

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
Monday, February 12, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Marion City Council met in regular Session on February 12, 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, Melinda Gipson, Police Chief Bobby West, Jeff Black, Red Howton, and Legal Service Officer, Jonathan James. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

The mayor offered council member Dwight Sherer condolences on the passing of his mother.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mindy Withrow, JKMK, told the council that she and her husband bought the old Conrad's building and will be renting out spaces to vendors with booths. They will also have vendors in the parking lot and food vendors.

Shanna Geary expressed to the council the need for lights at the youth soccer field. The lights are needed for safety and vandalism. The kids have a limited time to play and practice with no lights and it causes problems.

Elliot West, owner of Bowtanicals, inquired about insurance from all property owners. She asks that all commercial property owners show proof of insurance to protect her building.

Sharon Bachman was curious about the halt of recycled bins in the county. All counties are working on this problem, but the dump belongs to the county.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

A motion was made by Taylor Davis, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the minutes from January 8th, 2024. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Wanda Olson, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the special called meeting minutes from January 22, 2024. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Byford, seconded by Bobby Belt, to declare the city's 2006 F150 Club Cab 4x4 as surplus and let out for bids. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

The ASA archery requested to continue the lease for 2024 on city property. The insurance for the property was given to the administrator. Motion by Dwight Sherer, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the lease. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

Chris Evans, the park board chairperson, came before the council asking for support and later money for new lighting for the youth soccer field and two other fields. Mr. Evans got 3 quotes with the best one coming from Musco Sports Lighting. They supply a 25-year maintenance-free guarantee which includes bulbs for \$403,000. The park board has raised \$25,000 from private funds, and \$15,000 from soccer pledges and the county will pay one-third of the cost upfront. The school board will continue to pay \$7,000 a year. The city has paid \$7,000 for 10 years with 2023-2024 being the final year. Mr. Evans is

requesting \$13,000-\$14,000 for the next 10 years. The council will hold a special meeting on Thursday Feb. 22nd at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the money availability for the park project.

Mr. Tim Thomas then approached the Mayor and City Council with an update on our water crisis. Road maintenance to the dam and Patmor Road will be using a three-dimensional product. The coffer dam is 25% complete at this time. The cast iron pipe cap is now allowing some seepage to come through.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

George Foster, code enforcement officer, gave an update on property status. As of present, 53 addresses are being looked into at the present time. Of the 53, 21 have been completed. Mr. Foster also added a regulation on the type of fencing that can be used needs to be addressed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman Randy Dunn was pleased that the potholes that were reported were fixed the next day.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM


D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR


ATTEST: DIANE FORD-BENNINGFIELD, CITY ADMINISTRATOR