

November 22, 2021

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 PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Absher.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments this evening.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Mayor Absher stated Ordinance 3759 is an amendment to a TIF agreement. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake explained the amendment came from the TIF attorneys. Several of the receipts for costs incurred that were turned in for reimbursement by Daniel Tondini came from the additional companies he owns. By law, the improvements are to be paid for by the developer. The amended agreement lists Mr. Tondini's other companies as developers.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 3759 an amended Redevelopment Agreement with Daniel Tondini. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher explained Ordinance 3760 Adding Territory to the Williamson County Enterprise Zone is adding land out by Creal Springs to the Enterprise Zone for a meat packing plant. Commissioner Patton asked for a clarification on Exhibit B4. He asked if it shows the property connecting to property closer to the City. He said it looks like it links to another property on South Market Road. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake called Cary Minnis of Greater Egypt to get a clarification on the 1.25 acre connecting strip. Per Cary Minnis, the three-foot-wide strip connects the property to South Market Road allowing the property to be contiguous to the current Enterprise Zone.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3760 Adding Territory to the Williamson County Enterprise Zone. 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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Mayor Absher explained Ordinance 3761 is a redevelopment agreement with an individual in the Residential TIF District. This individual is contemplating making significant improvements to her home. Cody Moake told the Council Ms. Neice has made exterior and interior improvements to her home. Commissioner Webb pointed out an error in the ordinance which referred to the Village instead of the City.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3761 a Residential TIF Redevelopment Agreement with Monica Neice with the word Village corrected to City. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

City Attorney Wendy Cunningham told the Council in July 2020 they authorized the City to retain outside counsel to file a complaint against several defendants which essentially joined the City in the National Opioid Litigation. Wendy told the Council two separate settlements have been reached involving some defendants including one with three distributors: McKesson, Cardinal Health and Amerisource Bergen and one with manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals and parent company Johnson & Johnson. It has been recommended by our attorneys and City attorney Cunningham to join in those settlements. City Attorney Cunningham explained the City will need to sign the settlement participation forms and send back to the attorneys. She thinks it is in the City's best interest to participate in these settlements. If the City chooses not to participate, it will not get any of the funds from the settlements. The possibility of the City moving forward on its own is slim. She also explained these settlements do not close litigation involving all defendants. Litigation with other defendants continues to move forward. At this time, she does not know how much money the City will get. She says it is quite an interesting calculation to compute settlement amounts. She explained Illinois is taking steps to make sure municipalities get Incentive A group which is the best settlement. She explained the settlement process to the Council. She answered questions the Commissioners had.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion authorizing the Mayor to execute the Opioid Settlement Participation documents. 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 Fall Cleanup went well this year. The Street Department continues working on the sidewalk projects. They are trying to finish those this week. The Cemetery Department is getting ready for Winter.

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since last council meeting. He reported the demolition of the old water treatment plant is almost complete. The next step will be to repair the water lines that feed the City. He told the Council and audience Taco John's is

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having a fundraiser to help cancer patients on Thursday, December 2 from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. They will donate fifty percent of their sales to provide financial assistance to cancer patients in southern Illinois. Connect 360 is having a hands to toes drive. They will be collecting gloves and socks and taking monetary donations at the Boyton Street Community Center and Marion Elks. For his trivia question, Commissioner Stoecklin asked whether a 12-inch water line or 4-inch water line has the most pressure. The answer is they have the same amount of pressure but deliver different volumes of water. He also reminded everyone City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday this week for Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Barwick reminded everyone looking for pets for Christmas gifts to adopt pets from Animal Control.

Commissioner Patton had nothing to report from the Treasurer's office, but stated as a community we have a lot to be thankful for this year since the City is in the position it is in.

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

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

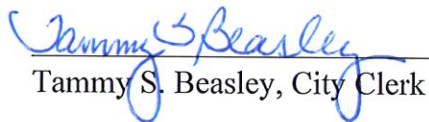
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk