



MINUTES

City Council Work Session

4:00 PM - Tuesday, March 15, 2022

City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in informal work session, Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 4:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Grant Harper, Steve Jensen, Colette Atkins, Nicolas AbouAssaly, Will Brandt, Sara Mentzer, and Randy Strnad

ABSENT: None

Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

AGENDA

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

Mayor AbouAssaly relinquished the gavel to Mayor Pro Tem Brandt at 4:32 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Brandt presided over the meeting.

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt relinquished the gavel to Mayor AbouAssaly at 4:34 p.m. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

OTHER DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION

Discussion Regarding Flood Plain Development Permit

City Engineer Mike Barkalow spoke about the flood plain development permit associated with the Trees Forever Parking Lot Site Improvements at 80 West 8th Ave.

Discussion and Direction Regarding Engagement Agreement with D.A. Davidson

Assistant Director of Finance Brian McKenzie spoke about the proposed agreement including why it is being recommended and services that would be provided. Michael Maloney with D.A. Davidson spoke about 2022 bonding considerations, the collaborative approach they offer and a comparison of competitive versus negotiated sales. Councilmember Jensen asked about negotiated sale method compared to competitive bid process. Maloney outlined their process of negotiated sale.

Discussion Regarding Proposed Outdoor Sidewalk Café Zone

Principal Planner Dave Hockett provided information regarding which districts the Sidewalk Cafe zone would be allowed, outlined the application process and requirements for barriers, furniture and fixtures. Hockett provided information regarding next steps.

Councilmember Strnad asked if there has been discussion for a standardized barrier and asked who would oversee this entire process. Hockett stated staff did look at a uniform barrier but determined to allow business to decide. He stated the Planning Division would oversee the process. Councilmember Mentzer asked if Uptown Marion has reviewed or provided input. Hockett stated they received this presentation last week and brought forward a couple of concerns. Councilmember Brandt asked if there was an appeal committee. Hockett stated that is still being determined.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn to closed session regarding litigation as permitted under Section 21.5(1)(c) of the Code of Iowa. (Two separate measures)

Moved by Jensen, seconded by Harper, to adjourn to closed session as stated above. City Attorney Kara Bullerman stated that she has reviewed the subject matter to be discussed and found it to be an appropriate topic for closed session. A roll call vote was taken.

Approved unanimously

Mayor AbouAssaly left the meeting and relinquished the gavel to Mayor Pro Tem Brandt at 6:01 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Brandt presided over the meeting.

Moved by Jensen, seconded by Harper, to reconvene to regular session.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Harper, Jensen, Atkins, Brandt, Mentzer, and Strnad

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Brandt adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Will Brandt, Mayor Pro Tem

Rachel Bolender, City Clerk

The undersigned City Clerk of Marion, Iowa certifies that the minutes shown immediately above were published in the Gazette on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

Rachel Bolender, City Clerk