**City of Marine City**

**City Commission Minutes**

**June 1, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 260 South Parker Street, Marine City, and was called to order by Mayor Vandenbossche at 7:15 P.M.

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

**AUDIO/VIDEO AVAILABLE**

For complete audio/video of meeting, visit the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HANiaOF5SP4>

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the agenda with the removal of 8a, 8b and 14b and the addition of the Teamsters contract 14a. Ayes: Vandenbossche, Hendrick, Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Bryson. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Roland Woelkers spoke against marijuana and stated he was impressed with the Memorial Day Parade and thanked the DPW and Police Department.

Roland Woelkers spoke on behalf of the VFW and read a letter honoring Marine City residents who gave their life to military duty.

Phil Oleksiak spoke on marijuana and stated his opinion was the City would have more control with creating an ordinance and a ballot initiative would be off the table.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Bryson, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to approve the City Commission Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to approve the City Commission Special Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2023. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Presented:

* 1. 300 Broadway Committee Meeting Minutes – April 24, 2023
  2. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2023
  3. Special Event Permit – Empowered Nutrition Father’s Day 5k
  4. Special Event Permit – Battle of the Bands III

Motion by Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the Consent Agenda a-d. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Hendrick, Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

Engagement of Audit Services

Commissioner Ross stated McBride-Manley has done the City’s audit for years and they do a great job. Commissioner Hendrick encouraged residents to read through what was provided by McBride-Manley as to what the City needs to be in compliance.

Motion by Commissioner Byrson, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the engagement of audit services agreement with McBride-Manley not to exceed $42,500 for the General Audit and not to exceed $6,500 for single audit Federal grants, etc. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Marijuana Zoning Maps

City Manager Adkins provided an update on the maps that were requested by the Commission and stated they were zoomed in to the subsections where the facilities could go. Planning Commission Chair Moran stated that residential zoning setbacks were provided in the maps for East China but not Cottrellville.

Commissioner Hilferink stated in his research he discovered the old K-Mart plaza is 1,000 feet from the trailer park and that he would like to hear other Commissioners opinions.

Commissioner Hendrick stated she would like to follow the popular opinion of citizens but she does not want grow facilities and that she was in favor of medical marijuana facilities but not recreational. Commissioner Hilferink stated there was no longer a designation in the State between medical and recreational facilities. Commissioner Hendrick stated the 1,000 feet setbacks would stop a referendum.

Commissioner Hilferink stated the Commission could create a marijuana district which would designate the only the place in the City where facilities could be located.

Mayor Vandenbossche inquired on businesses buying the license and not opening the business as she has heard that happened in some communities and therefore brings no tax revenue. City Manager Adkins stated businesses will buy licenses and not build out the business to deter competition from opening but that does not help the community in terms of tax sharing.

Commissioner Klaassen stated business get the license and the State can pull the license if the business is in debt to the City or in violation of any local ordinance.

Mayor Vandenbossche stated she was for the need for businesses and promoting but she would vote no if the vote came up. She also stated City Attorney Davis advised at a previous meeting that a ballot initiative could not be advising in nature and needed to be specific and actionable.

Commissioner Ross stated citizens who reached out to him were mostly against marijuana facilities and he did not want the Commission blindsided by a ballot initiative. He also stated the maps did not reveal the spot in Marine City where a facility could go.

Commissioner Hilferink stated the Commission could not forget the Marijuana Town Hall was 50/50 for and against and to not forget the vote in Marine City when Michigan legalized recreational marijuana.

Mayor Vandenbossche inquired of Commissioner Klaassen if he did in fact talk to businesses in the old K-Mart Plaza who did not want marijuana facilities. Commissioner Klaassen confirmed he did talk to business owners there who did not want it.

Commissioner Roehrig stated she would like the Commission to create a ballot proposal with language that specifically allows dispensaries but excludes grows. City Manager Adkins stated the Commission would need to vote on language and that there was a review process at the County and State level for all ballot language.

Motion by Commissioner Hilferink, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick to direct the City Attorney to craft actionable ballot language to allow dispensaries, but to not allow grow facilities or production facilities, in the City with setbacks of 1,000 feet from building to building with respect to residential zones and from schools, churches and rehab facilities and establish specified marijuana zoning districts if needed, to be put on the ballot. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Hendrick, Hilferink. Nays: Klaassen, Bryson. Motion Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Michigan Municipal League Worker’s Compensation Fund Renewal

Motion by Commissioner Bryson, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the Worker’s Compensation Insurance renewal with the Michigan Municipal League Worker’s Compensation Fund in the amount of $10,430.00. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick, Hilferink, Klaassen. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Part-Time At Will Employment & Service Agreement – Mike Itrich

Motion by Commissioner Byrson, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to approve the Part-time At Will Employment and Support Services Agreement as presented. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick, Hilferink, Roehrig. Nays: Klaassen.. Motion Carried.

Request Approval of Contract for City Treasurer/Finance Director – Katy Posey

Commissioner Hendrick welcomed Katy Posey to the City and stated there will be a long road ahead but her resume was good and she will support her along the way. City Manager Adkins stated Katy Posey was very well qualified and we will all work together to get finances back on track.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to approve the employment agreement between the City of Marine City and Katy Posey as presented. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick, Hilferink, Roehrig, Klaassen. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion Item- 300 Broadway Bandstand Usage/Reservation Recommendation

Commissioner Ross provided a handout of a bandstand reservation policy and stated the Commission did not need to make a decision tonight, but to look over the policy and discuss potential changes. He also stated the bandstand could be reserved like the Mariner Park Pavilion.

Commissioner Hendrick stated the Commission needed to reevaluate the fees presented as they are too high and she would like the presented reservation dates presented to be changed/extended. Commissioner Roehrig stated she would like to see the presented times changed as well because they end too early. Commissioner Hendrick stated the City should look at neighboring communities rental policies to compare and develop our own.

Discussion Concerning Community Business Development and Promotion

City Manager Adkins wanted to clarify strategy of incentives at State and Local level and would like to have a joint discussion with the Community Economic Development Board for the whole City. Mayor Vandenbossche echoed the need for consistency between boards for a plan.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

City Manager Report

City Manager Adkins welcomed Katy Posey to the City and stated the Social District paperwork has been submitted to the Liquor Control Commission for review. He also stated he received word that the St. Clair County Parks millage would bring $21,000 to the City for park improvements. City Manager Adkins thanked the Commission for the workshop discussion and also thanked the organizers, participants and volunteers for their work on the Memorial Day Parade.

Commissioner Hilferink inquired if there were any updates on the Washington Life Center Property to which City Manager Adkins stated there was not but he would provide the updates as he got them.

**COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE/LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner Klaassen apologized for missing the Planning Commission meeting.

Commissioner Hilferink stated the CED Board discussed good things for the City to include advertising for the City.

Commissioner Ross gave a shout out to the Marine City Middle School band as they have a concert tonight. He also stated the Memorial Day Parade was great and thanked everyone who participated and the Bandstand dedication was great. He also welcomed Katy Posey and Jeff Schmidt to the City.

Commissioner Roehrig welcomed Katy Posey and that she looked forward to working with her.

Commissioner Hendrick thanked Jesse White for Memorial Day Parade and everyone involved: MC Fire Department, Police Department, DPW, Corner Grocery, MC Grill and VG’s. She also thanked Denny Danneels for his continued work on the Memorial to make it look nice. Commissioner Hendrick also thanked City Manager Adkins.

Mayor Vandenbossche welcomed Katy Posey to the City. She congratulated Marine City Softball on their MAC Blue Championship and Marine City Soccer on their MAC Silver Championship. She also thanked all of the Memorial Day Parade volunteers. Mayor Vandenbossche mentioned three local Boy Scouts from Troop 296 were getting their Eagle Scout bands and congratulated them.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to enter into closed session at 8:25pm, to discuss strategy connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement with employees represented by the Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM) and Teamsters Local 214 under MCL 15.2689(c). **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick, Hilferink, Roehrig, Klaassen. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Ross, to enter back into open session at 9:13pm with action to be taken. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Bryson, to approve the tentative agreement between the POAM and City of Marine City as presented. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Hendrick, Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Ross, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the tentative agreement between the Teamsters Local 214 and City of Marine City as presented. **Roll Call Vote.** Ayes: Hilferink, Klaassen, Roehrig, Ross, Vandenbossche, Bryson, Hendrick. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Roehrig, to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. All Ayes**.** Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason A.Bell Interim City Clerk

Jennifer Vandenbossche

Mayor