



Officer Travis Messenger is the newest addition to the Mackinac Island Police Department.

Travis Messenger Joins Ranks of Island Police

New Officer Takes Seasonal Island Post

Travis Messenger has been hired by the Mackinac Island Police Department as a seasonal police officer.

He has visited Mackinac Island as a child, but had not been back since he was 10 years old. Now 21, he says, "I forgot how nice it was. You can't beat the scenery."

He added, "I love seeing the bridge lit up at night. It's probably the coolest thing ever."

Mr. Messenger enjoys working out and spending time with friends when not on the job.

After his service on Mackinac Island, he hopes to find work with a police department in lower Michigan and, one day, to work on a S.W.A.T. team or in hostage negotiations.

He was born in Texas and reared in Livonia and is a graduate of Livonia Franklin High

School.

He studied computer networking at Baker College in Owosso, then transferred to Schoolcraft College in Livonia, where he received an associate's degree in criminal justice.

His father, who was a Wayne County deputy sheriff, inspired him to enter the law enforcement profession.

Mackinac Island Yacht Club Bridge Results

In Mackinac Island Yacht Club Bridge League games for the week ending Wednesday, August 17, Audrey Gallery placed first, Lois Largo placed second, and Howard Burdett placed third.

City To Perform Inventory of Vehicles

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I consider it to be an important matter," said Mr. Evashevski. "It's not a big problem right now, but if we turn a blind eye to it, it will become a big problem."

During their most recent meeting Wednesday, August 10, committee members had inventories of motor vehicles at Grand Hotel and Mission Point to look at and compare. Between the two businesses, there are 21 vehicles.

Defining permissible categories for them all could be difficult.

"We need objective standards; we don't have them," said Mr. Evashevski. "The first thing is, just because vehicles are here now doesn't mean they'll be permitted again. The alternative is very concerning. If we make the assumption that what is here now must be permitted, we have a problem. We might be able to come up with categories to approve everything here, but we can't make that assumption."

Discussion also centered around snow removal vehicles. The vehicles are necessary in the winter, and committee members want to encourage the use of them, however, there is no category for them. City engineer Dennis Dombroski suggested permitting them only in the season that they are being used. City Alderman Mike Hart, however, pointed out that this may not be possible for some owners.

"We need to allow for discreet storage," he suggested. "If someone has a snow removal piece of equipment that is not practical to move on and off the Island, that needs to be provided for as well."

Mr. Dombroski also said the city has no good program for enforcing permits. Though temporary motor vehicle permits are required to be with the vehicle when it is in use, there is no provision for annual permits to be displayed.

"Anything that gets annual permits should need a sticker," said Mr. Dombroski. "Anything that's supposed to be here needs a sticker. If it doesn't, it falls in the category of temporary, and that way the police department has something to go by. We put stickers on snowmobiles and bikes, why not these?"

Committee members also agreed that there needs to be a way to enforce the permits. A problem arose regarding golf carts at Mission Point. The city granted the resort permits to shuttle handicapped people, but recognized that this could pose a problem.

"That really opens up the door if you allow people to use golf carts for something other than golf," said Mr. Evashevski. "That's just motorized transportation."

Committee members agreed that in the months ahead, they will lay out new categories and revise existing categories. Mayor Doud asked that all committee members consider what should be criteria for granting a motor vehicle permit, and also to bring lists of vehicles currently on the island.

The next meeting of the Street Committee will be Thursday, September 1.

"I'm convinced we can deal with this, and we have to deal with it," said Mr. Evashevski. "We have to think about how we want to draw distinctions for when a vehicle is necessary – not reasonable, but necessary. It's going to take some thought."

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