

**City of Marine City
City Commission
March 3, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, March 3, 2016, 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 Reverend Lepley, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Skotarczyk.

Present: Mayor Raymond Skotarczyk, Commissioners Terrance Avery, Elizabeth Hendrick, Dianne Lovett, Raymond Meli (arrived at 7:20 pm), David Simpson, James Turner, City Manager Leven, City Clerk Kristen Baxter

Communications

The following Communications were received:

- The Council on Aging
- City Ballot Proposal Information ~ Publication for March 2, 2016

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to accept and file the Communication. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

Rosalie Skwiers, 211 Michigan, spoke in opposition to the City Proposal for the PA33 and she suggested the city close out the TIFA funds.

Ray Skwiers, 211 Michigan, also spoke against the PA33 and said he doesn't understand how the city is mismanaging money. He said the city needed to have the guts to get rid of TIFA.

William Haas, 203 Pleasant Street, commented that the city doesn't do anything for its citizens. He further said that the city takes care of Water Street, but does nothing for the rest of the city.

Rebecca Lepley, 539 N. William, asked city residents to put themselves first and vote for the PA33. She said the city can go no longer without fuel in its tanks.

Allen Reichle, 559 N. Belle River Avenue, asked why Commissioner Hendrick was being denied information as a Commissioner and said that the city had a lack of openness and transparency.

Joseph Moran, 710 Pleasant, urged residents to be responsible and exercise their right to vote at the March 8, 2016 Primary Election.

Charles Seigneurie, 224 N. Elizabeth, spoke in support of PA33 and said the city had a tough time trying to balance the little money they had. He praised the police and fire departments for the great job they do and said he is tired of the negativity.

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 Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2016, as amended. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- 2016/2017 Budget Schedule
- Business License ~ Over the Toekick, LLC
- Special Event Permit ~ Tootsie Roll Drive
- Building & Code Enforcement Activity Reports

▪ TIFA Meeting Minutes ~ January 19, 2016

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the Consent Agenda and file, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fence Ordinance ~ Ordinance No. 2016-02 (Adopt)

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 2016-02, Rescind Title XV “Land Usage”, Chapter 156 “Fences”; Adopt New Chapter 156 “Fences”, as presented. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nay: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Appointment

An application was received from the following resident:

- John J. Paulun, 754 S. Main Street

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to appoint John J. Paulun to the Dangerous Building Board of Appeals with a term expiring December 31, 2018. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Budget Amendments

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve a Resolution to amend the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget to adjust for changes in anticipated revenues and expenditures, as presented; Resolution #008-2016. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

Fund Transfers

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve a Resolution that approves the Fund Transfer from TIFA #1 Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$10,600.00; Resolution No. 009-2016. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve a Resolution that approves the Fund Transfer from TIFA #2 Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$15,250.00; Resolution No. 010-2016. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commission Simpson, to approve a Resolution that approves the Fund Transfer from TIFA #3 Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$47,425.00; Resolution No. 011-2016. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commission Simpson, to approve a Resolution that approves the Fund Transfer from the General Fund to the Water/Sewer Fund in the amount of \$8,000.00; Resolution No. 012-2016. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$575,429.42, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick, Meli. Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Leven provided updates on the following:

- LED lighting grant update.
- Attended Trail Towns meeting.
- Zoning Board of Appeals meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum.
- Marine City asked to host an MDOT Regional Training Event for Bicycle Facilities Training. Recreation Director Lynn Zyrowski to coordinate event, inviting local officials as well as other stakeholders and neighboring communities.

- Department budgets submitted to Treasurer/Finance Director.

COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Simpson spoke about the general fund relief the city would experience if PA33 was passed. Mr. Simpson said, due to budget cuts, maintenance on city facilities have been deferred, such as leaking roofs, replacement of windows, and ADA compliant modifications.

Commissioner Meli commented that Marine City was a very giving town and when there was a need, people would contribute and work together. He said that if the people knew exactly where the money from a tax increase was going, people would respond.

Commissioner Avery responded to comments made regarding the city's current budget situation, and said that the money that would have been used was in the last budget, and money coming in from the PA33 would have be approved at the Budget Workshop Meetings set for April 26, 27, 28 at the fire hall. He encouraged everyone to attend.

Commissioner Hendrick reported that she had given everyone the facts on the PA33, in addition to going through the budget and providing a list of all the capital improvements and changes. Commissioner Hendrick said that two percent raises were an issue for her. She asked people to get out and vote and exercise their right.

Commissioner Lovett stated the importance of getting out to vote. She pointed out that there have been many cuts in the city, resulting in the city's infrastructure not being kept up. Commissioner Lovett said the city can't just keep doing the minimum to get by. She said additional funds were needed to continue to build Marine City into the city it could be.

Mayor Skotarczyk responded to public comment and said that TIFA was not responsible for the city's budget problems. Mayor Skotarczyk said that TIFA has done great work for the city and reported that the recovery of the downtown was planned and financed by TIFA. He also spoke about how the additional money from PA33 would benefit the police department by boosting police patrols to fight drug problems, as well as reinforcing community policing.

Closed Session

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to enter into Closed Session at 8:22 pm for the purpose of considering confidential attorney-client communication regarding a legal opinion. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to return to Open Session at 8:43 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Open Session

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to direct the City Manager to provide more information for the issue. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Meli, to adjourn at 8:46 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Baxter

Kristen Baxter
City Clerk