

**City of Marine City  
City Commission  
May 3, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Marine City Commission was held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, and was called to order by Mayor Vandebossche at 7:00 pm.

After a prayer by Lorna MacDonald, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Vandebossche.

**Present: Mayor Dave Vandebossche; Commissioners Terrance Avery, Elizabeth Hendrick, William Klaassen, Rebecca Lepley, James Turner; City Manager Elaine Leven, City Clerk Kristen Baxter**

**Communications**

Received:

- Pension Board Minutes – January 30, 2018
- Pension/Retiree Health Care Minutes – January 30, 2018

Motion by Commissioner Klaassen, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to receive and file the Communications. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

**Public Comment**

Eric Stocker, Marysville, announced that he was running as a Republican candidate for State Representative.

Bill Haas, 203 Pleasant, spoke about looking up City Department head's court records, and said he was tired of people not doing their jobs.

Dan Micoff, 237 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, invited everyone to the May 12<sup>th</sup> Titanic Dedication ceremony.

## **APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the Agenda, with the following amendments:

### **Remove:**

- Titanic Memorial – Item #9-A

### **Add:**

- Michigan Titanic Memorial Dedication – Item #8-E

All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the City Commission Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2018, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Presented:**

- Special Event – Movie Night
- Special Event – Spring Flower Sale
- Special Event – VFW Poppy Sale
- Business License – Vera Grace & Etta Mae's (New Location)
- Special Event – Michigan Titanic Memorial Dedication

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to accept the Consent Agenda and file, as presented.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandenbossche, Avery, Hendrick, Klaassen, Lepley, Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### ***Ordinance No. 2018-002 – Parking of Recreational Equipment (Second Reading)***

Motion by Commissioner Klaassen, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to approve Ordinance No. 2018-002 – Parking of Recreational Equipment, as presented.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandenbossche, Avery, Klaassen, Lepley, Turner

Nays: Hendrick

Motion Carried.

### ***Sidewalk Replacement Program – Bids***

Motion by Commissioner Lepley, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to table the item until the May 17, 2018 meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Community Wayfinding Signage***

Joseph Moran, Planning Commission Chairperson, reported that a sub-committee for signs, consisting of himself, Planning Commissioners Graham Allan and Brian Ross, along with resident Patrick Phelan, met and discussed the promotion of a “Downtown Loop” and appropriate signage, as well as downtown parking.

Mr. Moran said there was a general lack of awareness of the signs and that they were inconsistent, poorly placed, and lacked a downtown loop (Water Street, Broadway, Parker, Bridge Street, and back to Water Street). He said the new signs would indicate the directions to restaurants, theatres, shops, hotel and ferry.

Mr. Moran also reported that Wade Trim had assessed that there was no shortage of parking downtown as much as a lack of awareness as to what parking was available. In order to increase awareness, the sub-committee discussed upgrading existing small signs directing people to parking with more visible and artistic signage.

He said the Planning Commission was seeking the City Commission’s approval to move forward to develop specific designs, ensure MDOT compliance, find vendors, determine costs and sources of funding. At this time, they would come back to the City Commission for final approval. Mr. Moran said there was no planned cost to the city other than the use of the Department of Public Works to make the sign installations.

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to instruct the sub-committee to provide a formal proposal to City Commission for signage. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Hendrick made several recommendations for signage directing people to the Little League Fields, Marine City High School, and port-a-johns downtown. She also suggested a Business Loop instead of Downtown Loop, as the loop would encompass more than just the downtown area.

### ***Infrastructure Committee Recommendations***

Joseph Moran, on behalf of the Infrastructure Committee, reported that he, City Manager Leven, DPW Superintendent Itrich, City Commissioner Klaassen, Planning Commissioner Bryson, and resident Trent Attebury were tasked with providing recommendations for the repair and upgrades to the city's infrastructure.

He said the Department of Public Works had identified four major streets and twenty-eight local streets that were in need of repair. To repair just the road surfaces would cost in the neighborhood of 1.7 million dollars. To repair the infrastructure would cost an additional 22 million dollars.

Several plans were presented by the sub-committee; one being a 6-year plan with no increase in revenue. Two others were alternative street repair plans that required additional funding through a loan or grant. Mr. Moran advised that the sub-committee recommended an alternative street repair plan and noted that the cost of waiting was too great.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to utilize the current fund balance for this year to resurface North Belle River between the city limit and West Boulevard (subject to funding), and resurface West Boulevard between M-29 and South Belle River.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandenbossche, Avery, Hendrick, Klaassen, Lpley, Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Lpley, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to direct the City Manager to work with the City Attorney to draft millage language seeking to secure from \$400,000 to the total value so that the Board could see options.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandenbossche, Avery, Hendrick, Klaassen, Lpley, Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

***Tetra Tech Contract -- Update***

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to approve the Tetra Tech contract for wastewater treatment plant operations, which included a 2% increase.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes:           Vandenbossche, Avery, Hendrick, Klaassen, Lepley, Turner

Nays:           None

Motion Carried.

***Architectural Design Services – Guy Center***

A draft Request for Proposals for Architectural Design Services for the Guy Community Center was provided to the Board for their review. City Manager Leven said she put together the RFP as a tool for extensive ADA design improvements to the Guy Center, should the city decide to maintain their current offices.

She explained that the RFP’s primary intent was to design physical renovations at the building for accessibility improvements in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). The RFP also asked for consideration for a secure space for the City Manager’s office, public restrooms, and emergency exists.

City Manager Leven stated that she was not looking for approval at this time, but would be open to feedback if the Board decided to move forward with it in the future.

No action taken.

***Naming Softball Drive***

Mayor Vandenbossche announced that the Little League had requested signage naming the driveway at the softball field, *One Softball Way*. He said the Little League had offered to pay for the sign and would work with DPW Superintendent Itrich and Building Official Wilburn to be sure the sign was compliant with city ordinances.

City Manager Leven stated that one of the reasons that the sign was requested was to assist people finding the field who were from out of town.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrick, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve the request for the sign. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

### ***Board Vacancies – Announcement***

Mayor Vandenbossche announced vacancies on the following Boards, effective July 1, 2018:

- Planning Commission – 1 vacancy
- Tax Increment Financing Authority – 2 vacancies
- Marine City Area Fire Authority – 2 vacancies
- Library Board – 2 vacancies

Interested applicants to apply to the City Clerk by May 24, 2018.

## **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

### ***Disbursements***

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Klaassen, to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$206,423.74, as presented.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandenbossche, Avery, Klaassen, Lepley, Turner

Nays: Hendrick

Motion Carried.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Leven reported on the following:

- Attended Infrastructure Committee Meeting
- Attended Budget Workshop
- Attended Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
- Attended SEMCOG Meeting
- Attended MDOT M-29 Meeting
- Met with Paul Dingeman regarding sound systems
- Attended meeting with MI State Development Housing Authority
- MCPD had a successful Drug Take Back Day
- Attending Inn on Water Street ribbon cutting tomorrow

- Vector truck delivered to DPW; employees being trained
- Thanked the Infrastructure Committee

## **COMMISSIONER PRIVILEGE**

Commissioner Avery commented that everyone liked to complain about roads and said now was the time for them to stand up and support the city knowing the roads had to be paid for.

Commissioner Lepley wished everyone a Happy Mothering Day and reminded everyone to attend the Titanic Memorial on May 12<sup>th</sup>. She also announced a concert by the East China Community Concert Band and SCC Community Singers on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Klaassen commented that funding for the city's roads and infrastructure was needed to fix on-going problems. He said the city's infrastructure was starting to fail and the city couldn't wait any longer.

Mayor Vandebossche thanked the Infrastructure Committee for their hard work and said the city was looking at different ways to come up with a solution for city roads and infrastructure and said they would need to make tough decisions in the future.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Commissioner Avery, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to go into Closed Session at 8:18 pm to Review Legal Opinion Regarding Consideration of the Purchase or Lease of Real Property – MCL 15.268 (d) and (h).

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Vandebossche, Avery, Hendrick, Klaassen, Lepley, Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

## **OPEN SESSION**

Motion by Commissioner Lepley, seconded by Commissioner Avery, to go back into Open Session at 8:42 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Lepley, seconded by Commissioner Hendrick, to adjourn at 8:43 pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kristen Baxter*

Kristen Baxter  
City Clerk