

CITY OF MACKINAC ISLAND
CITY COUNCIL & M.I. TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY JOINT
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 1:00 PM

City Hall – Council Chambers, 7358 Market St., Mackinac Island, Michigan

I. Call to Order

Mayor Doud called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

II. Roll Call

PRESENT

- Richard Chambers
- Tom Corrigan
- Steven Moskwa
- Anneke Myers
- Alan Sehoyan
- Jason St. Onge
- Erin Evashevski, Attorney

MITA

- Sam Barnwell
- Brian Bailey
- Andy McGreevy
- Brad Chambers
- Steven Moskwa
- John Drury, Attorney

VII. New Business

- Introductions:
 - o Mark Koener, Attorney
 - o John Drury, Consultant (previously worked for Michigan Department of Transportation)
 - Assisted in getting State MDOT financial approval to use Grant money to acquire conceptual winter boat designs from two national boat Design firms with expertise in Winter Ferry boat operations
- Financials
 - o Use of Capital Grants
 - Capital Grants – MDOT
 - \$100,000 for a survey
 - Electrical upgrades on the Coal Dock
 - Some set aside for winter boat design (have some bids in currently)
 - Other money available, but all dependent on if they haul passengers in to the Coal Dock - currently working on a feasibility study for passenger service
 - o Working on community outreach now
 - o Feasibility study should be done by fall 2025
 - Cost has been grant funded
 - o Looking at engineering of the dock and what it will cost to fix
 - o Cost of study is covered via grant.
 - o Have used roughly \$2 million in grants for completed projects at the Coal Dock
- Ongoing projects:
 - o Ice House/Hardware rehab
 - Adding on to the Hardware Store and fixing up the old ice house for storage
 - Will eventually be using the old ice house area for UPS - have built a ramp so that a forklift can run pallets in and out
 - o Electrical upgrade
 - \$500,000 project with J. Ranck Electric out of Sault Ste. Marie, MI
 - Started last fall - still have quite a bit to do. Hoping to have completed by June 2025
 - Plan to install generator and manual transfer switch - each building will have its own - Cost was grant funded
 - Can maintain control of pumping gas and moving ramps during power outages
 - o Ice breaking ferry conceptual design
 - In the process of picking a bidder for the conceptual design – narrowed down to Seacraft and Elliot Bay
 - Will provide the length of the boat, what kind of ice it can break, passenger capacity, freight capacity, what the boat will look like
 - o Paid for by MDOT
 - o Timeline for design - should have by January 1, 2026
 - With design comes the estimate to build the boat
 - Criteria - committee will be put together to help guide the design to what they are looking for (bathrooms, heated area, separate freight area)
 - Boat will be owned by the Transportation Authority, but will be leased out to a provider for service

- Dock lateral supports
 - These need work to keep the dock from moving side to side
 - Still working on the design phase and need to do some boring to determine how many are needed and where the placements will be
- Fuel storage tank upgrade
 - The Hardware Store currently has a truck come over to fill up the wagon tanks, which is then pumped in to the main tank - would like to upgrade so that the truck and pump directly in to the main tank
- Waiting room / restrooms
 - Will be located in the old Hardware Store that was torn down
 - Do not currently have plans for this - need to get complete conception for the docks first
- Use of the Coal Dock for winter boat service
 - Important for funding
 - Would need to add another ramp to be used only for passenger service
 - Keeps the passengers out of the freight operation area
 - Plan is to have passengers and luggage disembark in to the warehouse
- Coal Dock lease extension – 40 years
 - MDOT would like to see a 40-year lease in place (standard)
 - If they will be investing money in these types or projects, they like to see that the party has a longer interest than the currently proposed five (5) years
- Goals for the Transportation Authority and City
 - To have a boat capable of winter service
 - Obtaining a dock in St. Ignace
 - The more that the Transportation Authority can provide for passenger service at the Coal Dock, the better for funding

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Myers, seconded by St. Onge, to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 pm.

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

Margaret Doud, Mayor

Danielle Leach, City Clerk