

**City of Marine City
Tax Increment Finance Authority
May 19, 2015**

A regular meeting of T.I.F.A. was held in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, and was called to order at 4:00 PM by Chairperson May.

Present: Chairperson May; Board Members Babchek, Bryson, Lepley, and Weisenbaugh; Acting City Manager Tillery; City Clerk Baxter

Absent: Board Members Seigneurie & Tisdale

Approve Agenda

The following item was added to the Agenda:

Unfinished Business

#8-D Strategic Communication Solutions, Inc. ~ Contract

Motion by Board Member Lepley, seconded by Board Member Bryson, to approve the Agenda, as amended. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Board Member Babchek, seconded by Chairperson May, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Tax Increment Finance Authority Meeting held April 21, 2015, as amended. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Communications

No Communications were received.

Public Comment

No residents addressed the Board.

Unfinished Business

2015 Summer Flower Program

Motion by Board Member Weisenbaugh, seconded by Chairperson May, to approve the purchase of mulch in the amount of \$480.00 to be used in city parks. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Small Business Start-up Grant

Motion by Board Member Lepley, seconded by Board Member Babchek, to table item until revisions and add-ons may be completed. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Tree Planting Project

DPW Superintendent, Michael Itrich, spoke to the Board about the Tree Planting Project and said he needs money for replacement of trees, as well as planting in new locations. The Board asked him to bring back a specific plan for the trees and the costs involved. In addition, the Board asked for clarification from the City Treasurer as to what is in the TIFA budget for trees. Motion by Chairperson May, seconded by Board Member Babchek, to table item until research is completed on what funds are available and what the need is. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Strategic Communication Solutions, Inc. ~ Contract Discussion

Michael Hilfinger, of Strategic Communication Solutions, Inc., said he would like to continue his relationship with the City of Marine City and asked for a 12-month contract renewal.

Local business owners, Tom and Kathy Vertin, said the assistance of Strategic Communication Solutions has been instrumental in helping them navigate their hotel project and keep the ball rolling to put Marine City on the map.

Board Member Lepley suggested keeping the contract short-term. Mr. Lepley also suggested that the Board look at seeking other bids in the future when the next contract comes up for renewal.

Board Member Weisenbaugh agreed, saying that the Board should be doing their due diligence because of the amount to be paid, without a tangible item.

Acting City Manager Tillery recommended a 6-month contract extension and said that he didn't want to leave business owners without anyone to support them. He further suggested that a committee be formed to look at future bids from other vendors. Mr. Tillery also requested that Mr. Hilfinger provide a monthly update to the TIFA Board.

Chairperson May said he looks at Strategic Communication Solutions as helping to promote the city and to bring values back. Mr. May said that a 3-month contract was preferred.

Acting City Manager Tillery suggested a 6-month contract with a 30-day termination clause.

Motion by Board Member Lepley, seconded by Board Member Babchek, to renew the contract with Strategic Communication Solutions, Inc. for a period of 6-months, with a 30-day termination clause. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Police Department Lighting

The Marine City Police Department lighting was discussed, as well as options of obtaining a more visible sign. Mike Itrich, DPW Superintendent, to obtain examples and pricing to present to the Board at its June 16, 2015 meeting.

Financial Business

Invoice Approval

Motion by Chairperson May, seconded by Board Member Weisenbaugh, to approve US Bank Invoice #3959033. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Board Member Weisenbaugh, seconded by Board Member Bryson, to approve (2) Sideline Electric Invoices dated 3/5/15, in the amount of \$1,192.50 and \$1,330.00. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Board Member Weisenbaugh, seconded by Board Member Bryson, to approve (2) Marine City Nursery Invoices; Invoice #1057988 and Invoice #1057992. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Board Member Bryson, seconded by Chairperson May, to adjourn at 5:12 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Baxter

Kristen Baxter
City Clerk