

**City of Marine City
City Commission
April 7, 2016**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, April 7, 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 Commissioner Lovett, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Skotarczyk.

Present: Mayor Raymond Skotarczyk, Commissioners Terrance Avery, Elizabeth Hendrick, Dianne Lovett, Raymond Meli, David Simpson, James Turner, City Manager Leven, City Clerk Kristen Baxter

Absent: None

Communications

The following Communications were received:

- Kristen Baxter ~ Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Institute
- Elizabeth McDonald ~ Completion of FEMA Courses
- Clay Township Police Department

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

Public Comment

Rosalie Skwiers, 211 Michigan, described the duties of precinct delegates, as well as the importance of ADA awareness. She urged the city to make their buildings ADA compliant.

Keith Jenken, 809 Water Street, spoke about conceptual plans for the proposed beach pavilion/restroom.

Louise Beutell, 535 N. Main Street, asked residents to come together and recognize the beauty and the potential of Marine City.

Michael Hilferink, 218 Pleasant Street, said a new home for City Hall must be found, freeing up the Guy Center for area youth.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Turner, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to change item #11-E to item #11-A. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve the City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2016, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve the Closed Session Minutes of March 17, 2016, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes ~ February 8, 2016
- TIFA Meeting Minutes ~ February 16, 2016
- Special Event ~ Marine City Garden Club Flower Sale
- Special Event ~ Concert in the Park
- Special Event ~ Beach Attendant Fun Raiser
- Business License ~ Central Network Retail Group, LLC, dba Lumber Jack Building Centers

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Close-Out for Community Development Grant Funding for Marine City Façade Program

Mayor Skotarczyk opened the Public Hearing to receive public comments for and against the Close-Out for Community Development Grant Funding for Marine City Façade Program at 7:30 pm.

No residents addressed the Commission.

Mayor Skotarczyk closed the Public Hearing at 7:31pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fence Ordinance Publication ~ Summary

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the summary for Ordinance 2016-02, ***Rescission of Title XV "Land Usage" Chapter 156 "Fences" and Adoption of New Chapter 156 "Fences"***, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Water Monitoring Contract

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to approve the updated Professional Services Agreement between the City of Marine City and Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc., as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Strategic Communication Solutions

A First Quarter Report for Marine City, 2016 was provided by Michael Hilfinger of Strategic Communication Solutions. Highlights for economic development and strategic initiatives were as follows:

- Update on funding for the Inn at Water Street
- Update on Safe Routes to School grant
- Parks and Recreation plan to apply for Michigan DNR grants
- Plan development for City Hall fundraising

Mr. Hilfinger reported that the City of Marine City had a return of over 1,000% from their investment with Strategic Communication Solutions. He asked the Commission to support Strategic Communication Solutions in getting their contract extended with the TIFA Board.

Commissioner Lovett spoke about the support the city received from SCS in obtaining the Safe Routes to School grant.

Commissioner Turner thanked Michael and SCS for their hard work and the great return on the city's investment, as well as the diversity of their projects.

Commissioner Meli asked about funding for a marina in the future.

Commissioner Hendrick asked if more grant opportunities would be available for old City Hall if it were not used as city offices.

NEW BUSINESS

Marine City Little League

Dan VandeVyver, Vice President of Marine City Little League, said the league was asking for permission to make improvements to the field, at their expense. He explained that the improvements would allow all age groups in the league to utilize the fields, due to the growth of the program.

Two options for the improvements were presented (with drawings), with Plan "A" being the preferred choice by the Little League. The option included relocating a berm. Plan "B" would not include moving a berm.

After a discussion of the pros and cons of both plans, a motion was made by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve Plan "A", which was later withdrawn by Commissioner Simpson, due to concerns about water drainage at the field if the berm was moved.

Mayor Skotarczyk suggested several modifications to the plan, which would simplify the shape of the skating pond.

Commissioner Simpson suggested, at this time, that former protocol sent the requests to the Planning Commission.

DPW Superintendent, Michael Itrich said, in addition to the concerns of drainage, an erosion permit may be necessary. He concurred with Commissioner Simpson and said that proper procedure should be followed, as it has in the past.

City Manager Leven said it would be prudent to send the request to the Planning Commission because they were a specialty board would do an in-depth inspection of the plans.

At this time, the Board directed the Marine City Little League to submit their request to the Building Department for further research.

Set Public Hearing Date for Commercial Redevelopment District

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to set a Public Hearing for Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Fire Hall for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding the adoption of a Commercial Redevelopment District for the Inn at Water Street. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Set Public Hearing Date for Commercial Facilities Exemption

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to set a Public Hearing for Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Fire Hall for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding the adoption of a Commercial Facilities Exemption for the Inn at Water Street. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Guaranty Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to accept the terms of the Guaranty, as presented. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

Enviologic Contract

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to approve an Agreement for Consulting Services contract between the City of Marine City and Enviologic Technologies, Inc., as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

2016/2017 Salt Order

A request was received from Michael Itrich, DPW Superintendent, to waive competitive bidding for the 2016/2017 salt order. Mr. Itrich explained that the purchase will be made through MI-Deal, who receives bids for the best pricing within the State of Michigan.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to waive competitive bidding for the 2016/2017 salt purchase. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Water Street Trees

A discussion took place on the possible replacement of South Water Street trees that were recently removed due to their root systems being overgrown, affecting the safety of city sidewalks. DPW Superintendent, Michael Itrich, asked the Board for direction in moving forward. Did they want the trees replaced or, if not, he would proceed by covering up the holes from the trees.

If the Board chose to go forward with replacing the trees, Mr. Itrich said Cleveland Pear trees were recommended as a slow-growing replacement.

Commissioner Hendrick said she would like to see more investigative work completed on a possible replacement and suggested contacting Michigan State University or an arborist.

Commissioner Turner suggested that the trees be left out and the sidewalks patched.

Commissioner Lovett suggested that business owners be asked what their preference was. Did they like the trees or not?

Commissioner Simpson asked the cost to fill in the sidewalks.

Mayor Skotarczyk said he would like to receive public feedback and asked for the topic to be tabled.

Commissioner Avery suggested that South Water Street Trees be added to the May 5, 2016 agenda, adding a third public hearing to hear feedback.

Michael Itrich was given permission from the Board to fill in the holes from the trees, preventing a liability hazard.

No further action was taken by the Board.

Master Plan Contract

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission contract for a Marine City Master Plan Update, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Professional Services Contracts

City Manager Leven presented a list of current professional services contracts for Marine City, along with their expiration dates. City Manager Leven explained that the city did not have an updated comprehensive list for guidelines and reference.

No action was taken by the Board.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$174,599.22, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick. Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Leven provided updates on the following:

- Met with a representative from the MDEC, as well as several local business owners, to speak on the future of the Rental Rehab/Façade Programs.
- Received several complaints, as well as a potential opportunity for future residential and commercial development in the city.
- City sirens have been repaired; county repair still ongoing. Hopefully all sirens will be fully functional soon.

COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Simpson suggested that a running list of agenda items be provided at each City Commission meeting so they aren't forgotten, and the Board may come back to them in the future.

Commissioner Avery shared that he has been working on the Sidewalk Program and said it was hard to work with enthusiasm, due to not having a way to fund the program.

Commissioner Hendrick suggested a survey be completed on the tree issue. She also said that all opinions on the proposed Beach Pavilion/Restroom should be heard.

Commissioner Lovett reported that the Sidewalk Program was progressing. She also spoke about the city moving forward with relocating city offices.

Commissioner Turner announced Budget Workshop Meeting dates as April 26-27-28, 2016 at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Marine City Fire Hall. He urged the public to attend.

Commissioner Meli said he was 100% for getting sidewalks replaced and asked if grants were available to help fund the replacement. He said he was disappointed to see the trees cut down on South Water Street.

Mayor Skotarczyk spoke admirably of his mother who passed away recently. He said his family was wealthy with love.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to adjourn at 9:13 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen Baxter
City Clerk