

November 8, 2021

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

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Public Hearing

Mayor Absher announced prior to opening the regular meeting, there would be a Public Hearing regarding the annexation and rezoning of a portion of parcel 06-22-200-004 and a portion of parcel 06-22-200-005 on West Main Street. The petition for annexation requests the parcel to be rezoned to L-1 Light Industrial. Hearing no public comments, Mayor Absher adjourned the Public Hearing.

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, BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Boy Scouts in attendance.

PROCLAMATION

Jeff Shore with DCFS was present at the Council Meeting for the recognition of National Adoption Day. Mayor Absher read a proclamation recognizing Friday, November 19, 2021 as National Adoption Day in Marion. Jeff Shore told the council that on Friday, November 19, 2021, the courts will be open for adoptions in Williamson County. He said there will be between 22 and 24 children adopted on that day. He told the council this is the third year the City has recognized National Adoption Day. He thanked Mayor Absher and the Council for their support.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert “Bo” Emery addressed the Council regarding the Global Mission Care Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) organization he represents. He told the council this organization has been created to help people with unknown/undiagnosed diseases. They are holding an informational meeting Tuesday at 5:00 P.M. at the Pavilion. He told the Council 15.5 million people are affected by unknown/undiagnosed diseases. He told the Council he has helped to create an all-natural supplement that will get the immune system working. This supplement will be given to citizens free through this organization. He is interested in bringing the headquarters for this organization to Marion.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Mayor Absher told the Council and audience item 6A is the item the Public Hearing was held for. The petition for annexation of the property on West Main Street also requests the property be zoned to L-1 Light Industrial.

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Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the petition to annex and rezone a portion of parcel 06-22-200-004 and a portion of parcel 06-22-200-005. 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 accepting a subdivision platted as Main Street Marion Subdivision. Commissioner Webb 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 Woodlands Phase 1 Subdivision is the land south of Pet Wellness Center owned by Dr. Craig Smith. The road to Pet Wellness Center will be the road used to access all parcels in the subdivision. This subdivision is a two-acre parcel. Commissioner Stoecklin announced he would be abstaining from the vote since he will be purchasing two acres from Dr. Smith.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve accepting a subdivision platted as The Woodlands Phase 1 Subdivision. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida told the Council the Rebuild Illinois Program is a three-year program. The City will receive two payments during the three-year period. The City will receive \$1,133,086.38 for the Westminster Drive project. The improvements to Westminster Drive will be separate from the replacement of the bridge over Interstate 57. Glenn said the bridge replacement is an IDOT project and will cause Westminster Drive to be closed. He told the Council the project will be completed in pieces because the road can't be totally closed. City Engineer Brian Ziegler told the Council the improvements will be from Carbon Street to Fosse Road and will take nine to ten months to complete.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-23 allocating Rebuild Illinois funds to the Westminster Road project. 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 purchase of 1006 South Duncan Street allows access to City owned parcels east and west of it

Mayor Absher made a motion to purchase 1006 South Duncan Street. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

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Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake told the Council there was a change to Resolution 2021-25 after the packet was printed. The name in the Resolution should be Marion South, LLC instead of Marion Center Project.

Mayor Absher made a motion to adopt Residential TIF II inducement Resolutions 2021-24 and 2021-25 with Main Street Marion, LLC and Marion South, LLC. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

STREET DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Webb told the Council it is time to purchase salt for de-icing the roads this Winter. The bid he is presenting was through the State CMS. The salt will be supplied by Compass Materials. The bid is for a 600-ton contract at a price of \$74.08 per ton. The bid is good for 80% up to 120% of the contract amount. He believes this is a good price.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to purchase salt per the contract at \$74.08 per ton as needed. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Webb told the Council the roads around the Sugar Creek Lake Project have been transferred back to Johnson County. Before Johnson County would accept the roads through a jurisdictional transfer, they required the City to perform some maintenance on the roads. Some patching and oil and chipping were done. The invoice presented is for the oil and chip on Wagon Creek Road. Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida told the Council Wagon Creek Road is approximately one mile long. Now, the City will need to complete a jurisdictional transfer.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve payment to Johnson County for maintenance of Wagon Creek Road using Gas Tax funds. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mayor Absher told the Council a prior Council signed a lease agreement with Greater Egypt Regional Planning Commission to build a building east of the Pavilion. Greater Egypt has sublet the property. Item 8 A is now assigning the lease over to Millennium Destination Development, LLC. City Attorney Wendy Cunningham stated there is nothing in the original lease that would prohibit this.

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Mayor Absher made a motion to approve to consent to the assignment of a ground lease from Greater Egypt Regional Planning Commission to Millennium Destination Development, LLC. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher told the Council Ordinance 3757 is routine. City Attorney Wendy Cunningham told the Council the City must follow the Local Records Act. The Illinois Municipal League recommends municipalities put the Ordinance in place because of new practices required with keeping complaints in police departments.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve Ordinance 3757 adopting a records retention policy. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher told the Council the City applied for and received two separate grants for the Tower Square. These are not for work in the center of the Square, but for improvements to the outlying area. The work to be done includes upgrading watermain and lighting, making sidewalks ADA compliant and updating pavement. The pavement improvements include making radii smaller to help slow down traffic and installing removable bollards. He told the Council and audience no parking spaces will be removed as part of this work. The engineering agreement with IDOT will allow Clarida & Ziegler Engineering to get started on the project. According to City Engineer Brian Ziegler, it will be next fall before the project is bid. The actual work on the project will be done in 2023.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the engineering agreement with IDOT for the ITEP and STU project related to downtown renovations. 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 told the Council it is time to renew City health insurance. This year's quote from Blue Cross Blue Shield is an increase of \$96,000. This is approximately a 2.2 percent increase over the previous year. He explained the first premium bill will have a \$100,000 credit. He feels this is a competitive rate since the City had more claims last year. He was anticipating a much higher increase. He told the Council he does think the City should take the health insurance out for bids every couple years to be sure we are getting competitive rates.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve the health insurance renewal. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

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COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department started the Fall Clean Up today. He reported the Cemetery Department had 15 burials and sold 2 lots in October. The Cemetery employees are busy trimming around the markers for Veterans Day. They have borrowed a few employees from the Street Department to help.

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since the last council meeting. He announced the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge is waiving vehicle and boat fees on Veterans Day. He also reminded everyone the 12th Annual Chili Cookoff at the Elks will be on Saturday, November 13. He thanked everyone involved in the Marion Police Department Spooktacular.

Commissioner Barwick read the October reports for the Fire Department, Police Department, Narcotics Unit, Detective Unit and Animal Control. He reported there were 6,927 dispatched calls, 2,522 911 calls and 320 ambulance calls during October.

Commissioner Patton had no report.

Mayor Absher reported Club 60 will be holding a COVID vaccine booster and flu shot clinic tomorrow from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. They continue to provide Medicare enrollment help and counseling. On Wednesday, November 10, they will be honoring Veterans. Executive Director Jill Graskewicz also asked Mayor Absher to thank Chief Barnett and the firefighters who recently spoke to the seniors.

MISCELLANEOUS

Police Chief David Fitts told the Council the Cops & Kids program will be December 7th and 9th at Marion Walmart at 5:00 P.M. and December 8th at 5:00 P.M. and December 11th at 9:00 A.M. at the Herrin Walmart. Applications for children to participate in this program may be picked up at the Police Department or printed from the City website. He explained the program spends \$100 on each child and more donations received equals more children served. He told the Council this is a county wide program. The FOP solicits donations, but anyone wanting to donate to the program may contact Detective Carl Eggemeyer. He also reported between 6,000 and 7,000 people participated in the Spooktacular this year.

Commissioner Barwick commented on the mural on the building on North Court Street across from the Fire Department. He encouraged everyone to drive by and see it if they haven't already. Mayor Absher said the mural was privately commissioned; the City did not pay for it. It was painted by Maddie Dieters.

Commissioner Stoecklin thanked the Boy Scouts for attending tonight's meeting.

Mayor Absher announced the brackets for Tyler Hughes' Eagle Scout Project were installed. Tyler will be installing the flags Wednesday night for Veterans Day.

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6:47 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 Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

8:14 P.M.

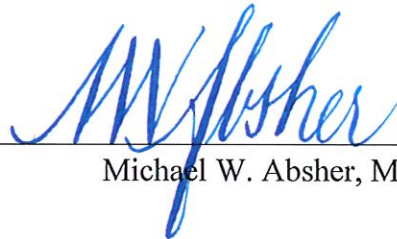
Commissioner Webb made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

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

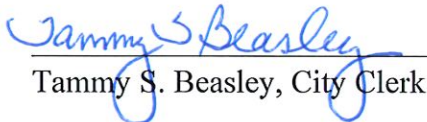
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk