

February 28, 2022

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.

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

STREET DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Webb told the Council the Street Department plans to trade in a 25-year-old track hoe on a new model. They received two bids. The bids were as follows:

Fabick	2022 Caterpillar 315 GC net of trade-in	\$154,890
Roland Machinery	2021 Komatsu PC138USLC-11 net of trade-in	\$162,900

Commissioner Webb said the quote from Fabick was the best cost due to a \$30,000 trade-in allowance.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2022 CAT 315 GC with accessories for \$154,890 with trade-in: a future budgeted item. Commissioner Barwick 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 told the Council Ordinance 3786 sets the date and time for a second public hearing for Residential TIF II. The first public hearing was held prior to the February 14, 2022, council meeting. The second public hearing is set for April 25, 2022, at 5:00 P.M. prior to the council meeting on that date.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve Ordinance 3786 setting a date and time for a public hearing regarding the proposed Residential TIF II. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

February 28, 2022

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

Mayor Absher asked Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida to explain the Widening of West Main/5th Street Intersection project. Glenn told the Council the widening of West Main Street is in conjunction with the signalization of the West Main Street/5th Street Intersection. He explained the widening will be on the south side of West Main Street adding one lane from the State building entrance east to the intersection. This will allow for a right turn lane at the intersection. Engineer for the project, Ryan Farley, told the Council two bids were received for the project. He said Marion Concrete intended to bid but missed the bid. The bids were received as follows:

ET Simonds Construction Co.	\$147,076.48
Samron Midwest Contracting	\$152,152.00

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the contract award to ET Simonds Construction Co. for \$147,076.48 for widening of the West Main Street/Fifth Street Intersection. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher asked for Resolution 2022-09 to be tabled at the request of Street Department Superintendent Doug Phillips. He said that Doug wanted to research the amounts on the resolution.

Mayor Absher told the Council he had received one phone call from a resident upset about the Wildcat Cove Subdivision. He asked developer Enrico Castellano if he had received any feedback from residents. He had not. Mayor Absher also asked if any of the lots were sold yet. Mr. Castellano told him none were sold. He said he may be building his home there and some spec houses. He said the houses will be in the 1,700 to 1,800 square foot range.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve Ordinance 3781 accepting a subdivision platted as Wildcat Cove Subdivision. Commissioner Webb 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 3785 is for a new Smoothie King.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3785 a Route 13 TIF Redevelopment Agreement with Southern Illinois SK, LLC. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

February 28, 2022

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Barwick made the motion to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the Marion Professional Fire Fighters Local No. 2977 and the City. Commissioner Patton 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 City Attorney Wendy Cunningham and Chief of Staff Cody Moake had worked with him to create Ordinance 3782. They had reached out to some people in the shipping container business for feedback on the ordinance. They received some feedback earlier today. He asked that Ordinance 3782 be tabled so there is time to digest the feedback and make any necessary changes to the ordinance.

Mayor Absher said the City was waiting to see what OSHA was going to do after staying their mandate on COVID vaccines before repealing the City policy. Since OSHA has withdrawn the mandate on COVID vaccines, the City needs to stay consistent with OSHA, so we are repealing Ordinance 3767 which established the City's Vaccine and Testing Policy.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve Ordinance 3783 repealing Ordinance 3767 which established the City's OSHA Vaccine and Testing Policy. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher asked Chief of Staff Cody Moake to explain the ceding of the City's private activity bonding authority to the Southern Illinois Economic Development Authority. Cody explained the City is granted a per capita private activity bonding authority each year. He told the Council, to his knowledge, the City has never used this bonding authority. Each year the Southern Illinois Economic Development Authority asks the City to cede that private activity bonding authority to them. Since the City does not use this private activity bonding authority, the Southern Illinois Economic Development Authority is asking to take the City's allotment to use for their own purposes.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3784 ceding the City's private activity bonding authority to the Southern Illinois Economic Development Authority. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Patton had nothing to report.

February 28, 2022

Commissioner Barwick had nothing to report.

Commissioner Stoecklin reported tonight is trivia night. He read the Water Department report since last meeting. He reported January totals and JULIE calls for the month. He gave kudos to the Boyton Street All Stars for the recent chili supper. He announced there would be a Soup for Sherry fundraiser on Saturday March 5th for Sherry Cash. He reported the Civic Center has another great line-up of entertainment for March. He gave a shout out to Josh and crew for doing a great job. For the trivia question tonight, he asked how much water is used for an automatic dishwasher cycle. The average automatic dishwasher uses nine to twelve gallons. He also asked how much water is used to hand wash dishes. Ten to twenty gallons are used to hand wash dishes.

Commissioner Webb announced he did not have any trivia this evening. He reported the Street Department continues to repair sidewalks. They are also working on drainage issues. He reported the Cemetery Department is staying busy with burials and Winter maintenance.

Commissioner Stoecklin reminded residents to please not flush Clorox wipes and baby wipes as they are clogging sewers.

Mayor Absher announced he and Chief of Staff Cody Moake finally have a better grasp on the ARPA fund rules. Mayor Absher said he will communicate a list of possible projects to be funded with ARPA money by the next council meeting. He is also considering giving some grants to 501(c)(3) organizations from that money. There will be an application process for these organizations to apply for restricted and unrestricted grants. The restricted grants could be used to fund new programs, i.e., food assistance for the community. The unrestricted grants could be used to help offset economic hardships endured during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Absher explained he wants to create a committee of four people to score the applications. He would like to see two Commissioners and a CPA on the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tryphosia Lee arrived late to the council meeting after the Public Comment period. Mayor Absher asked her if she would like to address the Council. Mrs. Lee told the Council May 21, 2022, is the 23rd annual Young Hearts with Goals and Purpose banquet. She said for several years the Council has sponsored ten tables at \$120 per table. This year she is asking if they will sponsor twenty tables. She explained this year she is going to honor students from the Boys and Girls Club and Boyton Street Community Center. She told the Council this is one of the largest events in the City. She wants to also honor coaches, sports teams, and academic teams. She also asked the Council to sponsor the Pavilion rental fee. Mayor Absher told her the City had budgeted for a donation to her event, but it was not the amount she has requested. He told her he will have to see how much the City can donate and he will check with Pavilion Executive Director Jared Garrison on the building rental fee.

February 28, 2022

Marion resident James E. "Jimmy" Johnson also arrived late to the council meeting. He asked Mayor Absher if he may also address the Council. He told the Council he was concerned with speeding at the corner of West Cherry and Fourth Streets, near the Refuge Temple Church. He said members of the Church had asked him to address this with the Council. He told the Council he is running for Williamson County Commissioner and would like to abolish property taxes at the state level.

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

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

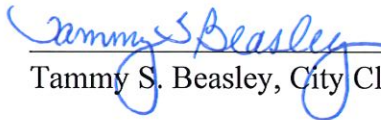
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:10 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk