

CITY OF MACKINAC ISLAND

SPECIAL ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL & STATE PARK COMMISSION MINUTES

Friday, September 26, 2025 at 11:00 AM

Sugar Loaf Room - Conference Center, Mission Point Resort - 6633 Main St.
Mackinac Island, MI 49757

I. Call to Order

Mayor Doud called the meeting together at 11:00 am

II. Roll Call

City of Mackinac Island:

- Present

- Margaret Doud
- Trista France
- Danielle Leach
- Michael Ruddle
- David Lipovsky
- Erin Evashevski
- Richard Chambers
- Tom Corrigan
- Anneke Myers
- Lindsey White

- Absent

- Steven Moskwa
- Jason St. Onge

Mackinac Island State Park Commission:

- Present

- Daniel Loepp
- Richard Manoogian
- Phillip Pierce
- Elizabeth Driscoll Boyd
- Marlee Brown
- Lori Frohoff
- Hank Meijer
- Nathan Gambill
- Steve Brisson
- Kathy Cryderman
- Dominick Miller
- Craig Wilson

- Absent

- None.

VII. New Business

Director's Report – Steven Brisson, Mackinac State Historic Parks

- Numbers for the Park have been a down this year (as we have been hearing from many other businesses this summer)
- Construction projects
 - Moving the back entrance down to the historic entrance at the north sally port
 - This will be completed by spring for the 2026 season
 - Visitor Center
 - This fall will begin gutting the first floor of including the restrooms
 - This building was last update in the 1980s
 - Replacement of the retaining wall on the East Bluff below Keogh's
 - Project will begin in late October / early November
 - Road will be completely shut down - all cottagers have been notified with alternate routes to access their homes
 - Working with the Department of Public Works since there is a watermain that runs the length of the project
 - Tree clearing will take place at the airport to prepare for the installation of a new hanger
 - Will provide storage and repair space
- Chairman Loepp noted the potential governmental shutdown – if this does happen, the only thing the State Park will be able to operate / have open will be the airport

Wastewater Treatment Plant project update – Department of Public Works

- Allen Burt, Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW), was unable to attend the meeting. Mayor's Assistant Trista France read an update provided by Director Burt
 - Currently about four (4) to six (6) months behind schedule on the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) expansion project
 - Original completion date was Fall 2025, now looking at April 2026
 - Once work has been complete, both the new and old plant will run simultaneously for about one (1) month before shutting down the old plant completely
 - Some of the old plant will be merged in to the new plant, with the rest being demolished
 - Currently staying on budget

Discussion regarding Electric Bicycles

- Attorney Evashevski
 - Working on updating the City's Electric Bike Ordinance
 - Work on a better practice procedure with the ferry companies to help control what is coming to the Island
 - Will be looking in to an application process for people who are looking to bring an electric bike on the boat – this will be handled through the Police Department
 - Looking to update the licensing process on-island to include the requirement of a doctor's note

Ferry Boat Update:

- Attorney Evashevski informed the Commission of the following:
 - The City is currently in ongoing litigation with Hoffman since their purchase of Mackinac Island Ferry Company
 - On March 25, 2025, Shepler's Ferry & Arnold Transit filed against the City of Mackinac Island under Admiralty Law
 - Stating the City of Mackinac Island does not have the authority to determine if there is no competition between boat lines or to regulate fares, fees, and schedules (as stated in the Franchise Agreement)
 - The City filed a counter suit for breach of contract and anti-trust issues
 - Both boat lines began charging unapproved parking rates and increased ticket prices in May 2025 (these were previously denied by the City in December 2024)
 - Mayor Doud reminded the Commission that over 80% of Mackinac Island is designated State Park land, and that these increased boat prices will affect numbers across the board

Storm Cleanup:

- City completed their clean up by early May
- State Park is still in the process of completing their cleanup
- City is in the final stages of submitting their reimbursement to FEMA

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion made by Myers, seconded by Corrigan, at 11:45 am.

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

Margaret Doud, Mayor

Danielle Leach, City Clerk