

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
Monday, June 17, 2024, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Marion City Council met in Regular Session on June 17, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor D'Anna Browning presiding. Council members present were Randy Dunn, Wanda Olson, Taylor Davis, Bobby Belt, Dwight Sherer and Mike Byford. City Employees in attendance were as follows: Diane Ford-Benningfield, Layten Croft, Pam Enoch, Chief Bobby West, Greg Tabor, Jeff Black and Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mayor Browning gives her condolences to the family of Troy McGahan.

Kelly Kluger, a resident of Marion, came before the council to speak out the environmental fee on his bill. He requested that the City of Marion investigate adding a tax on gasoline.

Ric Carder, a resident of 117 N. Walker Street, advised there is running water from a basement on N College Street, and he slipped and fell into it. He also advised the fence owned by Pat Jameson at the corner of Depot and College is going to cause another accident. Dwight Sherer advised that Pat was given permission by the administration at that time to extend his fence. Diane Ford-Benningfield and Chief West advised that they investigate the issue.

Donnie Arflack requested that the City Council minutes be added to the city's website.

Faye Yates requested an update on the recycling center. Diane Ford-Benningfield advised of that update.

Randy Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes from May 20, 2024. Wanda Olson seconded the motion with all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Bobby Belt made a motion to approve the minutes from May 28, 2024. Dwight Sherer seconded the motion with all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Wanda Olson made a motion to approve the mayor's appointment of Andrea Clements to the Tourism Board. Randy Dunn seconded the motion with all members present voting yes. Motion carried.

Diane Ford-Benningfield presented the council and Mayor with a list of needs citywide that could be bought with ARPA funds. She advised the ARPA funds must be spent by December 31, 2024. Diane Ford-Benningfield went through each line item and explained the need for each item. Mr. Tim Thomas advised that these monies cannot be used to resolve debt when a question was brought forward by Rhonda Horak. Mayor Browning advised that her main concern and top priority would be to use this money to replace water mains. After much discussion, Wanda Olson made a motion to approve the spending of ARPA funds on the things listed, Randy Dunn seconded the motion with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Dwight Sherer made a motion to appoint Taylor Davis as the Tourism liaison, Bobby Belt seconded the motion with all members voting yes, motion carried.

A discussion was held on the Ford F150 that no one bid on. Everyone agreed to trade that vehicle in on a new one for the maintenance department.

A motion was made by Bobby Belt, seconded by Mike Byford to adopt Resolution 24-03, all members voted yes. Motion carried.

Diane Ford-Benningfield then read aloud an email from Alan Robinson with Eclipse Engineers that gave an update on the new WWTP.

Tim Thomas then approached the Mayor and council with an update on the Lake George project. He advised that the contractor has had unsuccessful attempts at dewatering Lake George. He advised that the state of emergency from the state would expire at the end of the month, but an extension has been requested. When asked by Bobby Belt, Tim Thomas advised he cannot think of a reason as to why the state would not extend the SOE. Tim advised the work on the lake must be done under a state of emergency for KY Emergency Management to pay. Ric Carder asked how big the pipe was that the contractor was trying to fill. Tim advised it is 12" in diameter and 200-300ft long.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Byford advised the corner of Clark Street and Depot Street has high weeds.

Bobby Belt advised he reached out to Garry Gerard and that he his team fixed a drainage issue on Gum Street.

Dwight Sherer advised he has had several compliments about the patriotic fire hydrants.

Mayor Browning commended, water operator, Zach LaRue for passing the fast-track program along with his Water Treatment test. Jeff Black also bragged about Zach's performance.

Taylor Davis advised he was apart of the Tourism meeting this date and they passed a budget with no shortfall. He advised he was asked about adding more parking at the victory garden pond.

Wanda Olson spoke on code enforcement issues within the city limits. She requested that we look at new ordinances that would hold the property owners more accountable. She was afraid for the children of our town's safety. She advised that she has seen children playing in abandoned houses. Diane Ford-Benningfield advised she received a packet from the Kentucky League of Cities and part of it included "beefing" up ordinances. Mayor Browning advised of her plan of action which included asking each employee to submit addresses in which there were code enforcement issues. She advised that the employee with the most code enforcement issues resolved would receive 4 hours PTO.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.


D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR


ATTEST: PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK