

March 22, 2021

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

March 22, 2021

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Marion held in the Council Chambers at 5:30 P.M. The City Clerk was instructed to call the roll and the response was as follows:

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER PATTON

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Victoria Shore.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Mayor Absher read a proclamation recognizing Girl Scouts Week and the 109th Anniversary of Girl Scouts. He presented the proclamation to Victoria Shore and several Girl Scouts and Troop Leaders that were in attendance. Victoria earned her Girl Scouts Gold Award in September. Mayor Absher asked her to speak about her Gold Award project.

Mrs. Tryphosia Lee, Coordinator of the Young Hearts with Goals and Purpose Banquet, addressed the council. She thanked them for their continued support over the years. She announced this is the 22nd year for the banquet that will be held on May 8, 2021 at 1:00 PM. She asked the council if they would provide sponsorship again this year. She asked for 10 tables and the cost of the Pavilion to be included in the sponsorship. Mayor Absher asked if this was comparable to what has been done in previous years. He said he believes this amount is included in the budget. Mrs. Lee thanked the Council and invited them to attend this year's banquet.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Absher stated he is always concerned about the perception of the intended use of the consent agenda. Someone mentioned to him that people watching the council meeting videos after the fact do not have the benefit of knowing the detail listed on the consent agenda. Mayor Absher explained the agendas are posted on the City website, so they may be accessed while watching the council meeting videos.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

NEW BUSINESS

BUILDING AND CODE SERVICES

Mayor Absher announced four bids were received for demolishing a residential building at 1306 West Main Street. He distributed a bid to each Commissioner to open and read into the record. The following bids were received:

Terra Pro Excavating, Creal Springs	\$13,000
McVicker Excavating, Herrin	\$10,780
Big Muddy Excavating, Marion	\$25,720
Neat Cut, Marion	\$ 9,850

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Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve the low bid of \$9,850 from Neat Cut to demolish a building at 1306 West Main Street PIN 06-13-390-004. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Barwick read the February Police Department Narcotics Unit report.

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report. For his monthly trivia, he asked how much pressure does it take to lift a 5,000-pound slab of concrete? The answer is 10 psi. He also asked what percentage of the earth's water supply is suitable for drinking? The answer is one percent. He also announced there will be a Senior Town Hall and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on March 31, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the Marion Cultural and Civic Center. This clinic is for individuals falling under the 1A or 1B classification.

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department has been inventorying streets for damage from the Winter freeze. They continue to repair sidewalks and work on demolitions. He read the dates for the Spring Clean Up scheduled in April. He reported the Cemetery Department is sharpening mower blades to get ready for mowing season.

Commissioner Barwick asked Commissioner Webb if the gate for the yard waste dump at the Street Department could be left open longer on Saturdays to give residents extra time to get their items dumped. Commissioner Webb said he would check with Superintendent Phillips to make sure there wouldn't be a problem leaving it open longer.

Mayor Absher reported the Senior Citizens Center served 3,067 meals in February. They also held the second Rules of the Road class at the Oasis Drive-in. They are having another pie fundraiser. Pies must be ordered by March 29, 2021 for pick up on April 1, 2021. They will be having outdoor line dancing on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM and the Farmer's Market will resume on April 10, 2021. Senior Citizens Center Director Jill Graskewicz is working on coordinating a picnic in the park with the Marion Park District.

Commissioner Stoecklin added that of the 14 COVID-19 vaccine clinics he held last week, the clinic at the Senior Citizens Center was the most organized.

5:55 PM

Mayor Absher made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a real estate matter pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) and a personnel matter pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

7:25 P.M.

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Commissioner Webb made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

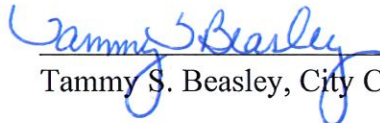
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk