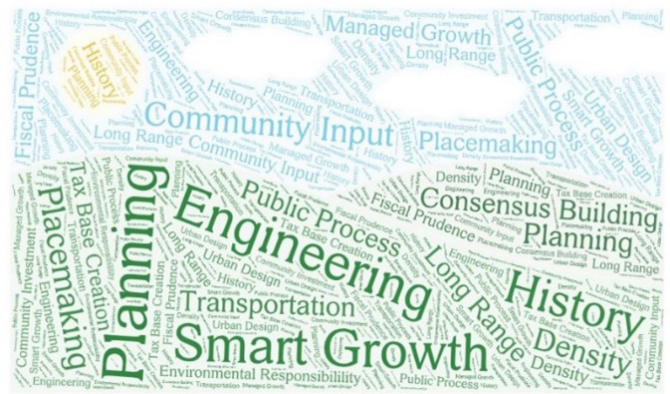
Cliffs-Dow Site

Environmental monitoring and Response Activity in conjunction with the State of Michigan and the project team, led by the Community Development Director, TriMedia and Foley, Baron, Metzger, and Juip.

Successfully obtaining a \$980k+ Environmental Protection Agency Cleanup Grant to assist with site remediation.

Provided support to the City Manager with regards to interest by the State of Michigan for the possible relocation of the Jacobetti Veteran's Home to the site.

Successful appeal of State permit for the shoreline work adjacent to the site.



City Property Sales

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity for the creation of affordable housing adjacent to the Beacon House.

Marquette Opportunity, LLC for the development of a hotel on the southern end of Founders Landing.

Redevelopment Ready Communities

Updated the Capital Improvements Plan to meet Redevelopment Ready Communities maintenance criteria.

Successfully obtained grant funding in the amount of \$30k to support the Community Master Plan Update Project.

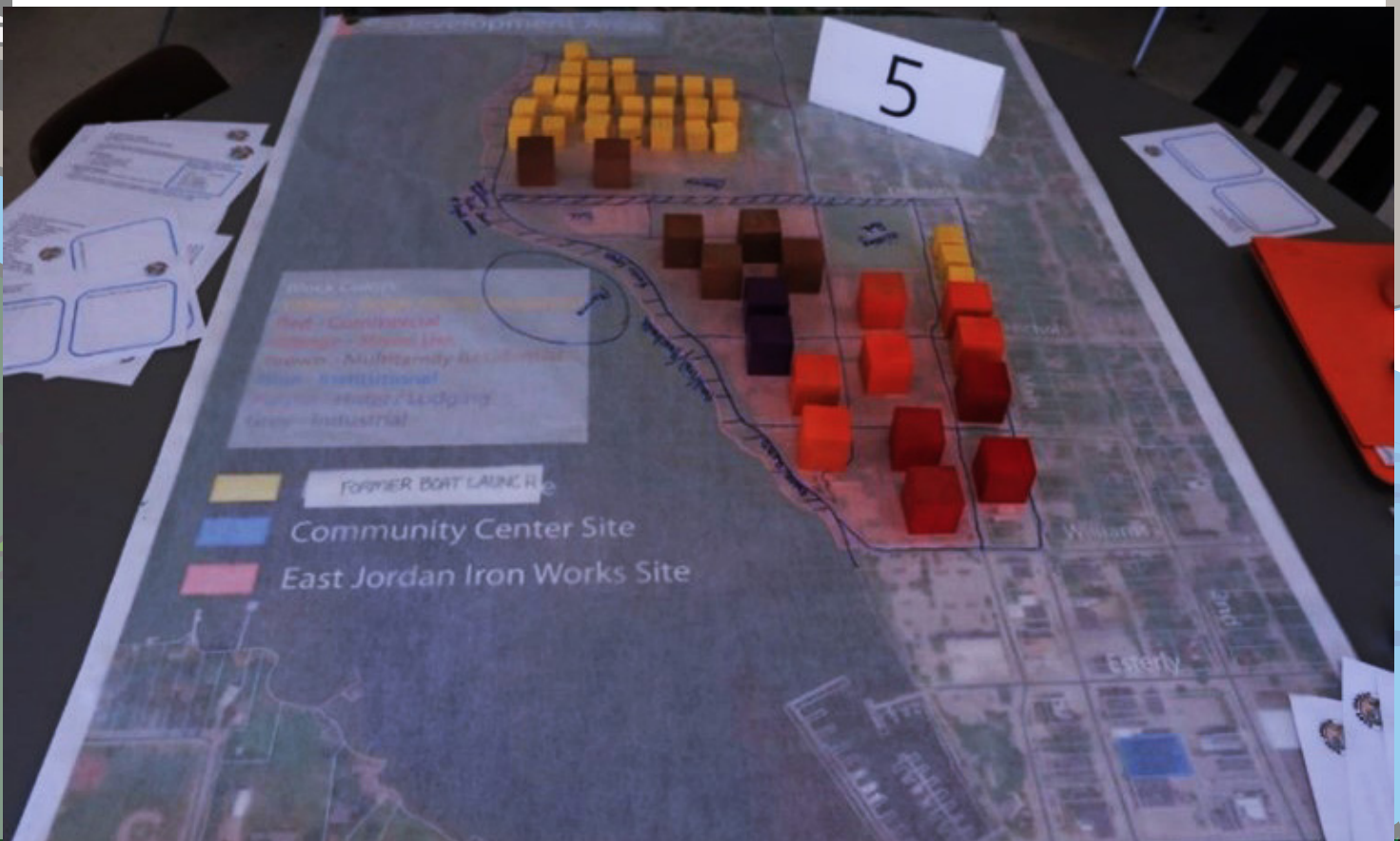
Economic Development

Veridea Group – Hemlock Park Development and Downtown Properties.

Shophouse Park – Coordination of grant applications and land use permit process (Planned Unit Development).

Longyear – PA 451 Execution for Township Housing Development and former Heartwood property planning.

Marquette Golf and Country Club – Course expansion planning to include the first tee program and on-course housing.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Engineering

- Issued over 140 permits for construction, roadway and sidewalk obstructions and community events within the City rights-of-way in Fiscal Year 2022-2023
- Completed all required FEMA grant obligations for the relocation of Lakeshore Boulevard. FEMA released \$1.4 million of grant funding to reimburse City expenses
- Assisted in successfully obtaining a \$1 million EPA grant for the cleanup of the Dow site

The Engineering division prepares, manages, and oversees a large portion of the City's annual Capital Improvement Projects. The division also provides engineering support for various departments within the city and maintains infrastructure records. Well managed infrastructure enhances the quality of life for residents, promotes economic growth and allows for a well-functioning multimodal transportation network. Some of the key projects completed in the past year included the extension of the sidewalk and improvements to pedestrian safety signage along Wright Street, the City's annual street resurfacing project (which included replacement of critical infrastructure) and the reconstruction of a portion of E. Baraga Avenue.

Engineering staff also performed a variety of administrative tasks. These include reviewing all private development plans for conformity with the City Code and design standards. Stormwater fees are also re-evaluated anytime changes are made to commercial sites. The City's Geographic Information System (GIS) is also continually updated to reflect changes in land use, utilities, ownership, and condition assessments. Staff also assisted with various grant applications which included a safety planning grant for the U.S. Highway 41 S. corridor

and an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) cleanup grant for the Cliffs-Dow site.

Staff continued work on the proposed shoreline restoration project adjacent to Lakeshore Boulevard between Pine Street and Hawley Street. The multiyear permitting process and environmental review for the proposed living revetment, which will be comprised of cobble sized stones, has been extensive due to the novel design approach and the unique site conditions. A permit has been granted from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). The final permit required for construction will be issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This process is nearly completed.

Work continues on a dredging project that is grant funded through the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD). The City is partnering with Cliffs Inc./LS&I Railroad on this project. The proposed work includes dredging at the mouth of the Dead River and beneficially reusing the materials for dune establishment and beach nourishment along the shoreline to the south of the dredge site. An extensive Environmental Assessment was completed for this project in partnership with MARAD. All required permits from EGLE and USACE have now been obtained.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning/Zoning

- Processed 527 development-related permits and applications during Fiscal Year 2022-2023
- Managed a comprehensive Land Development Code amendment process
- Worked closely with Beckett & Raeder's consultant team to execute various Community Master Plan (CMP) renewal project activities, to help to craft a CMP that Marquette will be proud of
- The CMP project will continue into early 2024 and will produce a contemporary planning tool that can guide municipal decision making into the 2030s
- Processed 581 recorded code violations in Fiscal Year 2022-23

The Planning and Zoning division facilitates processes related to long-range planning, urban development, and code enforcement. Staff in this office manage the work portfolio and meeting agendas for the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). On a daily basis they uphold policies that attempt to ensure that private property development activities comply with the Land Development Code (LDC) and aspects of the City Code of Ordinances. They also work diligently to ensure that the LDC aligns with the various recommendations of the Community Master Plan, including by updating the LDC approximately once/year and working collaboratively with other agencies on issues and projects that are relevant to the City's planning objectives and LDC requirements related to urban development.

The Zoning Official and City Planner routinely prepare reports for requests for which the Planning Commission must render decisions (Special Land Use Permit, Rezoning, Planned Unit Development, Site Plan Review), and similarly for the Board of Zoning Appeals (Variance, Class-A Non-conforming structures, Interpretations of the LDC, and other appeals). The Director acts as liaison for the City Manager/Commission. The City Planner

acts as the liaison for the Planning Commission (PC). The Zoning Official is the liaison for the BZA and assists with facilitation of PC meetings.

Land-use regulation activities are a major day-to-day focus of the Planning and Zoning division. Staff manages a very large portfolio of work, including reviewing and processing site plans (for commercial, industrial, institutional property) and other types of development applications. There were 43 such applications, plus 94 rental registration applications reviewed. Staff also processed 390 permit applications for structures, fences, signs, driveways, and animal keeping. Researching zoning and planning legal issues, making staff interpretations of ordinances (including researching past practice/cases), processing rental and land division requests, making address assignments and reassignments, helping to develop ordinance amendments as required, recordkeeping and database/file management, preparing public information for annual street reconstruction projects, handling municipal property use requests, and reviewing business license requests are also conducted by this office.

Staff also inspect properties for compliance with site plan and zoning permit compliance regularly. The Planning and Zoning Technician patrols the city to provide necessary random Code Enforcement activities and investigates complaints about alleged Code violations and works with citing property owners to attempt to bring land-use or maintenance violations into compliance.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Parks and Recreation

- Issued 251 permits for Presque Isle Park facilities
- 1,604 permits issued for the Baraga Gym
- 803 permits issued for the Baseball Fields
- 464 permits issued for the Soccer Fields
- 73 Special Event permits issued
- A total of \$22,354.42 promotional funds were distributed
- There were 78 overnight rentals at the Captain's House resulting in \$33,820 in revenue

The Community Services Department consists of the three divisions: Parks and Recreation, Arts and Culture, and Senior Services. The Director and Assistant Director oversee the entire department, while the Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Arts and Culture Manager and Senior Services Manager oversee daily operations for each division. The department provides liaisons to five advisory boards, committees or commissions who recommend policy to the City Commission. Each division provides programming to the public, seeks grant opportunities, facilitates planning, and oversees capital projects.

Fiscal Year 2022-23 was a busy year where our facilities and parks continued to see increased usage. This naturally led to higher revenues, extra maintenance needs, and increases in events across the city. These post COVID increases are not unique to Marquette and are being seen throughout the Parks and Recreation sector nationally. As demand for the resources increases, the sector has experienced challenges meeting the staffing needs while maintaining the same level of service. City staff are continually working on creative solutions to manage these issues of recruiting, hiring, and process improvements to efficiently maintain the level of service the community expects.

In addition to the busier than usual parks, staff have been managing multiple projects. Most notably, the Founders Landing Piers were opened to the public in June 2023. This project had a budget of \$6.2 million through the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan for Founders Landing. The development there paid for this new waterfront amenity as a requirement of the plan to provide public access to Lake Superior. This new facility also satisfied State requirements to remove or reuse existing pile fields in the lake. The facility provides an accessible kayak launch, gathering spaces, public art, and day-use boat slips. Another notable project that began this fiscal year is the Kids Cove accessible playground. With a budget of \$1.7 million, this project will replace an obsolete wooden structure playground at Mattson Park with a playground that will be challenging and accessible for all kids of any age or ability. This project was funded through fundraising efforts by the Marquette Playgrounds for All committee and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund and is expected to be completed in 2024.

Grant Administration

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant – \$300,000 – Mattson Park Inclusive Playground – Construction to be completed in 2024
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources Passport Grant – \$45,000 – Tourist Park Playground – Design completed, construction in spring 2024
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant – \$250,000 – Tourist Park Day-Use Access Road and Parking – Construction beginning in 2024
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterways – \$262,100 – Presque Isle Marina parking lot replacement, pier demolition and new pier anchoring system – Project completed

and reimbursement requested

- Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Community Center Grant – \$900,000 – Community Center Feasibility Study – Application submitted

Cinder Pond and Presque Isle Marinas

2023 was an exceptional year for both marinas and the mooring field with higher-than-expected demand for slips, mooring balls, and launch passes. The season began on May 1, 2023, and will end November 1, 2023. No major issues in operations or staffing were reported this summer and there were no disruptions to services. The Presque Isle Marina Rehabilitation Phase III that included a new anchoring system for the piers and repaving the parking lot was completed.

- \$531,391.51 total revenue between both facilities. Budgeted revenues were \$380,260
- 100% occupancy of all slips and mooring balls at all facilities
- Five hundred transients between both marinas
- \$26,138 total launch revenue between both marinas
- \$116,040 in fuel sales at Cinder Pond Marina
- Forty people on the Cinder Pond Marina waiting list
- Twenty-one people on the Presque Isle Marina waiting list
- Eight people on the mooring field waiting list, first year of needing a waiting list for the mooring field

Lakeview Arena

The ice season at Lakeview Arena usually begins in mid-September through April. This year, ice was installed in the Olson Arena in July as Northern Michigan University's Berry Events Center was being remodeled and their Division One hockey team and the community needed ice. Additionally, Lakeview Arena hosts many community dry-floor events throughout the summer that required extra coordination with a sheet of ice. Overall, the year was successful in gaining two additional dry floor events, successfully operating summer ice, no major operational issues, and higher revenues than expected for ice rentals.

- (\$332,342.47) general fund contribution as total expenditures were \$1,083,719.12 and total revenue was \$751,376.75
- 5,093 hours of ice rented
- 6,351 admissions to public skating
- 1,909 pairs of skates rented
- 100 permits issued for dry floor events and six special events
- 232 permits issued for the Citizens' Forum and other room rentals

Tourist Park Campground

The 2023 camping season saw higher than expected number of campers and revenues. The season began on May 19 and closed on October 15. This was the first year using Campspot, an online reservation system that made reservations easier for patrons. The first day for online reservations was January 3, 2023, and the campground accrued \$135,769 in revenue that day. Every weekend from mid-June through the Labor Day weekend had no vacancy. The campground hosted Camp Cannabis in October 2022, which was the first cannabis event held in the city of Marquette. Additionally, the annual Hiawatha Music Festival and Guts Frisbee tournament were held at the campground.

- \$655,551.55 in total revenue with a \$286,999.23 contribution to the campground enterprise fund for future improvements
- \$32,143 in concessions sales (firewood, ice, and fire starters)
- 77.79% occupancy rate average over the 149 days of the season

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Arts and Culture

The Arts and Culture division consists of the Community Services Arts and Culture Manager, Arts and Senior Services Coordinator (split position), and part-time Marketing and Promotions Assistant. The Marquette Arts and Culture Center is located on the lower level of the Peter White Public Library. The division serves to support, facilitate, and grow an empowered and vital arts, cultural, and creative community.

The division provides services including resources and referrals, managing the Arts and Culture Center, online calendar and resource hub: www.MQTcompass.com, stewarding cultural economic development and planning initiatives, advocating for building a culturally robust city, and managing City public art policy, projects, and collection. The office utilizes arts and culture as a platform to connect more broadly with residents, ensuring culture has a presence in city planning and development, and has built capacity to support residents with their own planning and execution of culture-related initiatives. In 2022-23, the office consulted with over 80 individuals and organizations, aiding in organizational and business development, grant writing, event coordination, project support, resource sharing, and marketing and promotions.

The Arts and Culture hosted the eighth annual City of Marquette Art Week, June 19-24, 2023, featuring 36 events and activities coordinated in partnership with 200 artists and 60 businesses and organizations. This year's theme, "Home" focused on topics inspired by the City Community Master Plan renewal. Over 4,400 adults and 1,600 youth engaged with Art Week activities. To better articulate the social and economic impact, a consultant conducted an impact study. Art Week was supported by a grant received from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council. As part of Art Week, staff designed and distributed "Making Marquette," a 25-page, evergreen, full-color magazine that included articles about the Arts and Culture's ongoing projects.

The Arts and Culture and Peter White Public Library established the Public Gallery Program, a partnership aimed at providing inclusive and accessible exhibit space for both artists and audiences while streamlining the exhibit curation process. This program resulted in the Deo Gallery switching from monthly to bi-monthly exhibits.

The Arts and Culture hosted a State of the Arts event in March 2023. This open town hall format allowed residents with a vested interest in arts and culture to learn about the work of the Arts and Culture division, and share their thoughts, concerns, and needs to help guide the Arts and Culture's future direction. Ninety-two individuals attended, a mix of independent artists, policymakers, representatives from nonprofits in the creative sector, businesses, and economic and community development agencies. Similar events will be held in the future.

The 25th Annual Art Awards were hosted in October 2022. This anniversary celebration honored all 25 years of award winners. The event was moved to the Masonic Center, which offered higher production value and the opportunity for a closing reception with live music. The event was sponsored by Innovate Marquette SmartZone

and lead to a partnership on other projects including State of the Arts, Artists in Excellence, and Revolve Creative Conference.

In the Fall of 2022, the Arts and Culture division worked with high school art teachers to establish Artists in Excellence (AIE), a cross-district talent development and retention program directed



by the Arts and Culture Master Plan. AIE provides unique arts-based extracurricular experiences for students from Negaunee, Marquette, and Ishpeming high schools. Students met three times per month for field trips and interactive experiences that exposed them to creative careers available locally. In addition, the cohort designed and painted a mural at Birchview Elementary. The program secured successful summer employment for eight AIE graduates hired to assist with Art Week and City Art Awards, coordinated Marquette Public Art Commission's "Words to

Live and Bike By" murals, painted Veridea Group's mural on the corner of Washington and Third Street, and as camp counselors for local summer art camps. The program was sponsored by Upper Peninsula Health Plan and the Community Foundation of Marquette County.

The Arts and Culture division continued management of the Marquette Arts and Culture Center, which includes the Deo Gallery, and two studios available for use by the community for meetings, workshops, and special events. The Center is also home to the Senior Arts Program, a comprehensive slate of classes and experiences for older adults in the fields of visual arts, theatre, and dance, coordinated in conjunction with Senior Services.

Fiscal Year 2022-23 was a significant year for grants within the division. These included: \$2,000 Community Foundation; \$19,680 Project Grant from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council for Art Week 2023; \$28,759 Capital Improvement Grant from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council for accessible staging (in partnership with Parks and Recreation); \$1,000,000 from the Ray and Peg Hirvonen Foundation for the design and construction of a new band shell at



Presque Isle (in partnership with Parks and Recreation); \$583,750 RAP 2.0 Grant from the MEDC Corporation for Cultural Trailhead and Center; \$458,800 Spark Grant from the Michigan DNR for Cultural Trailhead and Cultural Center.

The Arts and Culture division manages the City's Public Art Collection and Marquette Public Art Commission projects. In August, the second phase of "Words to Live and Bike By" was painted and permanent signage for the City's Public Art Collection installed. The division developed several Requests for Proposals for Public Art and the Cultural

Trail. Including a Public Art Conservation Assessment, Cultural Trail Indigenous Public Artwork, Playgrounds for All Public Artwork and Cultural Trail Interpretive Site Design. All will be administered in Fiscal Year 2023-24.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Senior Services

Our service area includes the city of Marquette, 4,752 Seniors; Chocolay Township, 1,846 Seniors; Powell Township, 345 Seniors; and Marquette Township, 1,353 Seniors.

The Marquette Senior Center mission is to empower older adults to live with maximum dignity and independence in environments of their choosing. This is made possible through a variety of revenue sources including of the City of Marquette Senior Service Millage, Marquette County Senior Millage, UPCAP in-home services contract, and the kind donations from individuals and organizations in our community.

The Center publishes a monthly newsletter, titled "Horizons" that informs the public of programs and services. This year staff have worked to maximize the reach and content of the newsletter.

Senior Arts - Creative Expression and Exploration: The Center has three pillars in our Senior Arts Programming: Visual Arts, Senior Theatre, and Dance. This year we hosted 27 visual art classes, guided by local art teachers. A diverse range of projects and mediums were explored, from chalk pastels to wool felt applique. Seven talented teachers contributed their expertise. A total of 349 registrations were made, with an average of approximately 13 students per class.

Our seniors engaged in 24 discussion-based theatre classes. The classes encompassed scriptwriting, performance, acting theory, and history. Participants also enjoyed 18 theater-related experiences, including attending local theater productions sponsored by the Senior Center. A total of 249 registrations were recorded, with an average of about six participants per class or experience. The dance program focused on dance technique, history, and choreography. There were 34 beginner-level dance classes, introducing various dance styles and techniques. A total of 212 registrations were made, averaging approximately eight students per class.

Health Promotion and Recreational Programs: During the 2022-23 fiscal year we provided health programs including screenings and health-related services to 610 older adults. We had 12,639 older adults participate in and register for our recreational programs such as fitness, ice skating, Tai Chi, Asahi, gym walking, and card games. These programs brought joy and engagement to our seniors, combatting social isolation and increasing their resilience. Popular activities included pickleball, cribbage league, and outdoor events like "Picnic in the Park" and the "Silver Sampler" program as well as our Parkinson's support group.

Information and Assistance: The Center's Information and Assistance services extended to 1,313 individuals seeking information about our programs and other community resources. We welcome walk-ins from those in need of assistance and are committed to providing valuable guidance.

Social Work Services: Our licensed Social Workers offered essential support to 540 clients, preserving their independence and dignity. Services included In-Home Services, Outreach, Medicare and Medicaid assistance, and Case Management for seniors with multiple needs. During Medicare Open Enrollment, 371 clients were served, resulting in a total savings of \$200,730.48 for our clients.

The Homemaking Program is one of our organization's cornerstone In-Home Programs. Last year alone the program played a crucial role in supporting approximately 200 seniors on a biweekly basis. It provides a range of essential services, including light housekeeping, running errands, and completing daily tasks that may become challenging for seniors. This assistance enables older adults to stay connected with their communities, access essential resources,

and maintain their self-sufficiency with the aid of our trained Homemaking and Social Work staff.

Community Partnerships: The Senior Center has engaged community partners like the Alzheimer's Association, Michigan Parkinson's Foundation and AARP to provide resources to seniors. We were able to offer free tax preparation services through AARP volunteers to 371 older adults.

The Center's involvement in the Alzheimer's Association Walk to end Alzheimer's this year raised over \$28,000 for local research and support services. It also helped advocate at the state level for greater research in the Upper Peninsula. Bringing the Parkinson's Foundation on board has allowed the Center to open the only Upper Peninsula chapter and provide monthly support groups with an average of 25 people in attendance to those living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers.

"The City of Marquette Senior Services division is honored to have positively impacted the lives of older adults in our community. Our commitment to fostering independence, creativity, and well-being remains resolute, and we eagerly look forward to continuing our mission in the years to come."

Maureen McFadden, Senior Services Manager



FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

The Facilities and Maintenance Department provides maintenance and support for the City of Marquette vehicle/equipment fleet, traffic signals, public buildings, Park Cemetery, and all recreational parks. The department is comprised of the following divisions: Forestry, Park Cemetery, Motor Vehicle Equipment, Facilities and Parks and Recreation Maintenance. Some of the core functions of the department include routine preventative and corrective maintenance, parking lot snow and ice control, burials, tree maintenance and park maintenance. The entire department employs eighteen full-time employees and fifteen to twenty seasonal employees.

All three maintenance divisions in the Facilities and Maintenance Department had a very busy year maintaining and replacing our existing infrastructure as well as assisting in the construction of new City facilities. Staff has done a wonderful job maintaining our park facilities and green spaces with reduced budgets and less labor hours available.

Below is a summarized review of the Fiscal Year 2023 accomplishments for each division within the department.

Forestry: The Forestry division had a busy year trimming over 500 trees and removing nearly 200 dead or dying trees in city parks and right-of-way areas. The annual tree planting program allowed the department to plant 58 new trees throughout the city as well as a special planting, in coordination with the Marquette Downtown Development Authority, in the Rosewood Walkway located between Front Street and Lakeshore Drive. The Rosewood planting was recognized as our annual Arbor Day tree planting.

Park Cemetery: A total of 57 burials were conducted in the Park Cemetery this year with nearly two-thirds of them being cremains burials. The sexton was also very busy assisting residents and visitors with genealogy searches as well as grave space sales. A total of sixty spaces were sold this year.

Motor Pool: The City was selected for the MiNextCities grant that funded the purchase of the City's first electrically driven equipment. Two Ford E-Transit vans were purchased along with a Mean Green zero-turn lawn mower. The grant also included funding for the installation of four electric vehicle charging stations at the Municipal Service Center and the necessary integration into our fuel management system. City staff can now easily monitor the charging metrics as well as vehicle performance and usage, and report back to the grant agency to meet the requirements of the grant program. The vans will be used year-round in the Facilities Maintenance division and the mower will be used exclusively in Presque Isle Park. This initial investment into fleet electrification totaled just over \$200,000.

Both of the City's pumper trucks used as frontline fire vehicles experienced a significant frame failure that took them out of commission permanently. The City was able to purchase one new pumper at a cost of \$830,000. Unfortunately, the truck will not be ready until Fiscal Year 2025. In order to keep the fire department operating efficiently, two used pumpers were purchased. Motor Pool staff scoured the country for used trucks that met the City's needs and fell within our price range. Staff ventured as far as Miami, Florida to find an acceptable truck, but in the end found two trucks in Wisconsin that met the City's needs.

The Motor Pool team continues to perform fire truck maintenance for three local municipalities as well as police vehicle upfitting for the County Sheriff's Department.

Total fuel usage for the year totaled approximately 250,000 gallons. City owned vehicles consumed nearly 80% of the total fuel used

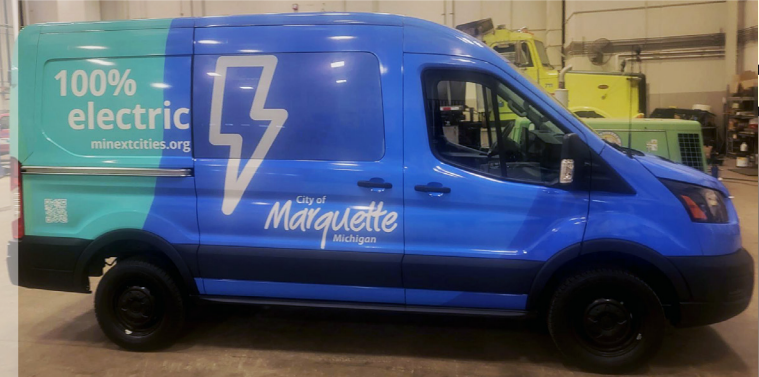


with the balance being sold to Northern Michigan University, Powell Township, Downtown Development Authority, and Marquette Housing Commission.

The City of Marquette surplus online auction generated over \$72,000 worth of surplus equipment revenue last year.

Facilities-Maintenance: Facilities staff worked diligently all year maintaining our park facilities and green spaces. The department utilizes anywhere between 15 and 20 seasonal staff to maintain park bathrooms, provide garbage pickup at City buildings and bike paths, setup for special events, perform snow removal and ice control at buildings and mow roughly 60-plus acres of park green space.

One of the department's notable accomplishments was the completion of a new evidence room and the expansion of the women's locker room within the Police Department. This was a major project that involved adding new doorways, building a new wall, installing new lockers, and adding a new processing center for evidence. Overall, this project has added great value to the daily operations of the Police Department.



FINANCE

The Financial Services Department provides administrative support to the City of Marquette. It maintains excellence in the accounting of City services and provides support to all City departments with financial, budgetary and procurement issues. The goal of the department is to provide relevant, timely and accurate financial reporting, and to exhibit fiscal accountability in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The Financial Services Department is comprised of four divisions: Finance, Treasury, Assessing and Utility Billing. Some of the core functions of the department include preparation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), preparation and monitoring of the budget, cash management and debt management, tax billing and disbursements, utility billing, parking ticket violation notification, City revenue collection, property appraisal and valuation, and the administration of the Police and Fire Retirement System. The department also provides administrative services to the Peter White Public Library.

The Finance division is comprised of the Chief Financial Officer, Senior Staff Accountant and Accounts Payable Clerk. Our Senior Staff Accountant and CFO oversee 49 funds with budget appropriations totaling \$96 million and track nearly \$359 million in capital assets. Their efforts to continually comply with City, Village, Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) requirements qualified the City to receive \$409,600 of statutory revenue sharing. Together with our audit team, the ACFR is prepared in-house and is submitted for review to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the excellence in financial reporting program. This is the 36th consecutive year of receiving the prestigious award from GFOA.

Efforts to improve the financial strength of the City of Marquette are continually reviewed and communicated through quarterly financial reporting to the Commission. One factor of fiscal strength is the reliability of primary revenue sources. Taxes and State funding revenues remain relatively flat while costs of services are rising. This has prompted a closer review of the second factor for fiscal strength which is fund balances and reserves. The General Fund's unrestricted fund balance is approximately \$6.8 million, or 26% of the total FY'24 General Fund budget. This is within sufficient fund balance reserves, between 16%-50%, as outlined in the Fund Balance Policy that was approved in 2010. Management of debt is a third factor of financial strength. The City has made an effort to defer issuance of new debt until current outstanding obligations are paid down or paid off. This year, the City paid down \$6.9 million of its outstanding \$71.4 million in debt obligations. Financial management practices and adaptation to economic factors aided in maintaining the City's "AA" bond rating, which allows the city to borrow at low interest rates.

The Treasury division is comprised of the Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer and two Customer Account Clerk/Cashiers. Our Customer Account Clerk/Cashiers receipted in \$74,832,358 for the various funds. These receipts include not only standard tax and utility payments, but also revenue transmittals from offsite locations such as Planning/Zoning, Engineering, Public Works, Tourist Park, Lakeview Arena, Senior Center, Arts, Peter White Public Library, Police Department, Marinas, and Fire Department. Landfill permits, which are administered by the local units of government, are also run through Treasury. This past fiscal year we were able to streamline our processes and procedures for both residential and annual commercial haulers.

Our Deputy Treasurer and Treasurer oversee the tax roll. We print tax bills in house and work with various financial institutions to ensure escrowed parcels are identified. In total, 6,307 tax bills

were mailed for the summer installment and again for the winter installment. Billings for the summer installment totaled \$39,747,348 of which the City's Millage comprises \$15,110,366 or 38%. The remaining Millages collected at the City are remitted to other taxing jurisdictions twice a month. About 95.72% of property taxes are collected on or by the due date of September 14th. Every March 1st, delinquent taxes are sent to the County. As of March 1, 2023, roughly 1% of the total tax roll was turned over. While real property is turned over to the County, personal property remains collectable here at the City. Efforts are ongoing to educate and assist those businesses who remain in a delinquent status.

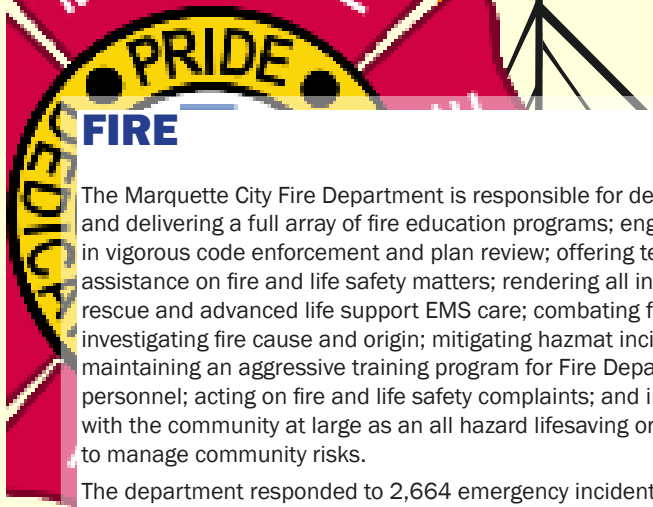
During this past fiscal year, online payment options were streamlined. With many residents and customers looking for additional payment opportunities, the online option has been a welcomed change. Parking citation collections and citation notifications are administered collaboratively by our Deputy and the Downtown Development Authority to ensure we have the latest information to assist those who receive a ticket and can benefit from education about the violation.

This year our Treasurer received MiCPT certification.

The Assessing division appraises the value of each property within the city limits and establishes the Assessed and Taxable values to be used by the City Treasurer to calculate and produce annual tax bills. The Assessing division prides itself by continually being successful in completing 20% of the field appraisals in the city of Marquette. This 20% requirement ensures that all properties are reviewed every five (5) years as established by State Tax Commission guidelines. The division follows a five (5) year schedule of neighborhoods that are in geographical proximity to each other to be more time efficient.

Our Utility Billing division is comprised of one Utility Billing Clerk. Over this past fiscal year, 251 water leak alerts were mailed, 606 work orders and 54 nonpayment shutoffs were administered. Of those facing a time of need, \$14,226 in assistance was granted from the Low-income Households Water Assistance Program. Every effort is made to provide ample warning to those facing a shutoff, to work through a payment plan, or to connect residents with various entities who can provide help. It is truly amazing the level of service our residents are provided by one person from this division. With software updates, paperless billing has been made available and we saw an uptick from 531 to 797 customers receiving their bill via email.





FIRE

The Marquette City Fire Department is responsible for developing and delivering a full array of fire education programs; engaging in vigorous code enforcement and plan review; offering technical assistance on fire and life safety matters; rendering all incident rescue and advanced life support EMS care; combating fires; investigating fire cause and origin; mitigating hazmat incidents; maintaining an aggressive training program for Fire Department personnel; acting on fire and life safety complaints; and interacting with the community at large as an all hazard lifesaving organization to manage community risks.

The department responded to 2,664 emergency incidents representing a 4.7% or 125 incident increase over 2022-23. Of these responses, 1,956 were emergent medical incidents representing 73% of all responses. The department also responded to 23 fires of all types during the year with the remainder of the alarms classified as general responses and totaling 685 incidents. There were no reportable civilian fire injuries and one fire fatality during the year. Additionally, there were no firefighter injuries that resulted in time lost.

The two most significant fire incidents occurred at:

A commercial property at 2120 Sugarloaf Avenue on December 31, 2022, with an estimated property/content loss of \$75,000+ and a single-family property at 500 Pioneer Road on December 29, 2022, with an estimated property/content loss of \$60,000+.

Aside from these, the estimated fire losses for the year totaled \$190,100 in property/content loss.

A total of 3,330 hours of firefighter training was conducted including but not limited to: vehicle extrication, high angle rescue, company officer training, incident command/fireground communications, "vent, enter, isolate, search" training, lifeguard certification, lifeguard instructor certification, near shore water rescue, swift water rescue, hazmat, EMS/paramedic, emergency driving, active violence/tactical emergency casualty care, recruit training, instructor training, flash over training, advanced pump ops, electrical vehicle emergencies, nozzle forward training, mayday/rapid intervention training, and solar panel systems.

The department invested in cutting edge technology including radios, self-contained breathing apparatus, and thermal imaging cameras. Additionally, in partnership with the Department of Public Works, the department acquired two used fire engines.

The 2023 Pigs-N-Heat hockey game raised \$15,000 for the Pigs-N-Heat relief fund. The 2023 Fill the Boot event raised \$3,435.24 for the Firefighter Union's community fund.

Ten car seats were installed and four were checked. Eight Hundred thirty-nine (839) students were educated in the "Learn Not to Burn" program. Other school-based fire education events reached an additional 1,195 students. One Thousand Three Hundred and eight (1,308) community members attended fire station tours and other community fire education events.

Waterfront Safety: The department hired and trained 11 lifeguards for the summer beach season. They successfully oversaw McCarty's Cove beach and enforced City beach rules. The department also maintained lifesaving equipment at all City beaches.

Rental and Fire Code Enforcement: The Rental Program and Code Enforcement department is responsible for identifying and registering all long-term and short-term rental units and for performing certification inspections of all rental units in the city of Marquette. The Rental Program promotes the continuing maintenance of quality and safe rental properties. This department also investigates rental occupancy complaints and acts as a

consultant to prospective purchasers of rental properties. These life safety inspections and requirements help ensure the safety of tenants and visitors to the city of Marquette.

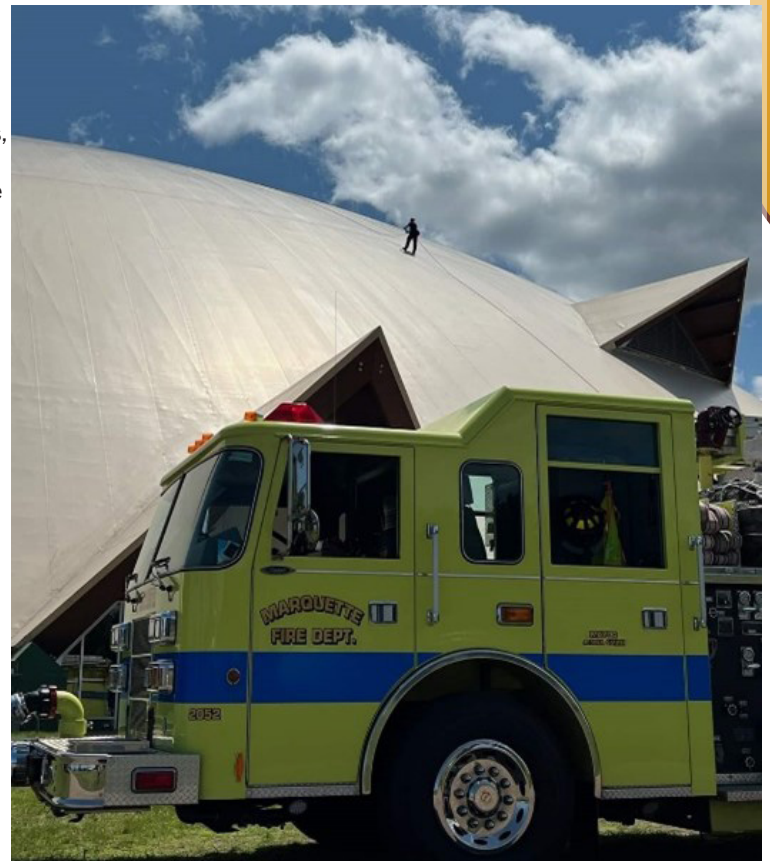
There have been 1,351 rental inspections with 140 re-inspections this fiscal year. Additionally, there were 340 fire code enforcement inspections and 21 re-inspections.

A review of the properties on the approved short-term rental list is completed and approximately four short-term rentals that had changed ownership were identified and subsequently removed from the list. These spots have been or are currently in the process of being filled by eligible properties on the short-term rental waiting list.

The Marquette City Fire Marshal performs a wide variety of fire code enforcement jobs, including commercial fire inspections, rental compliance inspections, life safety inspections, special event inspections, marijuana occupancy inspections, and capacity determinations for city businesses.

Along with the inspection duties listed above, the Fire Marshal is also responsible for the creation and administration of the City's Emergency Response/Preparedness Plan, Fire Code Interpretation, Code Enforcement Public Relations, Fire Department Procurement, and Waterfront Safety Program assistance.

The Fire Marshal enforces the National Fire Protection Association Codes and the International Property Maintenance Code.



MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

The dedicated staff of the Municipal Utilities Department work 24/7 365 days a year protecting public health by providing safe drinking water and ensuring that the wastewater that is treated meets all discharge requirements. The division is made up of a Director, Administration Assistant, two Plant Supervisors/Chief Operators, four Water Plant Operators, five Wastewater Plant Operators, a Maintenance Mechanic, and a Laboratory Technician. All operating staff are Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy certified water or wastewater operators. Four employees are certified for both treatment plants.

Water Plant: The water filtration plant was built in 1979 and upgraded in 1998 when filtration was added. The city uses Lake Superior as its water source, and we are blessed with an extremely high-quality source of water. We use microfiltration membranes to filter the water. The membranes are porous and allow water molecules to pass through but trap bacteria. Periodically the membranes are backwashed to restore filtration capacity. The membranes are also chemically cleaned with bleach and warm water around every 800 hours. The filtered water is then treated with bleach produced on site to disinfect the water, sodium hydroxide to increase the pH for corrosion control, and fluoride to prevent tooth decay. The water is then pumped out into the water distribution system.

- *Design flow: 7 million gallons a day (MGD)*
- *Average flow: 1.97 MGD*
- *Total flow last year: 720.4 MG*

Over seven to eight years, the membranes start to lose the capacity to filter the water and must be replaced. In the spring of 2023, water/wastewater staff changed out all 720 membranes and associated equipment over the course of two weeks.

Wastewater Plant: The wastewater plant was built in 1952, until then Lake Superior was the city's wastewater plant, upgraded in 1979 and upgraded again in 2008. The water is physically treated with screens and settling tanks, biologically treated, and chemically treated. Biological treatment duplicates the naturally occurring activities of soil and water microorganisms, concentrating these organisms that use the organics in the wastewater as its food source. The resulting treated water is disinfected with bleach and returned to Lake Superior. Residuals removed from waste stream are treated in anaerobic digesters and land applied as a soil conditioner on a farm field or at a mine reclamation site. A byproduct of digestion is methane gas that is captured, treated, and burned in two 100 KW Co-generation units that provide heat and electricity. At night, when flows are low, the co-generation units provide all the electricity the facility needs. The heat generated in the generators is also used to heat the facility. Wastewater staff operate, maintain, and ensure permit compliance along with operating and maintaining the 12 lift stations located throughout the city.

- *Design flow: 3.85 MGD*
- *Max Design Flow: 6.55*
- *Average flow: 2.86 MGD*
- *Total flow last year: 1.04 billion gallons*

Wastewater solids handling improvement project: During the winter months we are not allowed to land apply biosolids when fields are frozen and covered by snow. We currently do not have the space for the required 180 days of storage. To fix this problem, provide solids handling redundancy, save on disposal costs, and provide revenue, the city contracted with the engineering firm Donohue and Associates and applied for State Revolving Loan Funding (SRF) to fund the project. We were successful in getting the low interest loan

(1.875%) that included a grant of \$5.85 million. Miron Construction is currently working on the upgrade that is expected to be complete in December 2024. This project will include an added biosolids cake storage area, new solids handling building with a redundant belt press used to process the biosolids. To help pay for the project, a high strength waste receiving station is also being added allowing us to process septage, grease trap waste, and porta potty waste. This waste will be added directly to the digesters to produce more biogas that we can then burn in the co-generation units to produce both heat and electricity.

Spring high flows: During rain and snow melting events, water can work itself into the city's sanitary collection system through cracks and other access points. Flows can generally increase to around two million gallons, but the facility is designed for that increase in flows. The late heavy wet snow event in May of 2023 followed the snowpack melting and unprecedented flows were experienced at the facility. The design max flow is 6.55 MGD and we exceeded that for six days with a high flow of 8.56 MGD on May 3. While the flows far exceeded the design max flow, we initiated our wet weather plan and kept the plant in operation with minimal permit violations.



POLICE

The mission of the Marquette Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to continually improve the safety and quality of life for citizens.

The Marquette Police Department (MPD) operates as an innovative and proactive agency that is dedicated to meeting community challenges and increasing public safety. Our department has been an accredited agency since 2019 and was one of the first in the state to achieve this through the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies and procedures that are conceptually sound and operationally effective. Achieving and maintaining accredited status has helped us grow and improve our services to the public.

Services: Our department's two divisions, Road Patrol and Detective Bureau, are comprised of 34 sworn officers. Our team also includes five civilian support staff. Within the divisions there are many specialty positions such as a drug and explosives K9 Officer, UPSET Detective, School Resource Officer, School Detective, Evidence Technicians, Bike Patrol, Snowmobile Patrol, Dive Team, Accident Reconstructionist, Child Forensic Interview Specialists, and Animal Control Officer. To better serve those experiencing mental health issues, all officers have been certified in Crisis Intervention Training.

To address the increasing threat of online predators, MPD has a detective assigned to the Michigan State Police Internet Crimes Against Children task force. This year, our officers participated in a Juvenile Sex Trafficking sting with several other local and statewide agencies. Seven suspects were arrested for numerous charges associated with the sting operation.

In the last 12 months, officers responded to 15,035 calls for service. This included over 6,000 property checks at schools, vacant homes, City parks and beaches, and businesses after hours. Our department made 449 arrests, handled 436 accidents, issued 1,588 traffic citations and 5,328 parking citations.

Community Engagement: A priority this year was increasing and improving community outreach efforts. To achieve this, we hosted the inaugural MPD Citizen's Academy, where 10 participants attended six sessions to learn more about our department and connect with our officers. The highlights of the sessions were the Firearms Simulator and the history of the Marquette Police Department presented by a local historian. The academy was well received by both the attendees and our officers. There has been a great deal of interest in our upcoming session, which will be held in the spring of 2024.

Coffee with a Cop was also new this year and provided access and opportunity for conversations with community members in a relaxed environment. Our Chief often invited community leaders to join him as special guests at these events, which brought out residents who may not have otherwise attended.

Enjoying the outdoors is a favorite pastime in Marquette for our

residents and visitors. With that in mind, our officers developed an Outdoor Safety program and reintroduced Hunter's Safety within the public schools.



We increased efforts from previous years on community presentations such as Telephone and Internet Scam Awareness, Online Safety, and Active Violence response. We also conducted foot and bike patrols at many community events and festivals.

Our officers serve on over 30 boards and committees in our community and statewide including the Marquette Area Public School Crisis Team, Traffic Parking Advisory Board (liaison), Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Directors, Superior Child Advocacy Center, Youth Suicide Prevention Alliance, among many others.



Recruitment Efforts: In response to the police recruitment and retention problem all police departments are currently facing, MPD implemented a creative solution to find exceptional candidates to add to our team. We created a Police Recruit position, which allowed us to hire two recruits prior to the start of the regional police academy and add them to our patrol officer ranks upon successful completion of their training. We intend to utilize this position in 2024 to fill vacancies due to retirements.

Training: To maintain our high standards of training and professionalism, we use both hands-on and an online training program called PoliceOne Academy. This platform allows officers to receive up-to-date instruction on a variety of topics from Use of Force to Ethics and Officer Wellness. With this approach, officers can be aware of the challenges and changes in modern policing along with informational strategies to address them.

Some of our mandatory yearly training for our officers includes Use of Force, Firearms, Unbiased Policing, Hazmat, and Defensive Tactics. Other supplemental trainings our officers participated in were Search and Seizure, Juvenile Handling, Sextortion Awareness, Elder Abuse, and Human Trafficking.

The Marquette Police Department aims to ensure the safety, health, and wellness of all our officers. In addition to Officer Wellness courses assigned through PoliceOne Academy, our department offered CPR training for families of department members and a financial planning and retirement seminar. New ideas are being explored for additional opportunities for employees and their families in the future.

POLICE

MICHIGAN

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department provides maintenance and support for the city of Marquette water distribution system (including mains, services, tanks and pumping stations), sanitary sewer and storm water collection systems, roads, and bridges, as well as solid waste management (including special collections, drop-off sites and administration of contracted curbside collection and hauling services).

The Public Works Department is comprised of the following divisions: Water Transmission and Distribution, Street Maintenance, and Sewer Maintenance. Some of the core functions of the department include routine preventative and corrective maintenance activities for local and major roads, water main valves, fire hydrants, water system flushing, water and sewer lateral and/or main repair and/or replacement, signage, snow and ice control, sidewalk repair, street paving, storm sewer maintenance, televising sewer laterals and solid waste management.

Solid Waste Management

The City of Marquette is entering the final year of a seven-year solid waste collection contract with Waste Management for curbside collection of garbage and recycling. The contract offers a choice for the resident between the garbage sticker system and a cart collection option. Approximately 60% of residents have made the switch to the cart system.

Staff are closing out two complementary grants after collecting data for a year: the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Recycling Infrastructure Grant and the Recycling Partnership Residential Curbside Recycling Cart Grant. These grants provided recycling carts at no cost to city residents and have resulted in a 4.5% increase in recycling tonnage.

The biannual curbside yard waste collection took in 3,125 cubic yards (CYD) of brush and 19,650 CYD of compost. Additionally, 5,350 vehicles went through the drop-off site. As a result, 3,640 tons of compostable material were hauled to the county composting facility. There were also 5,840 vehicles that used the rubbish drop-off site. Crews hauled out 1,150 tons of tub grinding mulch.

Street Maintenance Division

Restoration was made to 40 utility excavation sites and street repairs utilizing 480 tons of asphalt and 78 CYD of concrete.

The traffic marking crew painted 84 locations and intersections consisting of crosswalks, turn arrows and stop bars with a total of 140 gallons of methyl methacrylate (MMA) paint and 2,000 pounds of glass beads. Additionally, 1,200 feet of parking stall lines were also painted. The sign crew replaced 184 street signs due to damage or low reflectivity and eight street name intersection signs changed out to a larger size. Road closures were made for 28 city summer events and block parties and 40 utility excavations.

Summer maintenance activities applied 1,000 gallons of emulsion and 44 tons of 31-A stone using forced air patching on streets, 75 tons of CP-7 was used for pothole patching and 17,860 gallons of brine has been applied to our gravel roads for dust control. Crews skim-coated 27,500 sq. ft. of failing pavement (one-inch average thickness) with 175 tons of asphalt.

Winter maintenance activities kept 91 centerline miles of city streets safe and drivable through plowing, application of 1,600 CYD of salt and 2,500 CYD of 2NS sand for ice control and hauling over 40,000 CYD of snow to keep roads wide enough.

Water Transmission and Distribution Division

Last year the frost index reached 753, which is below the historical average of 1,220. Staff did not have to provide thawing service to any water customers. Two customers were authorized to let their

water run to prevent their sewer lateral from freezing.

Service Technicians installed 36 new meters, repaired 74 endpoints, installed 20 new endpoints, responded to 251 water leak alerts, and read 180 meters monthly. Crews replaced three existing hydrants and continued with the hydrant painting program. Crews replaced two hydrants and one yard hydrant, made three large water taps and seven service taps. Work is being done to identify our service line inventory for our EGLE report due in 2025. Johnson Controls, Inc., completed measurement and verification so we will perform large meter testing in 2024.

Summer maintenance projects included repairs to 12 water mains, repairs and/or replacement of nine water service lines, replacement of three water main valves, and two pressure reducing valves taken apart, cleaned, and repaired.

Annual lead and copper testing was completed and passed EGLE standards. Staff managed 872 cross connection accounts and 1,597 backflow devices. There were 13 backflow devices that were identified as needing repair. All check valves and dead ends were flushed along with one-quarter of the total distribution system which used 2,696,096 gallons of water during this process.

Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Maintenance Division

Summer storm water maintenance included cleaning 785 storm sewer catch basins where 89.1 tons of catch basin sand were removed and hauled to the landfill. Repairs were made to 11 catch basins and 18 feet of main required replacement. An additional 27 catch basins were rehabbed with geotechnical polymer. Maintenance was performed on 920 feet of drainage ditch. Installed 175 feet of shoreline protection.

Summer sanitary sewer maintenance included cleaning 79,573 feet of sewer main, inspecting 90 sanitary manholes, inspecting seven grease traps, repairing two sanitary manholes, installing two new sanitary manholes, replacing 23 feet of sanitary main, and replaced/ repaired 18 sanitary laterals. An additional 13 sanitary manholes were rehabbed with geotechnical polymer. There were 16 sewer backups reported (most common cause are rags and wipes found in sewer main). None of the backups were determined to be City responsibility. There were 72 sanitary laterals televised and 1,359 utility locates performed.

PROVIDED 1849

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

The work accomplished by City of Marquette has been enriched and supported by the volunteer members of all of the boards, committees, commissions and authorities that provide guidance to City planning and operations. The City thanks the following citizens, as well as former appointed members, and City staff for their time and effort.

Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Current Members: Richard Brebner-Derby, Caden Reed, Jon Teichman, Travis Gerhart, Madeline Arquette, Madeline Goodman, Jamie Weeder (Chair), Mateo McNealy

Staff: Tiina Morin

Board of Light and Power

Current Members: Margaret Brumm, John Prince, John Sonderegger, Dave Campana, Jerry Irby

Staff: Tom Carpenter

Board of Review

Current Members: Adeline Beauchaine, Justinj Vasseau (Chair), Carolyn McDonald

Staff: Dulcee Ranta

Board of Zoning Appeals

Current Members: Heather Dombrowski, Kristina Hill, George Patrick Jr., Demetrios Kaltsas, Nathan Williams, Barbara Wright

Staff: Andrea Landers

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Current Members: Callie New (Chair), Terra Bahrman, Robert Kulishek, J. Matthew Tuccini, James Rankin, Douglas Davis

Staff: Sean Hobbins

Downtown Development Authority

Current Members: Robert Caron, Nichole Durley-Rust, Meagan Morrison, Lauren Rowland, Ryan Stern, Marc Weinrick, Karen Kovacs, Allison Clark, Patricia Sala

Staff: Tara Laase-McKinney

Election Board

Current Members: Judy Berglund, Sue Menhennick, Linda Roe, Margaret Schwalm, Kyle Whitney (Chair)

Staff: Rachel Quayle

Harbor Advisory Committee

Current Members: Anne Donohue, Wendy Hill-Manson, Christopher Jason, Jim Koski, Todd Leigh (Chair), Michael Potts, Daniel Torres

Staff: Mitch Moran

Investment Advisory Board

Current Members: Terra Bahrman, Mary Schlicht

Staff: Terra Bahrman

Local Development Finance Authority

Current Members: Steve Adamini, Stacy Boyer-Davis, Mark Canale, Brian Cherry, Leslie Hartman (Chair), Bruce Heikkila, Jim Hewitt

Staff: Mary Schlicht

Local Officers Compensation Commission

Current Members: John Braamse, Carl Gordon, Stephen Swentik (Chair)

Staff: Wendy Larson

Marquette Area Wastewater Treatment Advisory Board

Current Members: James Compton, Sean Hobbins, Leonard Bodenus, Jr., William DeGroot, Brad Johnson (Chair), Jon Kangas, George Patrick

Staff: Mark O'Neill

Marquette Housing Commission

Current Members: Michelle Metz, Brooke Tharp, Kinglsey Agassi, Jackie Stark (Chair)

Staff: Sharon Maki

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Current Members: Sarah Bixby, Andrew Tripp, Alex Tiseo, Jamie Glenn, John Stewart, Lori Hauswirth, Amanda Gobert (Chair), Jon Nebel, Cadin Cahilal

Staff: Andrew MacIver

Peter White Public Library Board

Current Members: Anne Donohue (Chair), Lori Nelson, Steven Schmunk, Carol Steinhaus, Suzanne Williams

Staff: Andrea Ingmire

Planning Commission

Current Members: Aaron Andres, Cary Gottlieb, Nathan Williams, Kevin Clegg, Dallas Fetter, Michael Larson, Sarah Mittlefehldt (Chair), Wayne Premeau, Margaret Rayner

Staff: Dave Stensaas

Police-Fire Pension Board

Current Members- Mike Archocosky (Chair), Terra Bahrman, Kenneth LaMarre

Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee

In memory of past Chair, Tara Gluski.

Current Members: Bob Chapman, Orville Dishno, Erik Johnson, Daniel LeBar, Amy Maus, John Stewart, Ron Sundell, Nina van den Ende, Wallace Pearson, Carole Touchinski

Staff: Andrew MacIver

Public Art Commission

Current Members: Amy Stephens, Jacqueline Wagner, Tracy Wascom, Lance Larson, Brianna Hobbins, Emily Tobin-LaVoy, Lauren Tilma, Tracy Wascom (Chair)

Staff: Tiina Morin

Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee

Current Members: Gerald Kujawa, Colleen Roberts, Orville Dishno, Barbara Owdziej (Chair), Alan Sherbinow

Staff: Jim Finkbeiner



Marquette
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THE CITY OF MARQUETTE
ANNUAL REPORT 2023

City Hall
300 W. Baraga Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855