



MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

1000 Commerce Drive
Marquette, Michigan 49855
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www.marquettetownship.org

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018 – 6 P.M.
MARQUETTE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER

NOTE: Pursuant to the Township Board adopted Code of Conduct, Planning Commission members are obligated to disclose any potential or actual conflict of interest with any item placed on this agenda.

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Agenda.
4. Minutes from Previous Meeting – August 29th & September 10th
5. Public Comment.
6. New Business.
 - a. Special Use Permit Public Hearing Request – Proposed Short-Term Rental Unit on a property located within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05). Parcel Tax ID# 52-08-202-018-00. Subject property is located in Section 2, T49N R26W. Property address: 309 Eagles Nest Road, Marquette, Michigan, 49855. Applicant: Christina Gervasi
 - b. Marquette County Planning Commission Request – Discussion
 - c. 2019 Master Plan Update: Chapter 7 – Goals & Objectives - Discussion
7. Unfinished Business.
 - a. September Master Plan Update Public Input Open House – Discussion
 - b. Proposed Zoning Text Amendment Regrading Political Signs – Discussion
8. Correspondence
9. Reports.
 - a. Fox Subaru Bufferyard – Update
 - b. MSU-Extension Planning & Zoning Training Recap
 - c. Food Trucks Operating in Marquette Township
10. Announcements.
11. Public Comment.
12. Additional Comments by Planning Commissioners.
13. Adjournment.

***Next Meeting – October 24, 2018**



**Marquette Township Planning Commission – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 29, 2018 – 7 p.m.
Marquette Township Community Center**

Chairperson Springer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Springer, Greg Place, Leanne Kachmarsky, Dave Wiegand

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Johnson

STAFF PRESENT: Jason McCarthy, Izaak Peterson

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Clark, Robin Roy, Jay Roy, Trustee Pete LaRue

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: *To approve the agenda, as presented.*

Wiegand, Moved

Kachmarsky, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: August 15, 2018

MOTION: *To approve the draft minutes, as presented.*

Kachmarsky, Moved

Place, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Site Plan Review #082918-1. Proposed 5,298 sq.ft. Northern Orthotics and Prosthetics Office Building, to be located at 1015 Commerce Drive, Applicant Northern Orthotics & Prosthetics.

Peterson provided background on the proposed Northern Orthotics and Prosthetics Development. Peterson indicated that because the proposed development has a land use intensity of four, a bufferyard A/B is required at the boundary of adjacent undeveloped property. He explained that the staff recommendation based on several conditions involving additional information that needs to be submitted and approved.

Jim Clark, Project Representative, provided additional information regarding the site and development. Clark indicated that the adjacent owners, Cornerstone Development, would be willing to enter into a contractual bufferyard reduction.

Wiegand stated that it would be appropriate to recommend a bufferyard area be reserved, pending the future development of adjacent undeveloped property. He stated that if the adjacent property has future development with the land use intensity of four, no bufferyard would be required.

Springer inquired if the owners of the proposed development would consider implementing pedestrian connection to nearby pathways.

Clark stated that he concurs with the sentiment of Springers inquiry; however, implementing a walking path is not feasible for the project.

Motion: *To approve the proposed Site Plan #082918-1 contingent upon the submission and approval of items 3d, 3e, 3f, 3h, 3i and 4 with amendment to item 3h as follows: in lieu of construction of a type A/B bufferyard, an area 15 feet wide and parallel to the entire western property line be reserved for future construction of a type A/B bufferyard until such time as the land use intensity of the adjacent property is established through development.*

Wiegand, Moved
Kachmarsky, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

Special Use Permit Public Hearing Request #091018-1. Proposed Short-Term Rental Unit on a property located within the Urban Residential (UR) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05). Parcel Tax ID# 52-08-360-143-50. Subject property is located in Section 16, T48N R25W. Property address: 2352/2362 Werner Street, Marquette, Michigan, 49855. Applicant: Matt Blondeau

McCarthy stated that due to a clerical error in the mailing of notices for Mr. Blondeau short-term rental Special Use Permit Public Hearing, some properties within 300 feet of his property were not notified. He explained that due to the error, staff recommends holding a new Public Hearing at 6 pm on September 10th to ensure all adjacent neighbors have the opportunity to speak on the proposal.

Motion: *To schedule Special Use Permit Public Hearing #091018-1 for a proposed Short-Term Rental, at the Planning Commission Meeting on September 10, 2018 at 6 pm.*

Kachmarsky, Moved
Place, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

Public Hearing Request #091018-2. Proposed Retail land use on a property located within the Development District (DD) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05). Parcel Tax ID# 52-08-020-028-00. Subject property is located in Section 20, T48N R25W. Property address: 875 Brookton Rd, Marquette, Michigan, 49855. Applicant: Gail Lessard

McCarthy stated that staff identified the relocation of Halloween Superstore during a routine windshield survey. McCarthy explained that he has informed the business owner that she has not acquired Zoning Approval. He informed the Planning Commission that because the business is located in the Development District, adjacent to a residential land use, a Public Hearing for a Retail Land Use is required.

Wiegand inquired what residential property is adjacent to Halloween Superstores location.

Peterson indicated that there is a single family residential house located east of Halloween Superstores proposed location.

Motion: *To schedule Public Hearing #091018-2 for the Planning Commission Meeting on September 10, 2018 at 6 pm.*

**Wiegand, Moved
Place, Supported**

Carried: Unanimously

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Master Plan Update: Chapter 6 – Public Input – Review/Discussion

McCarthy indicated that a Master Plan Public Input Open House is scheduled for September 26th from 6 pm to 8 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following meeting minutes were distributed for review:

- a. Approved Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2018
- b. Planning & Zoning Training – September 12, 2018
- c. Approved Road Committee Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2018
- d. US-41 Corridor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2018

REPORTS:

McCarthy reported that Clerk Ritari requested a zoning text amendment in the Sign Ordinance regarding political signs. He explained that currently, the sign ordinance has no time restriction on when political signs may be erected prior to an election.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pete LaRue, 2082 Huron Street, stated that the intersection of Commerce Drive and Brookton should have stop bar striping.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS PLANNING COMMISSIONERS WISH TO MAKE:

Kachmarsky inquired what Church is planning to locate within the Cornerstone Development.

Peterson responded that North Iron Church has purchased a piece of property within the Cornerstone Development.

Wiegand stated that when Marquette County reconfigured Commerce Drive stop bar striping was one of the punch list items that remained for the project.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

MOTION: To adjourn the Planning Commission meeting.

Place, Moved

Kachmarsky, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

Dave Wiegand – Planning Commission Secretary

**Marquette Township Planning Commission – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 10, 2018 – 6 p.m.
Marquette Township Community Center**

Planning Commission Secretary Wiegand called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Wiegand, Leanne Kachmarsky, Greg Place

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Springer, Jim Johnson

STAFF PRESENT: Jason McCarthy

OTHERS PRESENT: Matt Blondeau, Jim Shelby, Laurie Johnson, Ellen Sargent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: *To approve the agenda, as presented.*

Place, Moved

Kachmarsky, Supported

Carried: Unanimously

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jim Shelby, 14 Northwood Lane, thanked the Planning Commission for their work as volunteers on the Commission. He inquired why there were no notices sent out when there were changes to the Development District on August 9th. Shelby stated that he is concerned with the Fox Subaru Development occurring on Northwoods Lane.

McCarthy responded that there have been no zoning changes to the Development District in the area of Northwoods Road in recent years. He offered to arrange a meeting with Mr. Shelby to answer any questions or concerns with zoning.

NEW BUSINESS:

Special Use Permit Public Hearing #091018-1. Proposed Short-Term Rental Unit on a property located within the Urban Residential (UR) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05). Parcel Tax ID# 52-08-360-143-50. Subject property is located in Section 16, T48N R25W. Property address: 2352/2362 Werner Street, Marquette, Michigan, 49855. Applicant: Matt Blondeau

McCarthy provided background information on the proposed Short-Term Rental special use at 2352/2362 Werner Street. He stated that a Public Hearing for a previous application at the proposed location was held on August 29th. He explained that due to a clerical error, some neighboring properties were not noticed of the August 29th Public Hearing. McCarthy indicated that due the clerical error, it was necessary to hold a new Public Hearing.

Wiegand reiterated the requirements for short-term rentals. He stated that Short-Term Rentals must be rented for 90 days or less at a time, provide adequate off-street parking, obtain a Marquette Township Business License, and an adequate fire code inspection is required.

Wiegand opened Special Use Permit Public Hearing #091018-1.

Laurie Johnson, 2333 Werner Street, inquired what vetting process would occur for short-term tenants of the property. She questioned who would be responsible for personal property damage incurred by short-term tenants. Johnson inquired what recourse is available if the special land use results in a nuisance for neighboring properties.

Matt Blondeau, 156 West Park Street, provided information on the short-term rental screening process. Blondeau stated that he plans to visit the property frequently, to ensure no damage or nuisance behavior will occur.

Wiegand closed Special Use Permit Public Hearing #091018-1.

Kachmarsky stated that a large portion of short-term tenants traveling in the area are professionals working in the health care industry.

Place informed the Planning Commission of his experience vetting short-term tenants in adjacent municipalities, he indicated that the vetting process available on short-term rental websites is exceptional.

Wiegand stated that if the property became a nuisance, Marquette Township has the ability to revoke the Special Use Permit and Business License.

Motion: To approve Special Use Permit #081518-1, contingent upon satisfactory fire code inspection, and acquisition of a Marquette Township Business License.

***Kachmarsky, Moved
Place, Supported***

Carried: Unanimously

Public Hearing #091018-2. Proposed Retail land use on a property located within the Development District (DD) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05). Parcel Tax ID# 52-08-020-028-00. Subject property is located in Section 20, T48N R25W. Property address: 875 Brookton Rd, Marquette, Michigan, 49855. Applicant: Gail Lessard

McCarthy provided background on the proposed retail operation, Halloween Superstore, in the Development District. He explained that any retail land use proposed within the Development District requires a Public Hearing. He indicated that he received comment from the adjacent residential property, who did not indicate concern so long as the property doesn't generate a nuisance.

Kachmarsky inquired what the proposed hours of operation for the retail operation would be.

Gail Lessard, Owner of Halloween Superstore, stated the proposed hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm, Sunday 11am-5pm.

Wiegand opened Public Hearing #091018-2.

Ellen Sargent, 685 Erie Avenue, stated that she is the manager of the Westwood Mall. She commented that when Halloween Superstore was located in the Westwood Mall, it was a well-run store with no problems or complaint.

McCarthy stated that he received a phone call on August 30, 2018 at 2 pm, from Barb Patrick, 825 Brookton Road, who did not indicate concern with the proposed retail use so long as the property doesn't generate a nuisance.

Wiegand closed Public Hearing #091018-2.

Wiegand inquired if the adjacent residence was aware of the stores hours of operation.

McCarthy stated that he did inform Ms. Patrick of the proposed hours of operation.

Wiegand inquired what time length would be attached to the retail uses approval.

McCarthy recommended specifying who is gaining authorization for any retail land use at the proposed location. He indicated that the length of approval would be at the discretion of the Planning Commission.

Motion: To approve the proposed Retail Land Use at 875 Brookton Road, for Gail Lessard of Halloween Superstore for a duration of two years.

***Kachmarsky, Moved
Place, Supported***

Carried: Unanimously

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Jim Shelby, 14 Northwood Lane, inquired why the Halloween Superstore location required a Public Hearing if previous owners had retail establishment.

McCarthy responded that the retail land use does not carry with the property, rather the applicant.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS PLANNING COMMISSIONERS WISH TO MAKE: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM

MOTION: *To adjourn the Planning Commission meeting.*

***Kachmarsky, Moved
Place, Supported***

Carried: Unanimously

Dave Wiegand – Planning Commission Secretary

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STAFF REPORT

PLANNING COMMISSION – October 10, 2018

Agenda Item # 6a: Special Use Permit Public Hearing Request – Proposed Short-Term Rental Unit on a property located within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district, per the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance (Article 15, Section 15.05)

Applicant: Christina Gervasi
Parcel ID#: 52-08-202-018-00
Address: 309 Eagles Nest Road
Staff Contact: Jason McCarthy/Izaak Peterson

Background:

Staff has received an application for a special land use to conduct a short-term rental at the above location in the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district, per Article 15 – Principal Uses Permitted in Districts, Section 15.05 of the Marquette Township Zoning Ordinance.

Per the Marquette Township Ordinance:

ARTICLE 2 – DEFINITIONS:

Short-Term Rental – A residential dwelling, not owner-occupied, which is rented, all or in part, on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis, for ninety (90) days or less.

SECTION 16.13: SHORT-TERM RENTALS

1. In addition to complying with other relevant sections of this Ordinance, petitioners desiring to conduct a short-term rental unit (as defined in Article 2), the petitioner shall also provide the following information in order to be considered for a special use permit:
 - a. A fire-code review by the Marquette Township Fire/Rescue Department every 2 (two) years.
 - b. A Marquette Township Business License.
 - c. Proof of insurance policy that denotes the additional commercial use.



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- d. Off-street parking conforming to residential single-family dwelling units under Article 21.*

Review Recommendation

Staff recommends scheduling the public hearing for Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7 PM.



MARQUETTE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

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STAFF REPORT

Planning Commission – October 10, 2018

Agenda Item #6b: Marquette County Planning Commission – Discussion

Staff Contact: Jason McCarthy – Planner/Zoning Administrator

Background

Per the attached letter, the Marquette County Planning Commission requests the Marquette Township Planning Commission's participation in the County's Master Plan update process.

Please consider a future Planning Commission meeting prior to the end of the year to accommodate their request (November 14th or December 12th).

Staff Recommendation

Schedule the Marquette County Planning Commission for a future Planning Commission agenda prior to the end of 2018.

6b.



County of Marquette

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT/DEVELOPMENT DEPT.

PLANNING DIVISION

234 W BARAGA AVENUE • MARQUETTE, MI 49855

Phone 906.225.8198

Fax 906.225.8203

www.co.marquette.mi.us

**COPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION**

To: Local Planning Commissions
From: Marquette County Planning Division
Re: Request to be added to Planning Commission meeting agenda
Date: October 2, 2018

The Marquette County Planning Division has begun the process of rewriting a master plan for Marquette County. We have spent time developing strategies for community outreach. Some of those strategies include conducting a county-wide survey of residents, grouping areas of the county with similar characteristics together into regions, and visiting local units to discuss local priorities. Taking on this task in the largest county in Michigan with varying geography and economic landscapes will be a challenge. We look forward to that challenge and hearing from you throughout the process.

Community involvement is essential for a successful plan. One way we would like to gather input is to hold a discussion with municipal planning commissions about issues and opportunities addressed in their own master plans. As such, we are requesting to be added to the agenda of an upcoming meeting of your planning commission.

In conjunction with gathering input from local planning commissions, we would like to "spread the word" about the community survey available at www.mqtcoflan.org. Later in the planning process survey data results and input from meetings with local commissions will be presented at region meetings.

66.



County of Marquette

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT/DEVELOPMENT DEPT.

PLANNING DIVISION

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Phone 906.225.8198
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www.co.marquette.mi.us

MEMO

TO: Local Units of Government, Tribal Governments, Public Utility Companies, Railroad Companies

FROM: Marquette County Planning Commission

RE: Notice to prepare a Master Plan

DATE: September 25, 2018

RECEIVED

SEP 27 2018

Marquette Township

Marquette County is overhauling its Master Plan and requests your participation in the planning process.

In accordance with MCL 125.3839 of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Public Act 33 of 2008, as amended, the intent of this correspondence is to notify municipalities within and contiguous to Marquette County, tribal governments, public utility and railroad companies, the regional planning commission, and any other related entity that has requested notice of our "Intent to Plan" that Marquette County welcomes your cooperation and comments.

Please visit www.mqtcoplan.org to find information about the master planning process as well as a link to a community survey.

It is the intent of Marquette County to submit future correspondence by electronic mail. If you object to electronic correspondence, please send notification to the address below.

County of Marquette, Resource Management
Attn: Planning Staff
234 W. Baraga Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855



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STAFF REPORT

PLANNING COMMISSION – October 10, 2018

Agenda Item #6c: 2019 Master Plan Update *Chapter 7 – Goals & Objectives* – Discussion

Proposal: Discuss the attached documents to determine what amendments need to be made to the chapter.

Staff Report Contact: Jason McCarthy – Planner/Zoning Administrator

Background

This portion of the Marquette Township Plan is intended to outline a course for action in achieving Township goals. Together, the community goals and objectives are like a community's "To Do" list that lets prospective investors and residents know what is wanted, needed, and supported. Goal statements reflect the needs, values, and desires of the community, and cover a wide range of topics. They are like answering the question, "What do you want out of life?" They represent a desired, generalized future condition, or an end to which efforts are directed.

Objectives are statements of a position or course of action which provide a means of obtaining a stated goal. Objectives are more specific and measurable tasks that may be long-term, mid-term, or short term but need to be done to accomplish goals.

Review Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission review and discuss this chapter to determine if any updates are needed, and plan for the upcoming public participation workshop.

CHAPTER SEVEN | GOALS & OBJECTIVES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

This portion of the Marquette Township Plan is intended to outline a course for action in achieving Township goals. Together, the community goals and objectives are like a community's "To Do" list that lets prospective investors and residents know what is wanted, needed, and supported. Goal statements reflect the needs, values, and desires of the community, and cover a wide range of topics. They are like answering the question, "What do you want out of life?" They represent a desired, generalized future condition, or an end to which efforts are directed.

Objectives are statements of a position or course of action which provide a means of obtaining a stated goal. Objectives are more specific and measurable tasks that may be long-term, mid-term, or short term but need to be done to accomplish goals.

7.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal #1: Smart Growth/Land Use

Ensure that, where possible, new development follows the [Smart Growth](#) principles presented in this plan, such as prioritizing compact development and channeling new development to make the best use of existing infrastructure. This will enhance efficiency in public service provision and infrastructure maintenance, and help preserve natural resource lands.

- **Objective 1.1:**
Modify zoning standards and work with developers to help create attractive mixed-use environments where people can more easily work, shop, and enjoy recreation close to where they live. This will reduce vehicular trips, increase interaction, and encourage the use of non-motorized transportation (and healthier lifestyles).
- **Objective 1.2:**
Prioritize the rehabilitation or reuse of vacant and underutilized properties (including brownfields) or the conversion of single-use into mixed-use developments as a preferred strategy over new development.
- **Objective 1.3:**
Create walkable communities to enhance mobility, strengthen the economy, facilitate transportation alternatives, and improve social and recreational interaction.
- **Objective 1.4:**
Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective while balancing community goals. Utilize GIS to update and maintain current land use and other pertinent data and consider making this data available to the public.



- **Objective 1.5:**
Discourage development in unsuitable areas, such as those containing steep slopes, flood plains, caving areas, high water tables, wetlands or shallow soils or areas adjacent to airports or other activities detrimental to human health, safety and welfare.
- **Objective 1.6:**
Locate new development in or near existing developed areas to promote an efficient and compact pattern of development, reduce the negative effects of sprawl, and reduce infrastructure and service costs.
- **Objective 1.7:**
Encourage and support compact development and compact building design for efficient public service provision, efficient use of land resources, facilitation of a walkable/bikeable community, improved feasibility for public transit, and a more vibrant business environment.
- **Objective 1.8**
Strengthen regulations, enforcement tools, and administrative structure to support environmental protection standards that preserve sensitive environmental areas that are incompatible with development.
- **Objective 1.9**
Amend the zoning ordinance to include resource protection provisions or overlay zones to comprehensively address sensitive environmental areas that cross parcel boundaries such as bluffs, erosion zones, floodplains, caving areas, shorelines, wetlands, swamps, marshes, wellhead protection areas, and aquifer recharge sites.
- **Objective 1.10**
Enact regulations to preserve and enhance riparian buffers along the rivers and other water bodies in the Township to protect water quality and aquatic and wildlife habitat. This includes adopting land use controls (such as zoning setback distances from watercourses) that are established and uniformly applied.
- **Objective 1.11**
Incorporate good stormwater management techniques into the zoning ordinance to protect water quality, including adjustments to parking standards, landscaping standards, and development standards. Utilize natural filtration and detention systems whenever possible.
- **Objective 1.12**
Preserve large tracts of contiguous forest lands for conservation, recreation, wildlife habitat, and timber management activities.
- **Objective 1.13**
Increase public awareness of the Township planning and zoning function.
- **Objective 1.14**
Communicate with neighboring township and city governments on land use issues and distribute this Master Plan to neighboring jurisdictions.



- **Objective 1.15**
Continue long range planning to manage growth and protect the natural environment.
- **Objective 1.16**
Maintain and update the Zoning Ordinance provisions consistent with this Master Plan.
- **Objective 1.17**
Support uniform zoning enforcement.
- **Objective 1.18**
Make zoning decisions consistent with the Future Land Use Recommendations/Map of this Master Plan.
- **Objective 1.19**
Consider and evaluate the productive capacity of land before forest lands are changed to another use.
- **Objective 1.20**
Encourage forestation or reforestation where soils are suitable for such purposes. Forested lands are important for wildlife habitat, wind protection, soil stability, noise buffer, recreational use, aesthetics and lumber resources. The Township should explore methods of promoting sound forestry management practices through education, regulatory or other methods.
- **Objective 1.21**
Preserve scenic views and open space, especially along major roadways and shorelines. Discourage outdoor advertising signs except in commercial and industrial areas.
- **Objective 1.22**
Utilize the recommendations of the Watershed Analysis for Marquette Township regarding storm water management when considering development proposals.
- **Objective 1.23**
Support strategies and recommendations of the Whetstone Brook and Orianna Creek Watershed Management Plan when considering development proposals in these streams' watersheds.
- **Objective 1.24**
Cooperate with Health Department in conducting septic system public educational programs regarding maintenance and management of their systems.
- **Objective 1.25**
Minimize soil erosion by the effective enforcement of Public Act 451 or 1994 (Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act), Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.



Goal #2: Transportation Enhancement

A multi-modal, balanced transportation system, accommodating travel patterns of all users safely and efficiently throughout the Township, at minimal environmental and fiscal cost.

- **Objective 2.1**
Implement the recommendations of the Road Master Plan for the Charter Township of Marquette.
- **Objective 2.2**
Participate in a regional or county-wide wayfinding sign project.
- **Objective 2.3**
Work with the Road Committee and the Recreation Committee to identify and map the Township motorized and non-motorized transportation plans. Use these plans to update the road facility plan and the recreation plan.
- **Objective 2.4**
Work with the MDOT and the Marquette County Road Commission to implement the proposed improvements and rationale section of the *US-41/M-28 Comprehensive Corridor and Access Management Plan* pertaining to Marquette Township regarding major intersection improvements, road improvements, access management and coordinated capital improvements planning.
- **Objective 2.5**
Participate in aesthetic enhancement projects for the highway corridors in partnership with MDOT scheduled improvements.
- **Objective 2.6**
Adopt a "Fix it First" philosophy for the road system. Continue to support/work with the Marquette County Road Commission to maintain and upgrade the Township road network.
- **Objective 2.7**
Assist the Marquette County Road Commission in performing traffic counts on a five-year cycle for the major street system and 10-year cycles for local roads.
- **Objective 2.8**
Prepare a comprehensive bicycle/pedestrian plan to prioritize needs and recommend improvements and to move toward the achievement of a regional network.
- **Objective 2.9**
Implement Complete Streets principles by collaborating with MDOT, the Marquette County Road Commission, and MDNR in supporting increased opportunities for multi-modal transportation systems including carpool lots, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, heritage routes, long-distance bicycle trails, and snowmobile trails. More specifically, the Township should continue working with these agencies to construct a grade separated crossing of US-41.



- **Objective 2.10**
Incorporate complete, integrated, clearly-marked, non-motorized transportation networks as a priority project in Capital Improvement Plans.
- **Objective 2.11**
Create and maintain priority pedestrian corridors to important destinations as outlined in this plan. These pedestrian systems will be designed to be complementary to planned or existing regional trail systems, and to accommodate universally accessible design principles whenever possible. Update zoning regulations to require sidewalks (where feasible) in new developments that connect to identified pedestrian destinations.
- **Objective 2.12**
Seek supplemental funding for planned improvements to major and minor roads by the Marquette County Road Commission and MDOT. Assure that design and schedule of projects are compatible with the Master Plan.
- **Objective 2.13**
Implement/enforce the Township's Sign Ordinance.

Goal #3: Public Services, Facilities and Infrastructure

Provide appropriate public facilities and services to support the residential, commercial and recreational activities of residents, business owners and visitors.

- **Objective 3.1**
Create plans to conserve energy and increase efficiency in all public facilities and to adopt renewable energy technology when possible, thereby creating a model for private companies and residents to follow.
- **Objective 3.2**
When siting new public facilities ensure the location is easily accessible for motorists, bicyclists, public transportation users and pedestrians.
- **Objective 3.3:**
Implement the recommendations of the *Water System Study* and the *Sanitary Collection System Study* conducted for the City of Marquette and Marquette Township.
- **Objective 3.4:**
Maintain local control through continued use, maintenance and ownership interest of existing water and wastewater treatment systems.
- **Objective 3.5:**
Support the development and maintenance of water and sewer service boundaries as identified by the Township's Public Works Department.



- **Objective 3.6:**
Support fair and equitable rates for joint use of water and sewer facilities between the City and Township.
- **Objective 3.7:**
Encourage school boards to expand and/or locate new facilities according to the Township's land use policies and zoning regulations.
- **Objective 3.8:**
Encourage joint use of school facilities by the school district, City, Township and County.
- **Objective 3.9:**
Continue to provide Township-wide curbside solid waste collection and recycling services.
- **Objective 3.10:**
Continue to support the operation and enhancement of the Marquette Township Fire and Rescue Department.
- **Objective 3.11:**
Continue cooperation with the Marquette County Sheriff's Department and Michigan State Police in the provision of law enforcement.
- **Objective 3.12:**
Coordinate Township services with providers of semi-public services to compliment rather than duplicate their efforts.
- **Objective 3.13:**
Encourage all governmental units to cooperate on facilities and services whenever practical across Township/City/County lines.
- **Objective 3.14:**
Ensure adequate parking facilities for commercial and public attraction areas for both motorists and bicyclists through site plan review and zoning regulations.
- **Objective 3.15:**
Support and encourage private civic groups which provide educational and social programs of importance to local residents.
- **Objective 3.16:**
Support public transportation services to assist those with limited mobility and to conserve energy.

Goal #4: Recreation

Preserve and enhance public access and enjoyment of unique natural amenities and create a community that supports year-round active living and recreation environments.

- **Objective 4.1**
Make recreational opportunities more accessible to all Township residents.



- **Objective 4.2**
Continue to update the Township's Recreation Plan every five years and submit to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval. Encourage citizen volunteer services and support.
- **Objective 4.3**
Implement the goals and action plan of the 5-year Recreation Plan.
- **Objective 4.4**
Identify and apply for appropriate grant funding for recreation projects as identified in the 5-year Recreation Plan.
- **Objective 4.5**
Review all existing and proposed recreational sites and facilities for barrier-free accessibility which conforms to the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- **Objective 4.6**
Enhance development of facilities at existing park sites to meet community recreational needs.
- **Objective 4.7**
Develop active and passive recreational opportunities for all age groups and special populations.
- **Objective 4.8**
Promote recreation and other uses that preserve natural features in forested land.
- **Objective 4.9**
Support the development/expansion of multi-use trails in accordance with the non-motorized transportation plan and recreation plan.
- **Objective 4.10**
Conduct an assessment of the Township's Lake Superior property to determine appropriate recreational development.
- **Objective 4.11**
Establish a working relationship with regional agencies in the provision of recreational opportunities. Some of these entities include, City of Marquette, Marquette County, Marquette Area Public Schools, Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority, Noquemanon Trail Network, North Country Trail Hikers and Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- **Objective 4.12**
Encourage the Township Board to establish an annual fund for the purpose of acquiring natural, cultural and/or scenic properties as they become available so as to preserve these resources in perpetuity.



Goal #5: Economic Development

Improve the economic conditions in Marquette Township by promoting the community as a great place to work, live, visit and recreate.

- **Objective 5.1:**
Retain and encourage expansion of existing businesses and industries and attract new economic activities, including small-scale light industries to provide desired levels of employment for the Township.
- **Objective 5.2:**
Encourage infrastructures and service networks to support businesses, employees and their families.
- **Objective 5.3:**
Acknowledge and promote Marquette Township as a regional shopping center.
- **Objective 5.4:**
Maintain the existing urban core area as the major activity center within the Township and encourage its development, thereby limiting sprawl.
- **Objective 5.5:**
Seek grants through federal, state and other funding sources for infrastructure improvements and economic development projects.
- **Objective 5.6:**
Promote the Township's environmental resources, natural features, cultural and historic sites, events and festivals as a way to foster the tourism industry.
- **Objective 5.7:**
Provide, through zoning, adequate and appropriate spaces for the establishment of commercial and industrial enterprises.
- **Objective 5.8:**
Prevent or minimize the blighting influence of commercial or industrial activities on adjacent land uses.
- **Objective 5.9:**
Continue to promote development of the office park in Marquette Township.
- **Objective 5.10:**
Encourage economic development in areas that are compatible with and accessible to existing urban services and transportation.



- **Objective 5.11:**
Encourage mixed-use developments in conjunction with public improvements.
- **Objective 5.12:**
Continue to seek improvement of the State highway network to accommodate projected increases in traffic.
- **Objective 5.13:**
Limit the spacing of access drives from commercial properties to the roadway in order to protect the major thoroughfares from experiencing traffic problems.
- **Objective 5.14:**
Minimize conflicts between adjacent incompatible land uses.

Goal #6: Housing

Maintain and preserve the quality of existing residential areas and encourage the provision of an adequate supply of housing for all residents.

- **Objective 6.1**
Maintain a friendly and safe living atmosphere and protect the rural character of areas outside the urban core.
- **Objective 6.2**
Maintain all housing in the Township in a decent, safe and sanitary condition through utilization of building/maintenance codes.
- **Objective 6.3**
Utilize housing improvement and rehabilitation programs to eliminate unsound housing and to improve and conserve sound but aging housing.
- **Objective 6.4**
Address the special need of the disabled or elderly population during community development.
- **Objective 6.5**
Match development densities to available roads and services and to the environmental characteristics of the site.
- **Objective 6.6**
Encourage the development of "open space" or clustered residential developments, which allows for a concentration of smaller lots, while preserving common areas for use by all residents in the development.



- **Objective 6.7**
Support uniform enforcement of the *Property Maintenance Code of the Charter Township of Marquette*.
- **Objective 6.8:**
Ensure safe and quality residential neighborhoods while protecting the rural character of the Township.
- **Objective 6.9:**
Encourage housing opportunities for all income and age groups.
- **Objective 6.10:**
Encourage a continued high rate of single-family owner occupancy to maintain housing quality, while meeting local needs for rental units.
- **Objective 6.11:**
Promote an adequate quantity of new housing to accommodate anticipated population growth.
- **Objective 6.12:**
Address the special need of the disabled or elderly population during community development.
- **Objective 6.13:**
Match development densities to available roads and services and to the environmental characteristics of the site.

Goal #7: Government

Improve the responsiveness to citizens and staff needs and timeliness of local government decision-making, consistent with fiscal responsibility and transparency.

- **Objective 7.1**
Survey all Township facilities to determine present and future needs.
- **Objective 7.2**
Conduct required statutory meetings, committee meetings, departmental meetings, special meetings and public hearings in a professional manner.
- **Objective 7.3**
Increase citizen involvement in decision-making through participation and effective communication.



- **Objective 7.4**
Provide a Township newsletter and other forms of communication on a regular basis.
- **Objective 7.5**
Review the Community Master Plan on a 5-year cycle and update where appropriate.
- **Objective 7.6**
Continue to support a countywide central dispatch and 9-1-1 services.



Song Bird Trail | Marquette Township



Song Bird Trail | Marquette Township





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STAFF REPORT

Planning Commission – October 10, 2018

**Agenda Item #7b: Proposed Zoning Text Amendment
Regarding Political Sign – Discussion**

Staff Contact: Jason McCarthy – Planner/Zoning Administrator

Background

Clerk Ritari has requested an amendment to the Marquette Township Sign Ordinance regarding political signs. The amendment would prohibit political signs from being erected prior to forty-five (45) ahead of the election to which the sign(s) pertains.

Please consider the attached, draft amendment. If agreeable, the Planning Commission could schedule a Public hearing prior to the end of the year to accommodate the request (November 14th or December 12th).

Also attached is the Marquette County Road Commission Policy on Political/Real Estate/Yard Signs in the Right of Way, for your information.

Staff Recommendation

Consider the attached, draft zoning text amendment regarding political signs prior to scheduling a public hearing.

ARTICLE 22 – SIGNS

10. Political Signs.

- a) Temporary signs advertising political parties or candidates for elections may be erected or displayed without permit or fee provided that:
 - 1.) The size of the sign shall not exceed four (4) square feet.
 - 2.) The sign(s) shall not be erected more than forty-five (45) days prior to the election to which they pertain.
 - 3.) The sign(s) shall be removed not later than ten (10) days after the election to which they pertain.

11. Joint Signs.

- a) The Planning Commission shall review permit applications for a Joint Sign or Area Identification Sign, which the Planning Commission may approve pursuant to review criteria and this Subparagraph, and thereafter the Zoning Administrator may issue a permit for said sign.
- b) Joint Signs and Area Identification Signs shall comply with both general and district-specific sign requirements for construction, setbacks, and height. Approval of the Joint Sign area and design shall be based on the following criteria:
 - 1.) The number and type of parcels, organizations, and structures served by the sign;
 - 2.) Consistency with other provisions and conditions of any Site Plan Approval, Conditional Use Permit or related permit;
 - 3.) Compatibility with adjacent development, including but not limited to the size and design of Freestanding Signs in the vicinity;
 - 4.) Consistency with the intent of the sign provisions of this Ordinance, including district-specific sign regulations, and;
 - 5.) Compliance with other applicable laws.
- c) After the initial approval of a Joint Sign structure, each subsequent Joint Sign Subunit to be included in the Joint Sign shall obtain a sign permit directly from the Zoning Administrator. After initial construction of the Joint Sign structure and Joint Sign Subunits, any alterations to the structure of said signs shall require a sign permit from the Zoning Administrator.
- d) Easements. A sign easement shall be required for all Joint Signs approved by Planning Commission. The easement shall reflect the right of all affected parcels to access and maintain the signage.