

**Meeting of the Marion City Council  
Monday, September 18, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Marion City Council met in Regular Session September 18, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor D'Anna Browning presiding. Council members present were Randy Dunn, Wanda Olson, Bobby Belt, Dwight Sherer and Mike Byford. City Employees in attendance were as follows: Diane Ford-Benningfield, Layten Croft, Police Chief Ray O'Neal and Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Ric Carder approached the Mayor and City Council with his concern of burning leaves. He advised this is a nuisance and a health risk. He advised he cannot open the windows to his house when someone in his neighborhood is burning leaves. He requested to know if there was something the council could do with the ordinance to change this. Mayor Browning advised Perry Newcom is working with the state about opening the brush dump back up. Councilman Bobby Belt questioned if we were still under a burn ban.

Motion by Councilman Randy Dunn, seconded by Councilwoman Wanda Olson to approve the minutes from the meeting on September 5, 2023. All present council members voted yes; motion carried.

Councilwoman Wanda Olson sponsored the first reading of Ordinance #23-08 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 52.08 ABUTTING OWNERS TO CONNECT TO SEWER LINES". The City Legal Officer read the summary. Mayor Browning explains that people who are not within the City Limits still must pay the environmental fee even when they are not hooked up to our sewer system, she explained with this ordinance they would now not be required to pay the Environmental Fee.

Councilman Bobby Belt sponsored the first reading of Ordinance #23-09 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE FOR THE ANNEXATION BY THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, A CITY OF HOME CLASS RULE, OF TWO PARCELS TOTALING 14.78 ACRES ALONG THE EAST AND WEST RIGHT OF WAY OF MCMICAN ROAD." The Mayor, council and public had various discussions on this ordinance. A gentleman from the company building the housing complex advised there would be a requirement that 80% of the renters would have to be 55 and older. He also said there would be forty-eight units consisting of 4-plex and 8-plex. The Mayor requested to know if the apartment complex would have a privacy fence and the representative advised it has been submitted for approval.

Motion made by Councilman Dwight Sherer, seconded by Councilwoman Wanda Olson for the consideration of surplus of a 1994, 460 Case Trencher, hydra-stop tapping system, model # LD4120THS. All present council members voted yet; motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Mike Byford, seconded by Councilman Randy Dunn to confirm the consideration of the Mayoral appointment of Wanda Olson and Ricky Brown to the Revolving Loan Committee. All present council members voted yes; motion carried.

Tim Thomas gave the Mayor and City Council a brief update on the water crisis. He advised the City is in the process of working with the engineers to get the required permits to start the construction of the coffer dam. He advised that the 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers has been issued. He

advised us that we are still awaiting the flood plain permit. Mr. Thomas advised all permits should be in hand by October 15th. With hopes of construction work to start around November 1st. Mr. Thomas advised he hopes to have one of the engineers at the next council meeting with drawings and what it will intel. Mr. Thomas advised the coffer dam project will cost \$1.5-\$2 million and will take around five weeks to complete. He advised after the coffer dam project to stabilize the levy it will cost between \$4-\$7 million to fully reconstruct the levy. He advised if it is the city's desire to restore the city would need to be searching for grants and funding opportunities. He reminded the council that the coffer dam will not have a long life.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Councilman Mike Byford requested to know why the city quit funding the Assistant ABC officer Shofner. Mayor Browning advised the ABC were not properly being spent. He advised the stop sign on the corner of E Depot and Clark Street is gone. He also advised there is a trailer on Cherry Street with high grass.

Councilman Bobby Belt requested to know where the city was in the process of switching its streetlights to LED.

Councilman Dwight Sherer requested that someone call KYTC and have them check the timing on the stop lights. He also requested to know if the city can use the rent from AOC in other departments such as the water department.

Mayor Browning praised the new employee at the water plant, Zach LaRue.

Motion by Councilman Mike Byford, seconded by Wanda Olson to accept the bid for the street paving. All present members voted yes; motion carried.

Diane Ford-Benningfield advised Trick-or-Treat on Main will be October 31, 2023, from 3:30pm-5:00pm.

Steve Watson updated the council on the recent chamber events.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

  
D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR

  
ATTEST: LAYTEN CROFT, CITY TREASURER, ASST. CITY CLERK