

December 28, 2020

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

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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 Sergeant J D Dwyer.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Barwick congratulated Jessie Thompson on his promotion. He read a letter from the Merit Board recommending Officer Thompson for promotion to Sergeant.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the Merit Board's recommendation to promote Jessie Thompson to Sergeant effective January 1, 2021 to fill the vacancy left by Sergeant Bart Baldwin's retirement. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Police Chief David Fitts said Officer Jessie Thompson was hired with the Marion Police Department on August 16, 2008. He worked as a patrol officer for two years and was awarded the Medal of Valor for dedication to teamwork related to a lifesaving rescue that occurred during the May 8, 2009 storm. In October 2013 he was assigned to the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group as an undercover narcotics officer. On October 9, 2017 he was assigned to the newly created Marion Police Department Narcotics Unit. Chief Fitts presented Officer Thompson with his Sergeant's badge.

Police Chief David Fitts presented the Dispatcher of the Year Award to Holly Newlin. He explained Holly was instrumental in the positive outcome of a near drowning of a City employee's family member. She shows great compassion for victims or individuals in distress. She is an advocate for officer safety. She often prepares meals for Police Department employees at her own cost. Chief Fitts told Holly her work is noticed and appreciated.

Police Chief David Fitts presented the Officer of the Year Award to Detective Maria Dwyer. He described Detective Dwyer as a perfectionist and meticulous when investigating a case. He also stated she is not afraid to let the boss know when something is wrong or needs improved upon. She was assigned 138 cases in the last 12 months. She has been instrumental in planning the Halloween Spooktacular events hosted by the Marion Police Department. She was also instrumental in investigating the Carla Burns homicide in Saline County. Her testimony resulted in a conviction and 45-year prison sentence.

Police Chief David Fitts presented a special award to the Marion Police Department Narcotics Unit. He stated during 2020 they had 260 cases, 141 arrests, executed 22 search warrants, had six federal indictments, seven consent searches, 33 controlled drug purchases and turned 20 confidential sources. They seized 8,651.669 grams of meth; 1,139.7 grams of cocaine; and 24,900.7 grams of cannabis. They seized \$60,047 in US currency, four vehicles, two illegal

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cannabis grow operations and four firearms. Chief Fitts presented Sergeant J D Dwyer with a certificate of appreciation for his leadership of the unit and he presented a plaque to all members of the unit.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3694 authorizing the sale of surplus property located at 416 Jefferson Street. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve Ordinance 3693 repealing and replacing Ordinance 3386 regulating Vacation Rentals. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-59 adopting the Third Amendment to the Marion Star Bond District. Commissioner Stoecklin 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 approve Ordinance 3692 a Petition for Annexation for a part of PIN # 06-16-100-035 to be zoned R-2 Multi-Family Residential. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Stoecklin read the 2020 Public Works Report. He also reported Marion started on 20 acres donated by William Benson. This is the area where the square is currently located. The original town consisted of a square and one block surrounding. There was a total of 47 lots in all. In 1839, the town was named Marion and the county was named Williamson.

Commissioner Barwick had nothing to report.

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Commissioner Webb had nothing to report but thanked the Street and Cemetery Departments and expressed his appreciation for their hard work.

Mayor Absher had nothing to report.

Mayor Absher announced there was no need for executive session this evening.

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

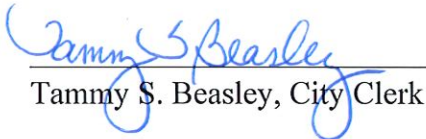
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:59 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk