



## City of Marquette Citizens Academy Sample Schedule

Welcome to the City of Marquette's Citizens Academy! This comprehensive program is designed to give residents an in-depth understanding of how our local government operates and the vital services it provides. Over the course of ten weeks, participants will have the unique opportunity to engage directly with City leaders and department heads, gaining valuable insights into the inner workings of various City departments.

Each session will focus on a different aspect of municipal governance, from the roles of the Mayor and City Manager to the intricacies of public safety, urban planning, and financial management. Through a combination of presentations, discussions, and hands-on experiences, you will learn how the City plans for the future, maintains public services, and ensures the well-being of our community.

Whether you are a long-time resident or new to the area, the Citizens Academy offers a rare chance to explore the critical functions that keep our City running smoothly. We invite you to actively participate, ask questions, and connect with the officials and staff who serve our community.

The program will culminate with a City Commission meeting and a special graduation ceremony, celebrating your commitment to civic engagement and your new understanding of local government.

### **Legislative, Administrative, and Legal Leadership (City Hall)**

*Mayor Jessica Hanley, City Manager Karen Kovacs, City Attorney Suzanne Larsen*

*Discuss the Manager-Council (Commission) form of local government:*

- Who is responsible for policy and administration?
- Responsibilities of a City Manager vs. a Mayor in this type of government.
- What is the role of legal counsel in the City?

### **Police Department (City Hall)**

*Chief Ryan Grim*

*Learn about the various aspects of the Police Department, including:*

- Different roles and responsibilities within the Police Department
- Community Policing.
- Broader roles of public safety.

### **Fire Department (Fire Station 1)**

*Fire Chief Ian Davis*

*Learn about the various aspects of the fire department, including:*

- Enforcement of fire codes and medical support.
- Dispatch.
- Certification and training

### **Elections (City Hall)**

*City Clerk Kyle Whitney*

*Gain an understanding of the City's role in elections, including:*

- Compliance with ever-changing state laws.



- The election process from beginning to end.
- A deep dive into the Freedom of Information Act.

### **Library (Peter White Public Library)**

*Library Director Andrea Ingmire*

*Learn about the library's operations and role in the community:*

- Library Board of Trustees
- Public services offered
- Day to day operations and management

### **Planning and Community Development (City Hall)**

*Community Development Director Dennis Stachewicz*

*Explore the future of the City by examining:*

- The Master Plan and strategic plans.
- How the City plans for the future and creates new guiding documents every 5-10 years.
- The impact of the Master Plan and Community Development on active changes in the City

### **Public Works and Motor Pool (Municipal Service Center)**

*Public Works Director Scott Cambensy and Facilities Director Eric Stemen*

*Discover what keeps the City moving and working by:*

- Viewing our vehicle fleet.
- Understanding the adoption of electric vehicles.
- Engaging in discussions about streets, sewers, snow plowing, and more.

### **Parks and Recreation, Senior Center, Arts and Culture (City Hall)**

*Community Services Director Jon Swenson*

*Learn about the different opportunities the City of Marquette offers, including:*

- Services provided directly to citizens and through partnerships.
- How these services are organized and budgeted.
- Managing the diverse interests of the community.

### **Water and Wastewater (Wastewater Treatment Plant)**

*Director of Utilities Mark O'Neill*

*Learn about water and wastewater management, including:*

- How water gets filtered and wastewater gets treated.
- Important treatment processes governed by State water quality standards

### **Finance and Assessing (City Hall)**

*Chief Financial Officer Mary Schlicht*

*Discuss the City's financial management, focusing on:*

- The budget as the most important policy document.
- The creation and management of the governing document.

The ins and outs of assessing, property taxes, and other key concepts

### **City Commission Meeting/Graduation**