

September 12, 2022

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

September 12, 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 PATTON, BARWICK, AND WEBB AND MAYOR ABSHER.

PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: COMMISSIONER STOECKLIN

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Absher.

Tom Crackel from the Marion Knights of Columbus addressed the Council to talk about the 3rd Annual Fall Fest September 30, 2022 and October 1, 2022. He told the Council this event is a fundraiser for St. Joseph's Parrish. There will be many events including a chicken dinner, car show, bands, a beer and wine tent and an exhibition by the Crab Orchard Kennel Club. The proceeds from this event will help to fund the annual fireworks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments this evening.

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

BUILDING & CODE SERVICES

Mayor Absher asked the audience if anyone was present to speak against the Special Use Permit for Enrico Castellano to build two duplexes on Champ Street. No one was present to oppose the Special Use Permit. Mr. Castellano explained he purchased the property from Main Street to the railroad tracks. He uses one building for a shop and the other building for storage. He plans to build two duplexes south of the buildings.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a Special Use Permit for Enrico Castellano to build two (2) duplexes on Champ Street, PIN #07-18-478-005. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Regina Harley, the owner of 612 Valmar Drive, was present to speak regarding her application for a variance. She stated she has been dealing with her neighbor's dog coming over to her property due to the way he is leashed. She explained she can't walk on the side of her house or have her grandkids out in the backyard because of the dog.

September 12, 2022

Commissioner Webb made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a Variance at 612 Valmar Drive, PIN #07-19-276-010 to build a tapered fence from 6' down to 3' from two to three feet from the front property line. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Chris Couty, the owner of the property at 1008 West Main Street, was present. He told Mayor Absher he was in favor of the Special Use Permit. He said the building previously housed a business, but the potential buyers want the zoning changed to residential so it can be converted back to a duplex. The sale is pending the approval of the Special Use Permit.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to affirm the Zoning Board's approval of a Special Use Permit at 1008 West Main Street, PIN #06-13-456-004 to convert the building into a duplex. Commissioner Stoecklin 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 said Chief of Staff Cody Moake reviewed the CivicServe software. Cody told the Council the City has over 100 TIF agreements. He explained this software will help to better track those agreements and contact information for the developers. He said Economic Development and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida and Business Development Director Jennifer Olson would also be able to utilize the program. The hope is that the public will also be able to use it in the future.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve the purchase of CivicServe software at \$7,500 annually. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher said the City has enjoyed a robust and renewed relationship with the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. That has led to several collaborative projects. He said water issues have been discussed. He explained all creeks in Marion ultimately run to Crab Orchard Lake. Mayor Absher, Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake and Municipal Planning Director Glenn Clarida have been involved in this conversation and at the invitation of the Refuge Team and they had a sit down with the U S Army Corps of Engineers on how they can study some water shed wide problems. The Army Corps of Engineers proposed a watershed wide study which will cost approximately \$250,000. They will pay half and the City will pay half in cash and in-kind contributions. This conversation was prior to the August 4th rain event that dumped 6.7 inches of rain on Marion in eight hours. Mayor Absher said this is an outstanding opportunity for the City. This study will put the City in a position to apply for federal grants to help mitigate future flooding. He said the City's creeks and tributaries have never been studied in their entirety.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve an agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate planning and engineering approaches to address overbank flooding and stormwater management throughout the City of Marion. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

September 12, 2022

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

Mayor Absher told the Council the subdivision platted as Halfway Village Subdivision is a parcel being split from a larger tract of land south of Pilot Truck Stop for a restaurant.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 3832 accepting a subdivision platted as Halfway Village Subdivision. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher made a motion to purchase 1206 Midway Court. 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 told the Council one of the outcomes of the bike study was to prepare an ITEP application. ITEP is an annual program through IDOT for transportation related projects on a local level. This project would be a stand-alone bike path that would connect the Rides Mass Transit Park and Ride Station in front of the V A Hospital to the Crab Orchard Greenway Project. Cody explained this project corresponds with a project Commissioner Stoecklin has been working on for a year that would encompass a Veterans Memorial along South Halfway Road. This application would tie both projects together. The grant requires local matching funds of ten percent. With property acquisition, this would make the local share approximately \$350,000.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-20 approving the City of Marion's application for funding through IDOT's ITEP Program. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher explained Ordinance 3833 is doing some housekeeping. This Ordinance is adding some parcels to the original Marion Center Project North Commercial TIF Agreement.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 3833 an amendment to the Marion Center Project North Commercial TIF Agreement adding acquired parcels to the agreement. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Patton told the Council the Treasurer's Office is working on upgrading their software to do payroll more easily. They have done a lot of investigating to see what would work best with the programs they currently use. While the Abilla software is pricey, he thinks it will meet their needs. Late last week they received some contradicting information as to whether the software can correctly calculate IMRF pension amounts. They are making sure the program can make these calculations correctly.

