

In Regular Session Tuesday, June 12, 2007 at 5:15 PM in Town Hall Council Chambers, 323 W. Michigan Ave. Marshall, MI. Chairperson Tom Woods called the Marshall Airport Board meeting to order.

Present: Jeff Begg, Jase Bolger, Charles Dobbins, Mike Hindenach, Bill Ross, and Tom Woods

Absent: Mike Olson

Others: Mitch Price, Airport Manager; Ron Goodwin, Council Liaison

Approval of Agenda

By consensus, agenda approved on a voice vote, motion carried

Approval of Minutes

By consensus, approval of the June 12, 2007 minutes as submitted; on a voice vote, motion carried.

Treasurers Report

None submitted.

Airport Managers Report

Update:

- * New fuel pump is working well
- * Currently there is approximately 6,078 gallons of fuel in tank (Brooks now has one of the lowest price for fuel in the area – pilots are coming to Marshall fuel)
- * A debit/credit machine is now available at the airport
- * On schedule for the runway rehabilitation in the fall
- * Steve Sayers, Mercer, will install the second pump; must have fuel in the small tank for pump to be operational.
- * The City *will not* be purchasing an above-ground fuel system at this time.
- * The pumps will be inspected after August 2008.
- * SkyDive has done a wonderful job at keeping the airport open.

FBO Update:

- * What the City would like to see in a prospective fixed-base operator -
 - * Available flight service
 - * Adequate insurance coverage
 - * Maintenance service
 - * Reliability
 - * Longevity
- * Great Lakes Aviation Service has been advised there will be no new fuel system; it is unknown if they are still open to negotiation.
- * Note: For the 2008-2009 CIP the following should be added:
 - * \$16,000 for tanks inspection
 - * \$15,000 for tanks upgrade

FBO Report

- * Per Stan Lathrop; with the pumps operational, traffic at the airport has increased – word is out about the low fuel price.

Old Business

Removal of Derelict Plane (Mueller/Dechtler owners)

- * Chair Woods and Liaison Goodwin will contact the City attorney for assistance.

Contract negotiations with GLAS

- * Chair Woods and Liaison Goodwin will contact the City attorney for an update.

2008 Tank Inspection

- * Brief Board discussion re options if the tanks do not pass inspection. After the Board discusses possible options in detail, a presentation will be made to Council.

New Business

Stan Lathrop – FBO Presentation

Lathrop presented to the Board on the possibility of becoming the Brooks Field fixed-base operator.

- * Short-Term Goal:
 - * Continue to keep Brooks Field open daily and operational through the 2007 summer season
- * Intermediate-/Long-Term Goals:
 - * Check into contracting for a full service flight school to be operational for the 2008 season
 - * Create a 'gateway' program
 - * Develop a strategy to provide aircraft maintenance
 - * Make Brook Fields a 'destination airport'
 - * Work hand-in-hand with the City

The Board discussed Lathrop's presentation as possible fixed-base operator and requested he provide members with a Business Plan/Performa. The City will provide Lathrop with a copy of the fixed-base operator contract and history of utility expenses.

Public Comment

Lynn Humphries, SkyDive, MI, is very supportive of Lathrop as fixed-base operator

Rob Williams stated he believes Lathrop is honest and is aware of the possibilities and problems of a fixed-base operator; he also believes Lathrop would do a good job.

Dave Ashley likes Lathrop's realistic approach as fixed-base operator and hopes the City will allow him to run the operation independently. He feels it may be appropriate for the City to assist Lathrop financially while starting up.

Member Comment

Goodwin, Board Liaison, is supportive of Lathrop as fixed-base operator and thanks him for stepping up to keep the airport operational.

Member Ross is concerned with the City's minimal interest in Brooks Fields; the City should be willing to make an investment overall, and specifically, purchase a card reader for the fuel pumps and make additional necessary repairs. There is a need to integrate Brooks Field with the Main Street program to assist in marketing.

Member Hindenach believes the Board should take a serious look at a five and ten year plan; we should do everything we can do to make Brooks Field viable.

Next Regular Board Meeting Date

June 10, 2007 in Council Chambers.

Marshall Airport Board, Regular Session
Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cris Roberts