

November 10, 2025

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

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REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Marion held in the Council Chambers at 5:30 P.M. Mayor Absher called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The City Clerk called the roll, and the response was as follows:

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER.

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER PATTON

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fire Chief Tim Barnett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hire Evan Doughty as a Patrol Officer at the Agreed Upon Pay Rate per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

Commissioner Barwick made a motion to approve the recommendation of the merit board, Commissioner Barwick, and Chief Fitts to hire Evan Doughty as a patrol officer at the agreed upon pay rate per the collective bargaining agreement with a start date of November 11, 2025. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

Police Chief David Fitts told the Council that Mr. Doughty has been working at the Cartersville Police Department for the last two years so he will not have to attend the academy. He will begin FTO tomorrow.

Mr. Doughty told the Council that he has been working for Cartersville Police Department but lives in Marion. He looks forward to working here and is thankful for the opportunity.

Mayor Absher called for the vote.

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

City Clerk Tammy Beasley Wright administered the oath of office to Mr. Doughty. The meeting paused briefly for pictures and then resumed.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Proposal from Daupler to Provide Text Notifications for Street and Public Works Projects

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Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve a proposal from Daupler to provide text notifications for Street and Public Works projects. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

Commissioner Stoecklin explained that in the past, the city relied on robo calls to get public works information out to the residents. This system will take the place of robo calls. He said that it is easily scaled and can be used by other departments. Chief of Staff Cody Moake stated that hyper reach is used for emergency notifications and will continue to be used. The Daupler system will not be used for emergencies. This system allows two-way communication between the sender and receiver. Chief of Staff Moake indicated that multiple people within a department can have access to be able to respond to inquiries from the public.

Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Absher called for the vote.

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

BOYTON STREET COMMUNITY CENTER

Bid from Floorsite, Inc. to Install New Flooring in the Original Building for \$16,250

Chief of Staff Cody Moake told the Council the city had received two bids for this project a year ago but did not move forward because the building addition was not completed. He tried to contact both original bidders, and one never returned his calls. The other bidder, Floorsite, said they would honor their original bid.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve a low bid from Floorsite, Inc. to install new flooring in the original parts of the building for \$16,250. Commissioner Webb 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 there are three Redevelopment Agreements on the agenda tonight. He announced that agenda item 8A the ordinance number should be 4076 instead of 4072.

Ordinance 4076 a Residential TIF II Redevelopment Agreement with Matthew & Jennifer Lee (1200 South Vicksburg)

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4076, a Residential TIF II Redevelopment Agreement with Matthew & Jennifer Lee 1200 South Vicksburg. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

Chief of Staff Cody Moake said this Redevelopment Agreement is for a new construction.

Hearing no discussion, Mayor Absher called for the vote.

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

Ordinance 4073, an Amendment to a Redevelopment Agreement with the Ruth Malone Trust

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Mayor Absher explained this Amendment to a Redevelopment Agreement is to add a developer. Chief of Staff Moake said that Mike Malone also incurred costs on this project so he is being added as a developer so that he can be reimbursed for those costs.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 4073, an amendment to a Redevelopment Agreement with the Ruth Malone Trust, adding a developer. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 4074, an Amendment to a Redevelopment Agreement with DB Group, LLC

Mayor Absher stated that the amendment to this Redevelopment Agreement is clerical in nature. Chief of Staff Cody Moake explained that the developer had a specific plan to enclose the pool area and make it a restaurant. The developer has changed this plan and decided to renovate the entire building. This change to the project will result in additional costs. This amendment also adds the owner/operator since he has also incurred some costs that will need to be reimbursed.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4074, an amendment to a Redevelopment Agreement with DB Group, LLC, allowing for additional costs, if incurred. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 4075 Accepting the Plat of Subdivision for Central Crossing Subdivision

Chief of Staff Cody Moake explained that the Williamson County Assessor and GIS office are forcing two parcels into one. This is a function of going from one PIN to two PINs. Any utility easements will remain.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4075 accepting the plat of subdivision for Central Crossing Subdivision. 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

Announcement and Motion to Approve the 2025-2026 Tax Levy Estimate of \$100

Mayor Absher stated that since the Vision 2020 plan was enacted, the city has eliminated the city's portion of the property tax levy except for \$100. The \$100 must stay in place for functional and legal reasons relative to having TIF districts. Each year the city must approve the intention to levy \$100. This is \$100 levied in total for all parcels in the corporate city limits.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 tax levy estimate of \$100. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

2026 Schedule of Council Meetings and 2026 City Holidays

Mayor Absher explained these are items that are approved annually.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve the 2026 Schedule of Council Meetings and the 2026 City Holidays. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Proposed Renovations to the Marion Training Center Using Residential TIF I Funds Not to Exceed \$175,000

Mayor Absher explained that the city has long owned the training center. It is a large facility that has become run down over the years. He stated that he has found it difficult to find a permanent use for the facility. The request is for the council to approve an estimated budget for the project with the city being the contractor and the sub-components going out for competitive bid.

Chief of Staff Cody Moake told the Council Fire Chief Tim Barnett talked with him about making updates to the building. The Fire Department has already built their training facility behind the building and there are many regional training sessions that are held in the building. He asked Chief Barnett to put together a proposal for the work that needs to be done, including modernizing the restrooms and making sure they are ADA compliant. The proposal also includes replacing the collapsed clay pipe currently serving as a sewer pipe running out of the building. The Fire Department has agreed to perform a lot of the labor for this project under Chief Barnett's direction.

Fire Chief Tim Barnett told the Council the building is 8,400 square feet and is structurally sound, but some essential upgrades are needed. The roof needs to be replaced, and insulation needs to be added between the roof and ceiling. A classroom will be added, and interior and exterior upgrades will be made. Chief Barnett told them the building could be used as an Emergency Operations Center during severe storms, a tornado, or other emergency. The parking lot is large and newly paved, and the HVAC has already been upgraded. Chief Barnett said if the project is approved, they will start work right away.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve renovations to the Marion Training Center using Residential TIF I funds; improvements not to exceed \$175,000. Commissioner Barwick 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 – Public Health & Safety

Commissioner Barwick read the October Police Department report. He reported 1,843 dispatched calls; 1,783 emergency calls; 4,064 non-emergency calls; and 187 ambulance calls.

Commissioner Webb – Streets & Public Improvements

Commissioner Webb reported that the Street Department has been working on sidewalks on Vicksburg, Van Buren, and Carol Drive. They have been ditching on Carter Street and repairing streets ahead of the asphalt crew. He announced that the asphalt work is almost done and the contractor is finishing up punch list items. They have been painting around the downtown area and winterizing. They will begin installing Christmas lights and the ice rink next week. He reported that the Cemetery Department had eight burials in October.

Commissioner Stoecklin – Public Property

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since the last council meeting. He announced that City Hall will be closed tomorrow for Veterans Day.

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Commissioner Patton

Commissioner Patton was absent.

Arnettra Johnson came forward from the audience to address the Council regarding the Williamson County Sheriff's Office and various other issues.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mayor Absher announced there is a Veterans Day ceremony tomorrow at the VFW at 11:00 a.m. with a flag retirement ceremony to follow. There is also a Veterans Day ceremony at the VA at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Commissioner Stoecklin announced that tomorrow is Mayor Absher's birthday.

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Absher stated he did not have a need for executive session this evening and asked if any of the Commissioners had a need for executive session. Hearing no need for executive session he entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

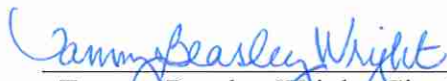
ON ROLL CALL VOTE COMMISSIONERS BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA. COMMISSIONER PATTON ABSENT.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:16 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy Beasley Wright, City Clerk