

October 12, 2020

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

October 12, 2020

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 PATTON, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

PRESENT BY TELEPHONE: COMMISSIONER BARWICK

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Absher.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake addressed the Council on behalf of Police Chief David Fitts. Cody explained the Merit Board is recommending hiring Chase Rednour to the position of Patrol Officer. Mr. Rednour is currently a Patrol Officer in Murphysboro where he has worked for the last three years. He is a graduate of Trico High School and Southern Illinois University. He is also a member of the Illinois Army National Guard. He has already completed the pre-employment requirements.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Merit Board to hire Chase Rednour to the position of Patrol Officer at a starting salary of \$25.46/hour plus benefits, per the contract. His start date will be Monday, October 26, 2020. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher explained the Police Department needs to purchase two vehicles. He thinks the amount on the agenda seems low. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake stated Chief Fitts double checked the bid and found a mistake. Cody stated the Missouri Highway Patrol does not currently have vehicles available for purchase, so new vehicles will have to be purchased. Vogler Ford is locating two vehicles. They had the low bid of \$68,392 for two vehicles. There will be an additional \$11,000 in equipment required for each vehicle. Cody explained Chief Fitts is expecting a donation this week and thinks he will be able to rearrange his budget to make both vehicles fit.

BUILDING & CODE SERVICES

October 12, 2020

Commissioner Patton made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a zoning change at West DeYoung Street and Walton Way, PIN # 06-15-203-001, 06-15-203-002, 06-15-126-002, 06-15-126-001, 06-15-205-001 and 06-15-127-001 from R-A Rural Agriculture to C-2 Highway Commercial. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake gave a brief history of Ordinance 3386, the Vacation Rental ordinance to the Council. Prior to the eclipse in August 2017, the Council passed the ordinance regulating vacation rentals. This is the first time this issue has come before the Council. Cody explained per the ordinance, the Council can approve a vacation rental, approve the rental with conditions or disapprove the vacation rental. Cody stated the Council may also revoke a license that has been previously issued if necessary. Cody explained the property at 408 Bainbridge Road is mainly being rented to visiting physicians from the VA Hospital. Cody also stated Code Enforcement Officer Brian Van Horn inspected the property at 408 Bainbridge Road and a copy of that report is included with the council agenda packet.

Commissioner Stoecklin asked if the City wants to get into VRBO rentals and where should these rental properties be allowed. Commissioner Webb stated he can see where parking might be an issue if a group is renting a property. Mayor Absher asked Cody if this type of activity has already been taking place in the City. Cody said it had. Cody explained that a neighbor to the property in question originally complained about parking. Since letters were mailed out by Mr. Powell notifying neighbors of the rental activity, no one else has complained. Commissioner Patton stated if an annual inspection of the property is made and conditions are met and parking isn't an issue, he is okay with granting a license, but he thinks the City needs to be notified of the rental activity. Commissioner Stoecklin thinks inspections should be performed more often than annually; possibly twice per year. Commissioner Barwick asked if a rental permit may be revoked if problems arise. He also recommended a search should be performed for properties located in the City that are currently being rented. He thinks those property owners should then be notified of the ordinance and inspection requirements. Mayor Absher agreed. He asked the Commissioners to review the ordinance for possible changes to the process.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve Jason Powell's Vacation Rental Application for 408 Bainbridge Road subject to fixing the deficiencies on the inspection report. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Mayor Absher announced the City is getting ready for the demolition of the Pali Kai and Marion Daily Republican buildings. The City recently acquired the old American Legion building and Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida asked the demolition contractor, Earth Services, to quote tearing down that building. Their quote was \$29,980 for the

October 12, 2020

demolition and \$15,000 for the asbestos abatement. Since Rural Development is providing grant funds to cover part of the cost of the project, Glenn asked if the City could submit a change order to the current demolition contract instead of bidding the demolition of the American Legion building separately. This request is because there are a limited number of contractors who perform asbestos abatement. Rural Development is fine with the City submitting a change order for the additional demolition and asbestos abatement costs. No additional grant funding will be received, however. Mayor Absher asked if the Commissioners were okay with him signing a change order to include the demolition and asbestos abatement of the American Legion building on the current contract. All Commissioners were on board with him signing the change order.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve Ordinance 3663 approving a petition for annexation from Parks & Roberts Rentals, LLC for PIN # 06-09-200-010 along North Skyline Drive. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-55 supporting the City's application for an ITEP grant through the Illinois Department of Transportation. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher stated he considers the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal quote very good. The increase in premium was much cheaper than was anticipated.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal for 2021. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department continues working on sidewalks and cleaning ditches. The street sealing is complete in Maplewood and Oddfellows Cemeteries. Now the grass is finished growing, the Cemetery crews can concentrate on some other work they need to complete.

Commissioner Barwick read the Marion Police Department Report for September 2020.

Commissioner Patton reported the sales tax report looks good. He reported September was a good month because revenue was increased compared to the same time in 2019.

October 12, 2020

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report with activity since the October 12th meeting. He also reminded everyone the Veterans on Parade and Electronics Recycling event are both on Saturday. He presented Mayor Absher with a doll, The Mayor of Halloween Town, from the Nightmare Before Christmas movie. The doll's head rotates to show a happy face on one side and a grumpy face on the other side.

Mayor Absher announced the Electronics Recycling event will be held on Saturday at the old Teen Town at 211 East Boulevard from 9:00 am to noon. He also announced the long-standing Veterans on Parade will be Saturday at 10:00 am. It will end at Williamson County Fairgrounds at 11:30 am with a short ceremony. Mayor Absher stated he appreciates parade organizer Ed Davis and his committee for all their hard work. Mayor Absher also announced long serving City Commissioner Jay Rix passed away. Jay is also the father of valued City Employee, Kim Dooley. Mayor Absher commented that the City joins her in mourning her dad.

Mayor Absher announced there was no reason to go into Executive Session this evening.

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

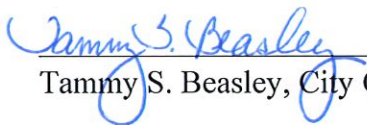
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:22 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk