

July 11, 2022

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

July 11, 2022

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 BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER PATTON

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ed Davis.

Veterans on Parade Chairman Ed Davis addressed the Council. He told them the 18th Veterans on Parade will be Saturday, September 10, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. The parade will start at Marion Junior High School and will end at the Williamson County Fairgrounds. The marching bands will stop at Washington School, so the Fairgrounds area is not as congested as last year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Laurel Harrington, Senior Complete Streets Planner with Horner and Shifrin addressed the Council regarding the Marion Bike Plan. She told the Council she has been the Project Manager working on this plan and it was completed at the end of June.

Mayor Absher told the Council and audience a study was funded by the Southern Illinois Metropolitan Planning Organization, SIMPO, to create a roadmap for future planning. This plan provides information as to how the City can tie bike paths and calm streets safely to the Crab Orchard Greenway. If the City adopts the Bike Plan, this will allow the City to apply for federal funds for the project. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake explained the Crab Orchard Greenway is an IDOT project using Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge property south of Old Route 13. The project is looking to utilize underutilized spaces adjacent to and south of Old Route 13. He said IDOT has studied the best use of land between Marion and Carbondale to lay out the bike path.

Mayor Absher made a motion to adopt the Marion Bike Plan. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

July 11, 2022

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the merit board, Commissioner Barwick and Chief Fitts to hire Garrett Patterson as a patrol officer at the probationary 1 rate per the collective bargaining agreement. Patterson's start date will be August 1st, 2022. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Police Chief David Fitts told the Council one of his favorite things is to get to hire new officers that are getting their careers started. He is excited to be hiring three new officers tonight.

Chief Fitts introduced Garrett Patterson. He told the Council all three of the new hires will be attending the Southwestern Illinois College police academy in Belleville starting August 30.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the merit board, Commissioner Barwick and Chief Fitts to hire Mason Dodd as a patrol officer at the probationary 1 pay rate per the collective bargaining agreement. Dodd's start date will be August 2nd, 2022. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Chief Fitts introduced Mason Dodd. He told the Council Mr. Dodd is currently a Dispatcher at the Police Department. He told the Council it will hurt to lose a good Dispatcher, but Mr. Dodd has proven he is ready for the road.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the merit board, Commissioner Barwick and Chief Fitts to hire Jackson Yates as a patrol officer at the probationary 1 rate per the collective bargaining agreement. Yates' start date will be August 3rd, 2022. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Chief Fitts introduced Herrin native Jackson Yates. He told the Council Mr. Yates' father is a Captain with the Herrin Fire Department.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of Chief Fitts to hire Ted Hunziker as a school security officer at the agreed upon pay rate between Marion Unit 2 schools and the City of Marion. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Chief Fitts introduced Ted Hunziker. He told the Council Mr. Hunziker is a retired Illinois Department of Corrections employee.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of Chief Fitts to hire Roy Sweet as a school security officer at the agreed upon pay rate between Marion Unit 2 schools and the City of Marion. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

July 11, 2022

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

Chief Fitts told the Council Roy Sweet was not present at the meeting but is also retired from the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve a collective bargaining agreement with the Illinois FOP Labor Council Dispatchers; effective retroactive to May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2025. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Barwick told the Council they already approved the purchase of five police interceptors; a budgeted item. Ordinance 3820 is authorizing the financing for those vehicles.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve Ordinance 3820 authorizing a loan with First Southern Bank to purchase five police interceptors. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Mayor Absher told the Council Agenda Items 5B and 5C are related. He told them the house at 1231 South Midway Court is too nice to buy to tear down. He explained the owner of the house at 1215 West Concord Street wanted to sell her home to the City and relocate to another home in the same area. Building and Code Services Director Tim Stotlar worked out the trade between the property owners.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the purchase of 1231 South Midway Court from the decedents of Frederick and Melinda Nickels for \$35,000, PIN 06- 24-328-005. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher made a motion to Approve the acquisition of 1215 West Concord Street from Angie Chi Hodge, PIN 06-24-327-056, via trade for the house at 1231 S. Midway Court PIN 06-24-328-005 with no money exchanged. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the purchase of 1233 West Concord Street from BHS Property Solutions, LLC for \$35,000, PIN 06-24-328-004. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher told the Council Resolution 2022-17 is a grant Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida is working on with private developers for road

July 11, 2022

improvements. He explained the City must be the signatory for the grant but will not incur any costs related to the project.

Mayor Absher made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-17 resolving to apply for a FY 2022 DRA grant. 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 Ordinance 3819 is adding developers to an existing redevelopment agreement so the developers can recoup costs. He told the Council this happens when developers use personal funds for projects. If the developers are not listed personally on the redevelopment agreement, they must be added to be able to recoup those costs. In this case Robin Moore and her husband Randall Moore are being added to the redevelopment agreement.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 3819 an amendment to the Redevelopment Agreement with Robin's Nest allowing for additional developers. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

HUB RECREATION CENTER

Mayor Absher told the Council the Hub has been battling issues with pool filtration for quite some time.

Hub Recreation Center General Manager Chris Georgantas told the Council there have been issues with the pool filtration since the beginning. He told them in his opinion, the filters should have been sand filters. He said the filters that were installed began having operational problems early on due to design deficits and their function has continued to decline. He said work is done daily to try and extend the life of the filters. In 2020, the Hub spent approximately \$65,000 to replace the filter elements to try and extend the life of the filters for five more years. He explained this has led to increased maintenance time and costs and has affected pool operations. He said this will lead to eventual pool closures. He recommends the installation of sand filters. He has seen sand filters in service with many facilities for many years. He told the council the current filtration system is a regenerative system. He has received quotes from three vendors for sand filtration systems and two quotes from vendors for regenerative filtration systems. Chris recommended the Council approve the bid from Midwest Pool & Court for the sand filtration system at a cost of \$291,292 along with the UV system rebuild for \$8,232. He explained the UV system is excellent to have because it improves the disinfection of the water.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the bid of \$291,292 from Midwest Pool & Court for the replacement of pool filters for the lap pool, recreation pool, and spa and the bid of \$8,232 for the UV system rebuild. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Webb told the Council the purchase of the new Exmark mower for the Cemetery Department is a budgeted item. He reported three bids were requested and two bids were

July 11, 2022

received. He and Commissioner Stoecklin opened the bids. Upon inspection of the bids, they were for the same Exmark model mower as specified in the RFP. The bids were as follows:

Little Tractor & Equipment	\$14,799 net of \$5,500 trade allowance = \$ 9,299
FB McAfoos	\$14,799 net of \$3,000 trade allowance = \$11,799

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the low bid of \$9,299 from Little Tractor & Equipment for a new Exmark 72" mower: a budgeted item. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve a collective bargaining agreement with Laborer's Local 773 and the Clerical Unit of the City of Marion effective retroactive to May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2025. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve a collective bargaining agreement with Laborer's Local 773 and the Dietary Unit of the City of Marion effective retroactive to May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2025. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve a collective bargaining agreement with Laborer's Local 773 and the Public Works Unit of the City of Marion effective retroactive to May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2025. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Barwick read the Marion Police Department and Narcotics Unit Reports for June. He reported 1,987 dispatched calls; 1,815 911 calls and 312 ambulance calls in June.

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department Report since the last meeting. He reported 369 JULIE locates in the month of June. He thanked everyone for their assistance with the Knights of Columbus Fourth of July celebration.

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department is finishing the sidewalk on Boyton Street. They have been working on a drainage project on McLaren Street. They finished the Crab Orchard Creek levy project and they continue to demolish houses in the Midway Court area. He reported the Cemetery Department had 14 burials in June.

Commissioner Patton was absent.

Mayor Absher had no report.

July 11, 2022

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Absher announced he had a miscellaneous item to discuss. He reported City Attorney Wendy Cunningham has finished some zoning regulation updates to the 1987 zoning ordinance. These updates include changes to some mobile home issues and some technical corrections that needed made. Mayor Absher asked the commissioners to review the updates and provide their input.

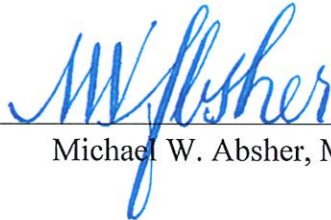
CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Absher announced there was no need for Executive Session this evening.

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

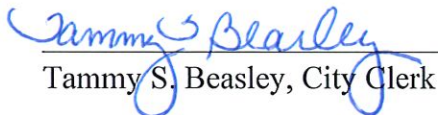
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk