

May 11, 2026

City of Marion – Regular Meeting

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REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Marion was 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.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Absher led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Absher opened the floor for public comment; however, no members of the public came forward to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included approval of the following payments and minutes:

- Invoice 10873396782 from Dell Technologies for a new CAD Server for the Marion Police Department.
- Invoice 0005146-IN from Zenner USA for \$19,786.50 for annual hosting services and system maintenance.
- Invoice 7266 from Governmental Consulting Solutions, Inc. for \$3,000 for April 2026 consulting services.
- Invoice 7298 from Governmental Consulting Solutions, Inc. for \$3,000 for May 2026 consulting services.
- Invoice to E.T. Simonds for parking lot paving north of the Sports Complex.
- Minutes from the April 27, 2026, city council meeting (reconvened to April 28, 2026).

No items were removed from the consent agenda for separate votes.

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. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Oath of Office to Patrol Officer Nicholas Compton

Commissioner Barwick stated that Patrol Officer Compton was hired at the last city council meeting.

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Police Chief David Fitts introduced Officer Compton, noting his local roots as a former Goreville resident and his recent return to the area after attending the University of Alabama Huntsville on a baseball scholarship. It was specifically noted that Compton served as a pitcher during his collegiate career.

City Clerk Tammy Beasley Wright administered the oath of office to Patrol Officer Compton. The meeting briefly paused for photos and then resumed.

BUILDING AND CODE SERVICES

Request for a 6'Foot Variance at 1405 Sunflower Drive Parcel #07-17-202-016

This setback variance is for the property located at 1405 Sunflower Dr. (Parcel# 07-17-202-016). This variance was requested to facilitate the construction of a two-car garage.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve the Zoning Board's approval of the request for a six-foot variance at 1405 Sunflower Drive, parcel # 07-17-202-016 to build a two-car garage. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Purchase West Plant Electrical Control Panel for \$66,750 from Municipal Equipment

Commissioner Stoecklin presented a report on the necessity of a new electrical control panel for the West Plant. He noted that the current equipment has exceeded its life expectancy and is displaying several warning indicators. It serves as the "brains" of the entire aeration system. Highlighting the department's fiscal responsibility, Commissioner Stoecklin also reported that the department saved the city approximately \$400,000 by refabricating the aeration tank arms in-house last year rather than outsourcing the project.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve the purchase of West Plant Electrical Control Panel for \$66,750 from Municipal Equipment, a budgeted item. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Purchase Aerzen Blower for the Plants for \$21,688.36 from Aerzen USA Corporation

Commissioner Stoecklin explained that it is time for this blower to be replaced.

Commissioner Stoecklin made a motion to approve the purchase of an Aerzen blower for the plants for \$21,688.36 from Aerzen USA Corporation, a budgeted item. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

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

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Ordinance 4109 Authorizing a Loan with First Southern Bank for Police Vehicles

Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve Ordinance 4109 authorizing a loan with First Southern Bank for police vehicles not to exceed \$386,770. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 4110 Authorizing a Loan with First Southern Bank for Street Department Equipment
Commissioner Patton made a motion to approve Ordinance 4110 authorizing a loan with First Southern Bank for Street Department Equipment not to exceed \$288,248.64. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Absher noted that both loans have 3.95% interest rates.

Ordinance 4111 Approving Four-Way Stop Signs for the Intersection of Monroe and Jefferson Streets

Commissioner Webb stated there was a request to make a two-way stop a four-way stop.

Commissioner Webb made a motion to approve Ordinance 4111 approving four-way stop signs for the intersection of Monroe Street and Jefferson Street. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

The discussion highlighted the need for this change due to significant pedestrian traffic associated with church parking and the implementation of additional safety measures following previous vehicular accidents involving the nearby courthouse.

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

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL PLANNING

Ordinance 4112 a Residential TIF I Redevelopment Agreement with Brynnlayne Properties, LLC for 1101 East Boyton Street

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4112, authorizing a Residential TIF I Redevelopment Agreement with Brynnlayne Properties, LLC for 1101 East Boyton Street. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 4113 a Hub TIF Redevelopment Agreement Release for Agreements with Terance Henry

This item involved a TIF release for properties that were owned by Terance Henry. In the interest of full transparency, Mayor Absher noted that while Mr. Henry is a city employee, the original TIF agreements preceded his employment. The release involves an accelerated buyout of the remaining eight years of the TIF, which results in financial benefit to the city and a "haircut" for the owner, as the total cost to the municipality is lower than if the agreements remained active until expiration.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4113, a Hub TIF Redevelopment Agreement Release for agreements with Terance Henry. Commissioner Stoecklin seconded the motion.

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

Ordinance 4114 the Second Amendment to the North Commercial TIF Redevelopment Agreement with RCSZ Properties, LLC and Marion Center Project, LLC

This amendment to the North Commercial TIF agreement with RCSZ Properties, LLC and Marion Center Project, LLC, is necessary to resolve technical conflicts with Star Bond legislation.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve Ordinance 4114, authorizing the second amendment to the North Commercial TIF Redevelopment Agreement with RCSZ Properties, LLC and Marion Center Project, LLC. Commissioner Webb seconded the motion.

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

FY2027 TIF Grant Applications Received through May 7, 2026

Forty-eight TIF applications were received within five business days. The applications represent approximately \$988,000 in investments (total project costs) committed by property owners.

Mayor Absher made a motion to approve FY2027 TIF grant applications received through May 7, 2026. Commissioner Barwick seconded the motion.

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

Resolution 2026-16 Reauthorizing Funding for the Vacant Property Registry Redevelopment Program for FY2027

The Vacant Property Registry Redevelopment Program had eight participants last year.

Mayor Absher made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-16 reauthorizing funding for the Vacant Property Registry Redevelopment Program for FY2027. Commissioner Patton seconded the motion.

Mayor Absher asked if the \$20,000 left from last year could be rolled into the current year and the program be reauthorized for \$120,000. The consensus amongst the council members was that the amount should be increased.

Mayor Absher noted that Resolution 2026-16 is reauthorizing funding for \$120,000 for fiscal year 2027.

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Webb – Streets & Public Improvements

Commissioner Webb reported the completion of the spring cleanup with 6.5 dumpsters filled. He noted 2,400 feet of sidewalks and eight ADA ramps were repaired on Liberty Street, Van Buren Street, Park Drive, and College Street. The Street Department has been working on seven code violation clean-up sites. They have also been mowing right of ways and picking up limbs. He reported that five Street Department employees were sent to the Cemetery to help prepare for Memorial Day. He reported that the Cemetery Department had five burials in April. He also

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highlighted the "Finding Heroes" program, which identified 3,000 veterans for flag placement on May 23rd. He noted that an additional layer has been added to the city app and the GIS map to help locate veterans' graves.

Commissioner Patton

Commissioner Patton had no report.

Commissioner Stoecklin – Public Property

Commissioner Stoecklin read the Water Department report since the last council meeting noting two new service taps installed, four water leaks repaired, two services updated, and five fire hydrants repaired. He reminded everyone that graduation and grad spree are Thursday night and congratulated all graduates. He also shared an anecdote regarding a wedding that was held at a venue east of Crab Orchard that generated one hundred fifty-six hotel night stays, illustrating the significant economic impact of local events on Marion's hospitality sector.

Commissioner Webb reminded everyone that the Memorial Day service will be on May 25th at 11:00 A.M. at the cemetery. The VFW Honor Guard will oversee the ceremony.

The American Legion and VFW take care of placing flags at the cemeteries for Memorial Day. Volunteers should meet at 8:00 A.M. at the VFW.

Commissioner Barwick – Public Health & Safety

Commissioner Barwick read the April Fire Department report. He reported total sixty-two total fire calls for April: nine fire calls, sixteen hazardous situation calls, four medical, eight public service, twenty-three non-emergency, and two law enforcement support calls.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chief of Staff Cody Moake reported the city has been awarded a \$250,000 Safe Routes to School grant for sidewalk improvements and repairs on Mechanic Street directly west of Washington School based on a previous pedestrian study. He thanked Horner Shifrin, Greater Egypt, Jennifer Olson, and Washington School administration for their work on the grant application.

Police Chief David Fitts reported that the Police Department received a \$304,000 grant from the Harrison Bruce Foundation to purchase a virtual reality training simulator. This unique three-sided training simulator allows film of local spots—such as Marion schools—and to be loaded into the system for site-specific situational training. Other Williamson County agencies will also be able to use the simulator.

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

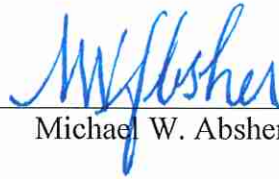
No Council members had a need for executive session.

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. MOTION CARRIED.


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Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 P.M.



Michael W. Absher, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tammy Beasley Wright, City Clerk