

**City of Marine City
City Commission
October 20, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, October 20, 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 Wilson, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Skotarczyk.

Present: Mayor Raymond Skotarczyk; Commissioners Elizabeth Hendrick, Raymond Meli, David Simpson; City Manager Elaine Leven; City Clerk Kristen Baxter

Also in Attendance: City Attorney Robert Davis

Absent: Commissioners James Turner and Terrance Avery

Motion by Mayor Skotarczyk, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to excuse Commissioners Turner and Avery from the meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Communications

Received:

- Pending Agenda Items

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

Public Comment

Kathy Vertin, 420 S. Water, commented that Historic City Hall would be a perfect venue to house a “Festival” similar to Stratford, Ontario. She also said local candidates should make their vision for 300 Broadway known.

Rosalie Skwiers, 211 Michigan, invited Trick or Treaters to her home on Halloween.

Louise Beutell, 535 N. Main Street, spoke in support of utilizing Historic City Hall and said having it useful would bring people to Marine City.

Keith Jenken, 809 S. Water Street, read a letter aloud from Rev. Rebecca Lepley that was previously submitted under Communications in the October 6, 2016 meeting agenda.

Approve Agenda

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

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Mayor Skotarczyk, to approve the City Commission Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2016, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Meli, to approve the City Commission Closed Session Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2016, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

Presented:

- Monthly Activity Reports
- MCAFA Run Report & Agenda Packet
- Special Event ~ Halloween Ghost Tours
- 2016 Halloween Trick or Treating
- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes ~ July 11, 2016
- Election Commission Meeting Minutes ~ July 12, 2016
- Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes ~ September 7, 2016
- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes ~ September 19, 2016

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to accept the Consent Agenda and file, as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Skotarczyk, Hendrick, Meli, Simpson.

Nays: None.

Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Computer Network Support Services ~ Hi-Tech

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Meli, to approve the contract with Hi-Tech at an annual fee of \$9,204.00 for Computer Network Support Services. Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Skotarczyk, Hendrick, Meli

Nays: Simpson

Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 028-2016 ~ East China Schools

Because the proposed Resolution could be construed as using public resources to engage in the express advocacy of a ballot proposal, which is prohibited by the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, the Commission decided against adopting the Resolution.

No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Certificate of Appreciation

Chief James Heaslip presented resident Janet Demist with a Certificate of Appreciation for alerting police to a note found by the waterfront which contained information that the writer may be suicidal.

SEMCOG Delegate

Due to the absence of two Board members and the upcoming election, item was tabled until the November 17, 2016 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to postpone appointment until the first meeting following the election. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$220,401.06, as presented. Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Skotarczyk, Hendrick, Meli, Simpson

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Preliminary Financial Reports

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Meli, to accept the Preliminary Financial Reports and place them on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Leven provided updates on the following:

- Attended Planning Commission, SCCOTS, and MCAFA meetings.
- Met with East China School Superintendent Skalka.
- Held department head meetings with the new City Attorney.
- Guardrail south of bridge repaired.
- TV-ing of sewer lines almost completed.
- Seawall at 108 N. Water Street and adjacent city lot were recently inspected.

COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Simpson thanked Gary Kohs, Laura Scaccia, and Erin Doetsch for their efforts put forth for Pumpkins, Popcorn, and Politics. He also offered support for the East China Schools millage renewal.

Commissioner Hendrick thanked Janet Demist for her public service. She also endorsed the millage renewal for East China Schools, and announced that the MCAFA presented defibrillators to local schools.

Commissioner Meli thanked Janet Demist for being a good neighbor and said he also supported the school millage renewal. He wished everyone a Happy Halloween.

Mayor Skotarczyk announced Popcorn, Pumpkins, and Politics as a huge success and thanked Gary Kohs, Laura Scaccia, and all the volunteers. Mayor Skotarczyk asked for community support for the East China School millage, and challenged his opponents in the upcoming election to publically answer questions he developed.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Skotarczyk announced that the Commission would go into Closed Session for the purpose of a City Attorney Opinion Letter Regarding Incompatible Office (MCL 15.268(h)) and asked for a motion.

Motion by Commission Meli, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to waive legal privilege and speak in Open Session regarding the City Attorney's opinion letter on incompatible public offices and conflicts of interest. Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Skotarczyk, Hendrick, Meli, Simpson.

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

OPEN SESSION

City Attorney Opinion Letter Regarding Incompatible Office

In a memorandum addressed to City Manager Leven, City Attorney Davis wrote the following:

- The elected office of the Mayor of Marine City is not incompatible with the public position of Assistant Fire Chief of the Marine City Area Fire Authority.
- Vandenbossche's wife's position as Secretary/Treasurer of the Marine City Area Fire Authority does not create any conflict of interest.

- Any contract between the landscaping company and the Marine City Area Fire Authority of Marine City should be terminated unless an exception can be established.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to adjourn at 8:14 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Baxter

Kristen Baxter
City Clerk