



## **MINUTES**

### **City Council Work Session**

**4:00 PM - Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

Marion Public Library, Community Room, 1101 6th Avenue

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The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in informal work session, Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 4:00 PM, in the Marion Public Library, Community Room, 1101 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

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

**ABSENT:** Randy Strnad

Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### **Presentation of Funds to Eastern Iowa Honor Flights**

Communication Manager Amber Bisinger spoke about the Veteran Banner program and presented funds to members of Eastern Iowa Honor Flights.

##### **Discussion and Direction Regarding Uptown Parking**

Brooke Prouty with Uptown Marion provided an overview of event parking and street closure solutions. Prouty spoke about a partnership with uptown businesses that have larger private lots such as banks or churches. This program would allow public parking in the lots when the businesses are closed. Police Chief Mike Kitsmiller spoke about possible changes to the code that would allow towing in certain instances.

##### **Marion Leadership In Action 2023: Winter Lights Presentation**

Harrison March and Stephanie Gobeli, members of the 2023 Marion Leadership in Action class, provided information regarding this year's class project which is to purchase lights and decorations for the Uptown Artway. They requested a match of \$20,000. Councilmember Harper asked if we should increase the contribution in order to purchase more product. Councilmember Jensen asked if the peace tree can be added on to. Parks Director Seth Staashelm stated the tree can be added to in four foot sections up to a total height of 70 foot. Councilmember Brandt asked how much the class has raised towards the remaining amount. March stated they have raised a little over \$10,000 to date.

#### **AGENDA**

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

#### **OTHER DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION**

**Discussion and Direction Regarding City Council Work Session Agenda Format**

## **Changes**

City Clerk Rachel Bolender provided information regarding a reformatted agenda layout for Council work sessions and asked feedback on the proposed layout. Bolender also asked for feedback regarding the information provided in agenda memos. Council was in support of the new format and stated that the information provided in agenda memos has been good. Bolender stated that the new format will begin in January.

## **Discussion Regarding Wastewater Treatment Agreements with the City of Cedar Rapids**

Public Services Director Ryan Miller provided information regarding the above referenced agreements including an Operations and Maintenance Agreement, a Long Term Capacity Agreement and an Agreement for Plant Improvements. Councilmember Harper asked that staff from Cedar Rapids attend a future meeting to provide more information. Miller stated they would attend a future meeting as well as staff from HR Green.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to adjourn to closed session regarding litigation, real estate transaction and personnel matters as permitted under Section 21.5(1)(c), Section 21.5(1)(j) and Section 21.5(1)(i) of the Code of Iowa. (Six separate matters)

Moved by Brandt, 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

Councilmember Atkins left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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

Approved unanimously

## **ADJOURN**

Mayor AbouAssaly adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

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Nicolas AbouAssaly, Mayor

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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\_\_\_\_.

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Rachel Bolender, City Clerk