

December 22, 2025

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

December 22, 2025

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Absher 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 PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

NEW BUSINESS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hire Chase Stanley as a Patrol Officer at the Agreed Upon 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 Chase Stanley as a patrol officer at the agreed upon rate per the collective bargaining agreement with a start date of December 29, 2025.

Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

Police Chief David Fitts introduced Mr. Stanley. He told the Council that Mr. Stanley is a Johnston City native and a US Army veteran who was a sniper in the Ranger Battalion. Chief Fitts said that he comes to the department with experience that not many people have. Mr. Stanley thanked the city and Marion Police Department for letting him start his career here.

Hire Evan Zacovic as a Patrol Officer at the Agreed Upon 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 Zacovic as a patrol officer at the agreed upon rate per the collective bargaining agreement with a start date of December 30, 2025.

Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Police Chief David Fitts introduced Mr. Zacovic. He told the Council Mr. Zacovic is originally from Eldorado, currently lives in Herrin, and is a US Army veteran. Mr. Zacovic thanked Chief

December 22, 2025

Fitts, the merit board, and the city council for giving him the opportunity to serve the community.

Hire Noah Haney as a Patrol Officer at the Agreed Upon 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 Noah Haney as a patrol officer at the agreed upon rate per the collective bargaining agreement with a start date of December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Police Chief David Fitts introduced Mr. Haney. He told the Council Mr. Haney currently lives in Vienna and is a veteran of the US Marine Corps. Mr. Haney thanked everyone for coming out to support the three new patrol officers this evening. He said this is a big step in their careers. He thanked the Council and Chief Fitts for the opportunity.

City Clerk Tammy Beasley Wright administered the Oath of Office to each of the new patrol officers. Mayor Absher briefly paused the meeting for photos.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Police and Firefighters Pension Contributions for the 2026 Calendar Year

Treasurer Lance Roye told the Council the city received the actuarial report from MWM Consulting. Based on their numbers the recommended pension contribution for FY2026 for the Firefighters is \$1,197,540. This is a monthly contribution of \$99,795. The recommended pension contribution for FY2026 for the Police is \$1,527,480. This is a monthly contribution of \$127,290.

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve the Police and Firefighters pension contributions per the actuarial recommendations for the 2026 calendar year. 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

Ordinance 4090 a Residential TIF II Redevelopment Agreement with Dennis McGuire for 802 Maplewood

Mayor Absher stated that there is one TIF II Redevelopment Agreement to consider this evening.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4090 a residential TIF II Redevelopment Agreement with Dennis McGuire for 802 Maplewood. 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 – Streets & Public Improvements

December 22, 2025

Commissioner Webb reported that the Street Department has been preparing for snow. They are still cleaning ditches and removing leaves. There have been more railroad crossing repairs. All is good at the Cemetery.

Commissioner Stoecklin – Public Property

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since the last council meeting. He asked two Christmas themed trivia questions. He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Barwick – Public Health & Safety

Commissioner Barwick had no report.

Commissioner Patton

Commissioner Patton had no report.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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. No one had a need for executive session.

Mayor Absher – Public Affairs

Mayor Absher wished everyone Happy Holidays and a very successful 2026. Hearing no further items to come before Council, 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 PATTON, BARWICK, WEBB, AND STOECKLIN AND MAYOR ABSHER ALL VOTED YEA.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:55 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy Beasley Wright, City Clerk