

**City of Marine City
City Commission
February 5, 2015**

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Donald G. Tillery was sworn into office by City Clerk, Kristen Baxter

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, February 5, 2015, in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, and was called to order by Mayor Skotarczyk at 7:00 pm.

After a prayer offered by Rev. Slaton, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Skotarczyk.

Present: Mayor Skotarczyk; Commissioners Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, and Turner; Acting City Manager Tillery; and, City Clerk Baxter.

Absent: None

Communications

The following communication was received:

- Certificates of Achievement for Storm Water Management from DEQ for Michael Itrich and Elizabeth McDonald

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the communication and place it on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

John Sapienza, 426 Broadway, welcomed Donald Tillery as Acting City Manager and said he hoped he would make changes on how things are done at the Marine City Police Department. Mr. Sapienza made suggestions on fee schedule changes for several civil and misdemeanor charges, including driving under the influence of alcohol.

Rebecca Lepley, 539 N. William Street, in response to Mr. Sapienza's previous comments, informed the public that those of whom who were concerned about their blood alcohol levels, could purchase breathalyzers for approximately \$20-30 that could be attached to key rings.

Approve Agenda

The Agenda was amended as follows:

- Add #9-A (Unfinished Business) ~ Acting City Manager Compensation

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve the Agenda, as amended. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held January 15, 2015, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda item was presented:

- Business License ~ Harbor Health Home Care (new location)

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and place it on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Acting City Manager Compensation

City Attorney, James Downey, advised the Board that the Acting City Manager Compensation discussion was originally to be discussed in closed session. But, upon Mayor Skotarczyk's lead, he suggested the City Manager Search Sub-Committee that had been established for former City Manager John Gabor's successor, to be assigned the task of preparing a proposed contract with Donald Tillery for his new position, effective February 2, 2015. Mr. Downey asked that the contract be returned to the Board for review and approval at its February 19, 2015 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to allow the City Manager Search Sub-Committee to negotiate a proposed compensation agreement for the Acting City Manager, and bring it to the February 19, 2015 meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution ~ 2015 Northeastern Watersheds Budget

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to approve a resolution of support for the Northeastern Watersheds 2015 Budget, as presented; Resolution No. 03-2015. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Resolution ~ Recreation Programs Fee Schedule

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to amend the fee schedule for recreation programs, as presented; Resolution No. 04-2015. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Simpson praised Lynn Zyrowski and the Recreation Department for working so well with a limited budget. Commissioner Hendrick pointed out the importance of many of the classes offered by the Recreation Department.

Introduce Ordinance #01-2015 ~ Water Supply Cross Connection

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the introduction of Ordinance #01-2015 ~ Water Supply Cross Connection, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Purchase ~ Waive Competitive Bidding on NPK Hydraulic Jack Hammer

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to waive competitive bidding on the purchase of a NPK PH300 Hydraulic Jack Hammer from AIS Construction Company for a purchase price of \$18,120.00. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Preliminary 2015~2016 Budget Meeting Dates

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to set the preliminary 2015-2016 budget review dates for March 24, 25 and 26, 2015, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

All meetings to be held at the Marine City Fire Hall from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Cottrellville Township Sewer Contract

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the Sewer Rate Computation for Year Ended June 30, 2014, as compiled by McBride, Manley & Company P.C., and place it on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$214,283.18, as presented.

A discussion ensued at this time, prior to taking a Roll Call Vote, where Commissioner Hendrick questioned the final payout to former City Manager, John Gabor. She said she asked the City Attorney to take a look at how the payout was calculated, based on the contract versus what the payout was. Commissioner Hendrick asked to have it removed until the February 19, 2015 meeting to enable the City Attorney time to look at it.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to amend the previous motion to remove final payout to former City Manager, John Gabor, until it can be reviewed by City Attorney, James Downey. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Roll call vote on amended original motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Acting City Manager's Report

Acting City Manager Donald Tillery provided updates on the following items:

- Congratulated the Department of Public Works for an excellent job removing the third largest snowfall on record.
- Tetra Tech and the Department of Public Works working together to digitize Woodlawn Cemetery.
- Saw Grant progressing and on track.
- Met with department heads and finished the Ten-Year Capital Investment Plan.
- Hotel project & Brownfield Authority progressing.
- Riviera Restaurant signed contract with contractor for Façade Grant and work is authorized to commence.
- Marine City is no longer eligible to receive further façade grant monies, due to the city's mean income increasing.
- A1 Family Dentistry of Marine City moving forward with Rental Rehab.

Commissioner Privilege

Commissioner Simpson complimented the Department of Public Works on the outstanding job removing snow. He also praised them for the continued good work with purchasing necessary equipment and staying under budget.

Commissioner Avery said many audience members cannot hear the meeting properly due to ineffective equipment. He said the public hearing needed to be supported and suggested the Board should look at ways to update their equipment.

Commissioner Hendrick said she continues to have safety issues with sidewalks not being kept clear. Mrs. Hendrick said the neglected sidewalks needed to be addressed by Marine City Code Enforcement Department. She also thanked the Department of Public Works on keeping the two bridges clear of snow for foot travel.

Commissioner Lovett suggested the power of positive thinking and getting things done. She said that Board members are going to be faced with some difficult decisions during the upcoming budget workshops and that they need to keep the city moving forward by doing the right thing, not always the popular thing.

Commissioner Meli welcomed City Attorney James Downey to the Commission meeting and said the Board was challenged at the last meeting by a business owner asking them what their vision was for the city. Commissioner Meli said his vision was to make Marine City a tourist destination. He said he felt 2015 was going to be a prosperous year for Marine City.

Mayor Skotarczyk said he feels the decisions he makes are the right choice for Marine City. The Mayor agreed with Commissioner Lovett in that the Board needs to act in the best interest of the city. Mayor Skotarczyk praised the Department of Public Works for their effort in removing the abundance of snow the area received.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to adjourn at 7:54 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Baxter

Kristen Baxter
City Clerk