**City of Marine City**

**Community and Economic Development Board**

**June 22, 2022**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Community and Economic Development Board was held on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at 260 South Parker Street, and was called to order by Chairperson Moran at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Moran.

**Present: Planning Commission Representative (Chairperson) Joseph Moran; City Commission Representative Cheryl Vercammen; Chamber of Commerce Representative Paul Merchant; Board Member Cheryl Ross; City Manager Holly Tatman; Deputy Clerk Michele Goodrich**

**Absent: Board Members Robert Klingler, Heather Hatcher; TIFA Board Representative Bob Weisenbaugh.**

**Communications**

Chairperson Moran made comment that the City had asked him to prepare a letter of support for a future playground grant proposal.

**Approve Agenda**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Chamber Representative Merchant, to approve the Agenda with the addition of 8G: Financial Spending. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**

Andrew Pakledinaz informed the Board that the Paint the Town program would continue per conversations he had with the Historical Society.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion by Board Member Ross, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to approve the Community & Economic Development Board minutes of May 25, 2022. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Marine City Marina Project

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that the house was scheduled for demolition on July 7, 2022 and that St. Clair County had approved $45,000 in grant funding. She also informed the Board that the parking lot paving at the kayak launch site would be occurring soon.

Wood Chair for Downtown Photo Op

City Commission Representative Vercammen informed the Board that the wood chair should be delivered the following week and that she would reach out to Board Member Hatcher to complete the painting on the chair.

Vacant Storefronts

City Manager Tatman advised the Board that upon review, the new Ordinance cancelled out the current Ordinance instead of “being in addition to”. She stated that the 2nd Reading/Adoption of the Ordinance would be on the July City Commission Agenda.

300 Broadway

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that the first Committee meeting would be held July 19, 2022 at 6:00pm and a chairperson would be selected at that time. She hoped that the group would begin talking about the priority list for the building at the first meeting.

City Manager Tatman also stated that she had received interest in 303 South Water St., however, the Planning Commission would need to address issues with the zoning of the property at their next meeting. She advised that the currently zoned uses were not conducive to business and that the City was still working on obtaining a survey.

Downtown Mural Project

Board Member Ross stated that the downtown murals would be finished at the St. Clair Art Fair and would be installed in Marine City in late July.

City Manager Tatman discussed rewriting the Ordinance regarding the CEDB spending procedure.

Motion by Chairperson Moran, seconded by City Commission Representative Vercammen, to pay River Rec Teen Zone, in an amount not to exceed $1,200 through receipted grant funding, for the Downtown Mural Project. **Roll Call Vote**: Ayes: Moran, Merchant, Vercammen, Ross. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

13 Ways to Kill Your Community: Number 7: Don’t Cooperate

Chairperson Moran stated that the Board simply needed to be aware and always present as to open and supportive dialogue and to always try to engage potential volunteers.

Andrew Pakledinaz stated his belief that the City had done a fantastic job of being open and transparent.

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that she had contacted the high school principal to address student involvement in tackling blight issues and beautification efforts around the school and City. She stated that the conversation was well received and that the principal would take the suggestions to the School Board and follow up at a later date.

She also stated that City staff was working toward a cohesive design for park signage and that she would reach out to RESA regarding student engagement and possible internship programs. Additionally, she informed the Board that a school resource officer had been hired and she was hopeful that the officer would be able to get out and meet residents and business owners during the school off season.

CEDB Funds

Although the City Commission had voted to return the CEDB Splash Bash fundraiser funds to be held with the Chamber of Commerce, City Manager Tatman suggested that the City keep the funds due to potential issues with future funds received outside of the Chamber, such as grants. She stated that she was working on revising the current Ordinance to be brought back before the City Commission. She stated that the CEDB does substantial promoting, advertising and fundraising and that the role of the Board needed to change so that they could utilize their funds.

Laura Merchant addressed the Rediscover Your Downtown Campaign and informed the Board that postcards would be mailed next Monday and the event would be held July 14, 12-8 and that any City Representative was welcome to meet and greet with people at the Chamber.

**New Business**

Tour Boat Guide

City Manager Tatman informed the Board that she was researching how to get a tour boat back into Marine City and that she would like to get the word out to the boating community. Chairperson Moran advised that he would start calling people to gage interest.

Master Plan & Master Recreation Update

Chairperson Moran informed the Board that the Planning Commission was in the process of revising the Master Plan and the Recreation Plan for the City and recommended that Board Members review the current plans and provide any suggested updates at the next CEDB meeting.

**Open Discussion**

Board Member Ross stated that the location of the 26 Mile Corridor meeting had been changed to Harvest Event Center. City Manager Tatman stated that the workshops were crucial to the community. Board Member Ross also spoke in regard to her and her neighbors purchasing American flags through the St. Clair Rotary Club and questioned if Marine City could set up a similar program.

City Manager Tatman gave a status update on potential park projects and advised that she had spoken to the school Superintendent regarding the property next to Washington Life Center. She stated that she would like to present utilizing the ARPA funds for park improvements at the next City Commission meeting. She emphasized that while $400,000 is a lot of money, it was not a lot of money in terms of road or infrastructure projects.

Chairperson Moran advised that the Infrastructure Committee was reconvened to look at the City’s road situations. He stated that costs to repairs roads had gone up 30% this year and that $400,000 would not go far regarding road repairs.

City Commission Representative Vercammen would like to see information presented to the community regarding how little of a return the City would have on road projects with $400,000.

City Manager Tatman updated the Board to the received pre-engineering plans for the bike path and stated that there were interesting alternatives to fill the gaps and that she would be looking into how to obtain funding for parks and trails.

City Commission Representative Vercammen questioned if the County Commission granted $15,000 to the Marine City Police Department and Marine City Fire Authority, could the City Commission ultimately allocate those funds within their guidelines.

Chamber Representative Merchant stated that they had scheduled a “Meet the Candidate” event scheduled for September 13, 2022 at 6:30pm, and that the Chamber would be sponsoring the event.

**Adjournment**

Motion by City Commission Representative Vercammen, seconded by Chamber Representative Merchant, to adjourn at 7:21 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Goodrich

Deputy Clerk

Shannon Adams

City Clerk