**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**February 24, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 by virtual telephone conference, and was called to order by Planning Commission Representative Moran at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Planning Commission Representative Moran.

**Present: Board Member Robert Klingler; Planning Commission Representative Joseph Moran; City Commission Representative Cheryl Vercammen; TIFA Board Representative Robert Weisenbaugh; City Manager Elaine Leven; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

**Absent: Chairperson Laura Scaccia; Board Member Heather Hatcher**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Planning Commission Representative Moran to excuse Chairperson Scaccia and Board Member Hatcher from the meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Communications**

None.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to approve the agenda. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of January 27, 2021. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Kayak Launch Site

City Commission Representative Vercammen informed the Board that she had a meeting planned for Tuesday March 2, 2021 with City Manager Leven and Department of Public Works Supervisor Itrich to finalize and put into motion the grant requirements for the kayak launch. Following the meeting, she said she hoped to establish a timeline for the completion of the project.

City Commission Funding Request

Planning Commission Representative Moran advised the Board that they would need to resubmit a letter to the City Commission requesting a line item be put in the budget for funding for the Community and Economic Development Board. He stated that Chairperson Scaccia was in the process of preparing a letter for the City Commission meeting.

Opening a Business in Marine City Inquiries

City Commission Representative Vercammen informed the Board that there was no strategic plan to meet potential investors at this time however, she did intend to introduce herself to new business owners.

Board Member Klingler questioned who he would need to contact regarding the incorporation of a ZOOM portal on the City website. City Manager Leven responded that it was on her list of things to do.

**New Business**

EDA – Blue Meets Green, Marine City Marina

Planning Commission Representative Moran informed the Board that there was very exciting movement in the acquisition of property and dockage on the Belle River. He informed the Board that the City was moving forward in the direction of acquiring the property adjacent to the City property, south of the LaBuhn Bridge. He stated that the City Commission had approved 6 Rivers Conservancy to move forward with working on a grant to purchase the property.

City Commission Representative Vercammen clarified that the City was looking at three different properties in that area and that the pricing for Property A had fallen through and they were now pursuing Property B which was located north of the LaBuhn Bridge on the east side, which is owned by the Cottrells. She advised that they were still working on a deadline but wanted to get something going.

Clinton River Cruise Boat Tours

Planning Commission Representative Moran stated that the Clinton River Cruise Boat Tour docking in Marine City was a work in progress but that they were moving along.

Board Member Klingler asked if the Captain of the Greyfox Ship had contacted the City; City Manager Leven advised that there had been no contact. Planning Commission Representative Moran questioned if it would be feasible for the Greyfox to come into town and dock. City Manager Leven responded that it was probably feasible but it may be more difficult due to the high water levels.

**Open Discussion**

City Commission Representative Vercammen updated the Board regarding a potential joint fundraising idea with the Chamber of Commerce selling raffle tickets for a cash prize. The only cost would be printing the tickets and obtaining the license. Planning Commission Representative Moran questioned if the CED Board would need City Commission approval. City Manager Leven responded that they would not as long as the event was held under the Chamber of Commerce. Planning Commission Representative Moran asked how to earmark the money for CED use. City Manager Leven advised that the City could accept donated funds from the Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the Community and Economic Development Board; she did not believe that the City could be a part of the event due to the gambling.

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen to approach the Marine City Area Chamber of Commerce to hold a joint fundraiser raffle and obtain licensing. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Board Member Klingler, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen to adjourn at 6:27 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Kristen Baxter

City Clerk