**City of Marine City**

**City Commission – Budget Workshop**

**April 19, 2023**

A Budget Workshop meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2023 at 260 South Parker Street, Marine City, and was called to order by Mayor Vandenbossche at 6:04 pm.

Present: Mayor Jennifer Vandenbossche; Commissioners Jacob Bryson, Elizabeth Hendrick, William Klaassen, Brian Ross, Rita Roehrig, Michael Hilferink; Interim City Manager Jim Heaslip; Interim City Clerk Jason Bell.

Also Present: Mary Ellen McDonald, Nichole Lasecki, Christina Mann

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Ross indicated he had citizen ask him about bicycles for the Police patrol. Chief Heaslip indicated the Police Department has bicycles, but they did not have the personnel for it.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the Agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget

Mary Ellen McDonald spoke about the changes requested from the Workshop on April 18, 2023 and suppled a document to support the changes.

Major Street Fund:

Mary Ellen McDonald stated there was a $45,225 surplus in this budget and also stated a DPW bonus was charged to the wrong account in the past and it was not budgeted for this budget.

Street Cleaning:

DPW Superintendent Itrich stated that the last payment on the street sweeper would be October 22, 2022 and City Manager Tatman indicated she would review the total amounts due.

Local Street Fund:

Mary Ellen McDonald stated there was a $45,225 surplus in this budget.

Commissioner Hendrick inquired if the City will be looking at roads to repair. DPW Supervisor Itrich stated the City has run out of roads to complete due to underground infrastructure needing repair first. He did state if the City wanted to repair a road, North Elizabeth is ready to repair with an approximate cost of $250,000. He also stated the City would know about receiving their $26,000,000 grant in October to complete infrastructure and roads. Commissioner Bryson stated if the City did not get the grant, would the City be better served to complete North Elizabeth or bank the money, Itrich stated he recommends completing North Elizabeth now. Commissioner Bryson requested the North Elizabeth road repair be added into the budget under local roads.

Water/Sewer Funds:

Mary Ellen McDonald stated there was a 2% water and sewer rate increase in the budget. Commissioner Hendrick inquired if the 2% increase would be sufficient. Commissioner Bryson stated the City would be better served to increase the rates 3% in case the grant was not received, the City would have a fund balance for projects. DPW Supervisor stated the Commission could look at increasing the ready to serve fees as well.

Commissioner Ross inquired as to when the last engineered water rate increase was completed. Itrich believed it was 2018 or 2019.

Commissioner Hilferink inquired what the water plant utilization was, Itrich responded it was at 30%-40%.

Commissioners requested a 2.5% water and sewer rate increase and a $1 increase per meter size on ready to serve water and sewer.

Cemetery

Mary Ellen McDonald stated that money is only transferred in that is needed and it is not budgeted for.

Commissioner Hendrick inquired if the Chapel was fixed, Itrich stated it was fixed. Commissioner Hendrick stated she would like to see more budgeted in the 2024-2025 budget for repairs.

Drug Forfeiture

Chief Heaslip stated this account hasn’t captured funds in a while and it can be used for equipment that is not normally budgeted for and the funds are restricted.

Brownfield

Mary Ellen McDonald stated the County is sending the City more money than is required and it is difficult to budget for revenue.

Capital Projects Fund

Mary Ellen McDonald stated she would change this budget due to truck purchase.

Cemetery Trust Fund

Mary Ellen McDonald indicated this fund was for upkeep of the cemetery.

Fee Schedule:

Commissioner Hendrick stated her opinion was the business license fees were too high compared to surrounding communities and also believed the vacant building fees and other fees were too high. Commissioner Bryson agreed the fee schedule needed to be looked at and adjusted as needed.

Closing Discussions

Chief Heaslip stated he received approximate pricing for new patrol vehicles with outfitting with equipment for a price of $120,000. He stated this could come out of the 2023-2024 budget if the Commission will approve the use of ARPA funds and the vehicles could be purchased soon.

Commissioner Hendrick thanked all City employees for their hard work on the budget.

Interim City Manager Heaslip thanked the Commission for working together with the City staff on the budget.

Mayor Vandenbossche thanked everyone for the work on the budget.

Motion by Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to adopt the eight changes from April 18 workshop as well as other items discussed on April 19 for the 2023-2024 budget. **Roll Call Vote**. Ayes: Bryson, Hendrick, Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to adjourn at 8:26pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason A. Bell

Interim City Clerk