

**City of Marine City
City Commission
September 17, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, September 17, 2015, 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 Slaton, 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 Elaine Leven, City Clerk Kristen Baxter

Absent: None

Communications

No Communications were received.

Public Comment

Rebecca Lepley, Heritage Days Chairperson, thanked all the volunteers for Heritage Days and announced events.

Robert Blanchard, 622 Alger, distributed a beach parking alternative to Board Members which would convert Pearl and N. Water Streets (in the beach area) to a one-way street. Mr. Blanchard said the plan would increase public safety, as well as providing for approximately (35) parking spaces.

Approve Agenda

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

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve the City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2015, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were presented:

- Departmental Activity Reports
- Marine City Area Fire Authority Run Report

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appoint Emergency Management Coordinator

City Manager Leven informed the Board that in order to continue the implementation of the Mutual Aid Agreement with St. Clair County Homeland Security/Emergency Management it was necessary to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator. City Manager Leven recommended appointing Police Chief Donald G. Tillery as our liaison with the county.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to appoint Police Chief Donald G. Tillery as Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Marine City. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Rules of Procedure of the Marine City Commission Update ~ Adopt

Several modifications to the Rules of Procedure of the Marine City Commission Update were made at the August 20, 2015 City Commission meeting and the revised document was brought back to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Hendrick asked if the city would be charged for questions to the City Attorney where in the past the city was only charged for opinions. She asked the Board why they would want to do this as it was only going to cost the tax payers more money.

Mayor Skotarczyk responded and said questions will go the City Manager and the Board will be kept in the loop so they know what is going on. With this process, Mayor Skotarczyk said he hopes to limit the number of questions to the City Attorney. But, if the City Attorney needed to be consulted, he should be paid for rendering his legal advice.

Commissioner Simpson said he had no problem using the proper process and said the Board can only function as an individual body. Mr. Simpson said this amendment does not prevent or limit the Board from asking questions, it just changes the direction in which they do so.

Commissioner Meli said the amendment would tie his hands as a Commissioner by limiting communication. He said he would be unable to do research without the ability to communicate with the City Attorney.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to call the question. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson to adopt the Rules of Procedure of the Marine City Commission Update, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick, Meli. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Marine City Beach Parking Project ~ Bid Recommendation

Department of Public Works Superintendent Michael Itrich provided a bid from Jelsch Paving Company, in the amount of \$21,522.00, for the Beach Parking Lot Paving Project. He reported that Jelsch Paving Company had the lowest bid for the project.

Commissioner Hendrick recommended postponing the decision until Mr. Blanchard's proposal, submitted during the Public Comment portion of the meeting, could be researched. She said due to the beach season being over, there was no rush to spend money until the city has a firm idea. She recommended sitting down and reviewing both proposals.

Mayor Skotarczyk said there was merit to both plans and agreed that postponing the decision was a good idea. He liked that Mr. Blanchard's proposal included valid points to provide public safety.

Commissioner Avery questioned Mr. Blanchard's proposal and said a possible negative could be backing into parking spaces, but liked that the plan would allow for more parking at the beach.

Commissioner Meli liked that Mr. Blanchard's proposal would turn Pearl into a one-way street from North Main Street to Broadway and suggested they extend the one-way on Pearl Street to N. Elizabeth. Mr. Meli said the extension would benefit the community by providing additional parking near old city hall.

Commissioner Simpson said the city would be doing itself a disservice by not looking at both proposals and said a combination of both may even be feasible. He suggested homeowners adjacent to the beach be contacted to see how each proposal may impact them.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to postpone the Beach Parking Lot Paving Project until the city can have further review on several options. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Disbursements

Motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to approve total disbursements, including payroll and bond payment, in the amount of \$2,794,423.43, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Lovett, Simpson, Turner. Nays: Hendrick, Meli. Motion Carried.

Preliminary Financial Statements

Motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to accept the Preliminary Financial Statements for August, 2015, and place them on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Leven provided updates on the following:

- Attended an Economic Development Alliance Dinner in Port Huron.
- Periodic maintenance work completed on water tank.
- Attended the following meetings:
 - ✓ Planning Commission
 - ✓ Safe Routes to School
 - ✓ TIFA
- Met with Tetra Tech Engineer
- Met with Blue Cross/Blue Shield Representatives
- Met with SYO regarding utilization of tablets for online agenda packets

COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Lovett said that last week's Voice Newspaper reported on the many positive things that are going on in Marine City such as the opening of the Blue Pike Cantina, DPW Superintendent Mike Itrich helping a skunk, Heritage Days, and the new visitor's kiosk at Riviera Restaurant.

Commissioner Avery encouraged people to come to Heritage Days to celebrate the heritage of Marine City and show the pride that people have in the city.

Commissioner Meli said he has always been a listening ear to the concerns of citizens. He said he is disappointed that he will no longer be able to contact City Attorney Downey directly because that contact builds up his confidence as a public worker.

Mayor Skotarczyk said that the newly opened Blue Pike Cantina is a great addition to the city. He thanked everyone for all the hard work they put into preparing for Heritage Days. He also thanked Bob Blanchard for taking the time and interest in creating a possible remedy for beach parking.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Mayor Skotarczyk, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to go into Closed Session at 8:14 pm for the purpose of discussion of Confidential Attorney-Client Communication on a Legal Opinion. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Skotarczyk, Avery, Hendrick, Lovett, Meli, Simpson, Turner. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

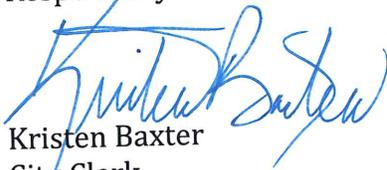
RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion by Mayor Skotarczyk, seconded by Commissioner Lovett, to go back into Open Session at 8:45 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Mayor Skotarczyk, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, to adjourn at 8:46 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristen Baxter
City Clerk