

**City of Marine City
City Commission
May 15, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, May 15, 2014, in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, and was called to order by Mayor Raymond Skotarczyk at 7:00 pm.

After observing a moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Skotarczyk.

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Mary Ellen McDonald, Finance Director/Treasurer

Communications

The following communication was received:

- Shannon Conover ~ Marine City Beach

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

Public Comment

No residents addressed the Commission.

Approve Agenda

The following items were added to Agenda:

- #8-E Special Event Permit ~ Memorial Day Parade
- #9-A General Fund Long-Term Financial Review

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the Amended Agenda, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held May 01, 2014, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- Departmental Activity Reports ~ April, 2014
- Marine City Area Fire Authority Run Report ~ April, 2014
- Special Event Permit Application ~ Marine City Garden Club Flower Sale
- Special Event Permit Application ~ Girl Scouts International River Crossing
- Special Event Permit Application ~ Memorial Day Parade

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

Public Hearing

Mayor Skotarczyk opened the Public Hearing to receive public comments for and against the proposed Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Budget at 7:04 pm.

Prior to opening the floor to comments, City Manager Gabor presented a General Fund Long-Term Financial Review PowerPoint Presentation; discussion with audience followed.

Georgia Phelan, Marine City Chamber of Commerce Vice President, appealed to the Commission to consider continuing their support of the Discover the Blue Campaign. Mrs. Phelan said the valuable program is helping them strengthen the fabric of Marine City with tourism.

Rita Roehrig, 162 S. Third Street, said when we have a crisis, everyone must pull together. Mrs. Roehrig said that the Commission did not get the message when the community turned down the recent millage.

Francis Savel, 528 N. Main Street, said that the City is throwing money away by having so many police vehicles. He said he is in support of looking into the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department contracting with Marine City.

Charles Seigneurie, 224 N. Elizabeth, commended the Commission on doing a good job and thanked City Manager Gabor for the informative presentation. He said the community needs to see hard numbers so they know what their money is being spent on.

Bill Danneels, 206 Westminster, requested a desk copy of proposed budget be available at City Hall to those who cannot access the internet.

Mayor Skotarczyk closed the Public Hearing at 8:25 pm.

New Business

2014/2015 Fiscal Year Budget

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve a Resolution to adopt Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Budget/Appropriations Act, as presented; Resolution No. 006-14.

Commissioner Meli said he is sad that the whole police department picture is not being presented. In addition, Mr. Meli said he strongly opposes the Chief of Police living out of town. Commissioner Meli said he is also against the proposed water rate increase and is, therefore, not in support of the proposed budget.

Commissioner Lovett said that the Chief of Police has provided a tremendous service to our community and has an outstanding police force with an excellent reputation. Commissioner Lovett reminded citizens that the Chief of Police is a part time employee and does not charge overtime for the additional hours he puts in on the job.

Commissioner Hendrick said that year after year she has asked her fellow board members not to vote on frivolous things. She said that there should be a spending freeze and all unnecessary spending stopped. Commissioner Hendrick said she won't vote for the budget.

Commissioner Simpson said that the Board does not enjoy the position they are in and having to make these budgetary decisions. He said the problem lies at the State level and is not going to change soon.

Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Avery, Lovett, Simpson, Turner, Skotarczyk. Nays: Hendrick, Meli. Motion Carried.

Cost Recovery for Emergency Responses Amended Ordinance ~ Introduction

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the introduction of Cost Recovery for Emergency Responses Amended Ordinance. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Special State of Michigan Winter Road Maintenance Funding

Motion by Commissioner Meli, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick to waive competitive bidding for the Special State of Michigan Winter Road Maintenance Funding, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the bid from Asphalt Unlimited, Inc., as presented. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Charter Requirements Concerning Purchasing

A letter, summarizing the Charter requirements concerning the purchase and sale of City property, was received from City Attorney James Downey. The Board asked for clarification from the City Attorney if this applies to individual items, or just the total purchase amount.

Art Project ~ Riverview East High School

Hanna McConnell, student from Riverview East High School, and her instructor Jason Stier, presented a community art project to the Board, asking for permission to place hand painted banners on light posts within the downtown area. Ms. McConnell informed the Board that they have grant assistance from the SCC Community Foundation, donated paint from the St. Clair Art Association, as well as a commitment from the Marine City Rotary

Club to help with funding for the project. City Manager Gabor made the suggestion that top and bottom brackets be installed on the banners to prevent wind damage. The Board asked for Ms. McConnell to go back to the Rotary or TIFA for assistance with supplying the necessary brackets. Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the banners, pending further information on brackets. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Financial Business

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$358,145.22, as presented. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Preliminary Financial Statements

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the Preliminary Financial Statements for April, 2014, and place them on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Gabor provided updates on the following items:

- Commissioner Facility Tour set for May 17, 2014 at 9:00 am.
- Marine City hosting Blue Meets Green meeting on May 19, 2014 at the Riviera Restaurant.
- Snug Theatre Open House set for June 6, 2014 at 10:30 am.
- Weekend Warrior Marathon set for June 21, 2014.

Commissioner Privilege

Commissioner Avery thanked City Manager Gabor for an informative presentation on the General Fund Long-Term Financial Review.

Commissioner Hendrick wished everyone a safe Memorial Day weekend.

Commissioner Lovett also thanked City Manager Gabor for an excellent presentation. She also said she was excited to see the banners that the students from Riverview East High School are creating.

Commissioner Meli Said he appreciated the support of the concerned citizens that were in attendance tonight.

Mayor Skotarczyk also thanked citizens for attending the Public Hearing. He said that there were no easy answers for the City's problems. Mayor Skotarczyk said he became involved in city politics because he loves Marine City and believes that Marine City has unlimited potential because it has everything to make it a great city. He said Marine City needs to continue to grow and be competitive.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to adjourn at 9:30 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen Baxter
City Clerk