

July 27, 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 6:30 P.M. The City Clerk was instructed to call the roll and the response was as follows:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Absher.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to pass the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Public Works Superintendent Brent Cain explained to the Council there is a problem with a 15-inch sewer line along South Carbon Street near Redbud. This line is referred to by the Sewer Department as the VA line because it was originally put in to serve the VA Hospital. The line is causing a six to eight-foot-deep sink hole. There are lateral cracks within a 200-foot section of the line. This section of the sewer line needs to be lined to fix the problem. The Sewer Department received a bid from local contractor Skuta Construction, Inc. for \$16,000 to install the liner in the 200-foot section of the sewer line. Brent explained no other local contractors do this type of work. Any other contractor would have to travel from out of the area and there would be travel costs involved in addition to the repair costs. The Sewer Department has budgeted \$50,000 for these types of emergency repairs. Until the repairs can be made, the Sewer Department has filled in the hole and covered the area with metal plates. Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Public Works Superintendent to accept the bid of \$16,000 from Skuta Construction, Inc. for urgent repair on the 15-inch sanitary sewer line. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Before making a motion, Commissioner Patton stated he had read the minutes of the Zoning Board Meeting and his only concern was with parking issues. Mayor Absher stated he was here the evening of the Zoning Board Meeting and several neighbors attended. From what he heard; the neighbors were in favor of the permit. Commissioner Patton made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a Special Use Permit for M. Christina Kell to use 1602 N. Bentley Street PIN #06-12-382-013 as a partial Healthcare Acupuncture Clinic. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a 5' rear and 8' front variance at 300 E. Warder Street PIN#07-19-110-003 for Melvin Barnett Properties to build a single-family unit building. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Wendy Cunningham stated Resolution 2020-52 was the contract to join the opioid litigation. Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-52 declaring that the unlawful distribution of prescription controlled substances has created a public nuisance and a serious public health and safety crisis for the citizens of Marion and authorizing the retention of Howerton, Dorris, Stone & Lambert and Goldenberg, Heller & Antognoli P.C. to represent the City to investigate and if appropriate to pursue civil remedies afforded under the law. 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

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve a petition to vacate a part of the Illinois Centre Subdivision. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve a petition to vacate a part of Homer Reinbold Subdivision. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the Hill Phase IV Subdivision. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve Ordinance 3637 approving the execution of a professional services agreement for the 2nd Amendment to the North Commercial TIF with Jacob & Klein and The Economic Development Group. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

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Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director to award the low bid of \$16,117.50 to Title Professionals, Inc. for title policy for the sale of Sugar Creek Lake properties. 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 explained water from the four buildings surrounding the Goodall building drains into the basement of the Goodall building. Street Department Superintendent and Public Works Superintendent Brent Cain worked with bidders to develop a plan for drainage that would be a permanent solution to the problem. Mayor Absher explained the Goodall building is being remodeled and he hopes this plan makes the basement a viable space. The City received the following bids for the project:

Skuta Construction, Inc.	\$28,900
J. M. Jones, Inc.	\$32,535

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the low bid of \$28,900 from Skuta Construction, Inc. for the drainage project to route water away from the Goodall building to the storm sewer using TIF funds. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher stated during the Christmas event on the Square last year, he and Cody scrambled to find blown breakers. He explained between \$50,000 and \$60,000 in electrical work needs to happen before any other events can be held on the Square. Marion Main Street and Marion United have events planned for next year. Before these events take place, there needs to be 200- or 400-amp service on the Square. Street Department Superintendent Doug Phillips suggested the City use portable access points so that power is available during these events. The City received bids to add electrical service to the Square, but Mayor Absher would like to table approving this for further research and consideration.

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 3634 changing all regular meeting start times to 5:30 PM beginning with the August 10th regular meeting. Commissioner Barwick 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 explained the Power of Attorney with Select Energy grants them the ability to go out to the market to seek the best price for electricity. Every member of the Municipal Electricity Aggregation Consortium must approve and execute the Power of Attorney. Mayor Absher made a motion to approve executing a Power of Attorney with Select Energy to negotiate our upcoming Municipal Electric Aggregation agreement.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Barwick had nothing to report.

Commissioner Patton had nothing to report.

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department continues to work on sidewalks and striping the streets. Now that the street paving is complete, they will be installing raised reflectors. He reported the Cemetery looks good. With all the recent rain, they continue mowing and trimming.

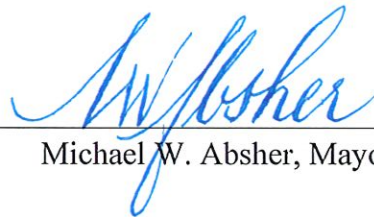
Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report and reported the Sewer Department assisted on two water line breaks. He also shared a bit of trivia on the origination of fire hydrants.

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

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

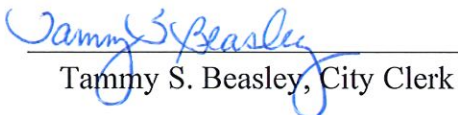
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk