

**City of Marine City
City Commission
June 5, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, June 5, 2014, in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, and was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner at 7:00 pm.

After observing a moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Turner.

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

Absent: Mayor Skotarczyk

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to excuse Mayor Skotarczyk from the meeting.

Communications

St. Clair County Board of Commissioners

- June 19, 2014 Meeting at Marine City Fire Hall

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

Public Comment

Rita Roehrig, 162 S. Third Street, spoke about being a public figure, proper decorum, and the rights of citizens at Board meetings.

Jon LaCroix, 519 West Boulevard, announced that the Veteran's Club at Washington Life Center have created the only military museum in St. Clair County. The museum is open to the public on the last Thursday of each month from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Elaine McKenzie, 156 S. Elizabeth, said that the cost to provide lifeguard services far outweighs the benefits of a few saved dollars. Mrs. McKenzie went on to say that Marine City cannot afford not to have lifeguards; lawsuits are cost prohibitive. She asked the Board to reconsider pulling lifeguards from the beach.

Shannon Conover, 216 Pearl Street, said that she is a concerned citizen who loves Marine City. She doesn't believe that cutting funds for lifeguards and spending money on flowers and playground equipment makes sense.

Tom McKenzie, 156 S. Elizabeth, is fearful of kid's safety without lifeguards and hopes Marine City would look again at their budget and keep lifeguards at the beach.

Approve Agenda

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

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held May 15, 2014, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- Business License ~ Blue Pike Cantina
- Pension Board Minutes ~ January 28, 2014
- Pension Board - Retiree Health Care Minutes ~ January 28, 2014
- T.I.F.A. Minutes ~ March 18, 2014

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

Adopt Ordinance #14-02 ~ Cost Recovery for Emergency Responses

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to adopt Ordinance #14-02 ~ Cost Recovery for Emergency Responses. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

New Business

Introduce Ordinance #14-03 ~ Water & Sewer Rates

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the introduction of Ordinance #14-03 ~ Water & Sewer Rates for 2014-2015. Ayes: Avery, Lovett, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick, Meli. Motion Carried.

Concessions & Restrooms at the Marine City Beach

A proposal from Charles Seigneurie, owner of Smashed Potatoes Catering/Food on the Move, was presented. In the proposal, Mr. Seigneurie offered to clean beach restrooms from June 5th through Labor Day. The restrooms would be open from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, seven days a week. In trade, Mr. Seigneurie asked that he be approved to park his "Food on the Move" concessions truck at the beach.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Meli, to approve the request as submitted and outlined in proposal. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Starting Time for June 19, 2014 Meeting

Due to Marine City hosting the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners Meeting on June 19, 2014 at 6:00 pm, it was recommended that the Marine City Commission Meeting start time be pushed back to 7:30 pm to accommodate the Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the start time for the June 19, 2014 City Commission Meeting at 7:30 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Cancellation of July 3, 2014 Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to cancel the July 3, 2014, City Commission Meeting Date. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Upcoming Board Appointments

Upcoming Board vacancies were announced, effective June 30, 2014:

- Planning Commission ~ 4 Seats
- Tax Increment Financing Authority ~ 2 Seats
- Marine City Fire Authority ~ 2 Seats
- Library Board ~ 2 Seats

Residents interested in serving on a Board were asked to submit a letter of interest and an application form to the City Clerk's office, prior to the June 19, 2014 meeting.

Marine City Police Department vs. St. Clair County Sheriff Department

A Cost Comparison Sheet was provided to Board Members by City Manager Gabor, which used Algonac's numbers, which are very close in comparison to Marine City. The comparison shows that, by contracting with the St. Clair County Sheriff, police services would cost Marine City approximately \$125,291.00 more annually.

Commissioner Meli said he strongly opposes using Algonac's numbers as a comparison, he said it does not give a true picture.

City Manager Gabor said that if the Board wants the Sheriff Department to quote Marine City, it first needs to decide what level of service they want.

Commissioner Lovett said that having our own police department gives us a better level of service. She also reminded the Board that when asked several years ago, the community stated they wanted their own police department.

Commissioner Simpson said that with a sitting Chief, the Sheriff would not bid. In addition, the wide range between numbers would deter him from pursuing Marine City.

Commissioner Hendrick said that people don't see the services and they want change. She suggested forming a sub-committee to explore what the city needs.

Commissioner Avery pointed out that the City would have to spend more money contracting with the Sheriff's Department to get less service.

Commissioner Turner said there were a few things that could be improved with the police department, but the police department shouldn't be thrown out because of them.

No action taken at this time.

Financial Business

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$304,934.87, as presented. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Gabor provided updates on the following items:

- Rope installed and new signs posted at the beach.
- Clarification received from City Attorney Downey that Commission approval is needed on single item expenditures of \$2,000 or more.
- Marathon postponed for June 21st; hoping to make it happen in 2014.
- Snug Apartment's Open House set for June 6th.
- St. Clair County Parks & Recreation reviewed sign situation regarding the existing bike path.
- Road repairs 40-50% complete.
- Finishing sidewalk repairs.
- Flower baskets in place.

Commissioner Privilege

Commissioner Simpson congratulated Marine City High School and Cardinal Mooney's Class of 2014.

Commissioner Hendrick suggested an emergency telephone be placed at the Marine City Beach.

Commissioner Lovett praised the Rental Rehab Program and suggested that we all need to take the time and resources to invest in our community.

Commissioner Meli said that the Maritime Days bottle/can fundraiser for the fireworks was a success; they are more than half way to their goal. He said he appreciated the support from the community.

Commissioner Turner thanked Charles Seigneurie for his creative idea with the concessions truck idea. He said he had been troubled by the lifeguard situation and is hoping he can come up with a solution.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to adjourn at 8:41 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Kristen Baxter
City Clerk