September 12, 2022

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve an upgrade to the MIP Abilla payroll, AP, and HR software for \$26,172.07; a budgeted item contingent upon the ability to show IMRF calculations needed by the City can be done in the software. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Barwick told the Council there are School Security Officers at all schools and the City has an agreement with Unit 2 for this. This agreement is similar to those agreements and is to place an officer at The Learning Center at 409 South Court Street.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with Williamson County Education Services to provide a school security officer at The Learning Center. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Commissioner Barwick told the Council Dave Herbert is a former Marion Police Department officer who recently retired.

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of Chief Fitts to hire Dave Herbert 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 PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mayor Absher told the Council the new sign for City Hall will be the flush mounted option as detailed in the bid in the Council Packet. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake recommended this option because he is afraid birds will build nests behind a rail mounted sign.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve new signage for the new City Hall from Liberty Crane & Signs for \$10,281.60. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher explained the IT Department placed two new vehicles in service earlier this year. Mayor's Chief of Staff Cody Moake explained he asked the dealerships who bid on the new vehicles to bid on purchasing the surplus IT vehicles. He said Marion Toyota was the only dealership to bid.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the sale of two surplus property vehicles from the IT Department to Marion Toyota for a total of \$8,900. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher explained The Pavilion is in desperate need of new flooring in the restrooms. The flooring in the restrooms is the original flooring. He said replacing this flooring was worked into

September 12, 2022

this year's budget. Two bids were received for the project. The bid from Floorscapes is the low bid and is under budget. Mayor Absher said The Pavilion Executive Director Jared Garrison would like to carryforward the budget "surplus" created by this and use it for replacing sinks, backsplash, and counter tops next year.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the low bid from Floorscapes for new tile flooring for restrooms at The Pavilion for \$79,569.00, a budgeted item. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Patton reported the software upgrade in the Treasurer's Office is cloud based. There is an online portal employees can utilize to access pay stubs, insurance information, W-2's, etc. It would allow for a future phase-out of paper pay stubs.

Commissioner Barwick read the August reports for the Marion Fire Department, Marion Police Department, and Narcotics Unit. He reported 2,128 dispatched calls; 2,055 911 calls and 332 ambulance calls in August.

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since last meeting. He announced Cheap Trick would be performing at The Pavilion September 14. He reminded everyone there are several concerts coming up at the Civic Center. He gave a shout out to everyone involved in the Veterans on Parade.

Commissioner Webb reported the Street Department has been working on sidewalks and drainage on Cherry Street. They cleaned out a creek on South Market Street. He reported the paving should be finished this week. He explained fewer streets were paved this year due to higher costs. He reported the Cemetery had eight burials in August and has had 11 so far in September.

Mayor Absher reported numerous events coming up at The Pavilion, Civic Center, and Rent One Park.

MISCELLANEOUS

There were no miscellaneous items to come before Council this evening.

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

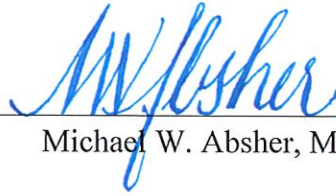
Mayor Absher said there was no need for Executive Session this evening.

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

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

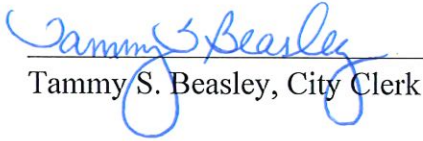
September 12, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy S. Beasley, City Clerk