



MINUTES

City Council Regular Session

5:30 PM - Thursday, June 20, 2024

City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in regular session, on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 5:30 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

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

ABSENT: None

Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and Council observed a moment of silence.

PROCLAMATIONS/OATHS

Proclamation - Pride Month (June 2024)

Mayor AbouAssaly read and presented the proclamation referenced above to Deputy City Manager Kim Downs.

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of Fire Department Lieutenant Zach Bruce

Fire Chief Tom Fagan recognized Lieutenant Zach Bruce on his recent graduation from the National Fire Academy's Managing Officer Program.

Fire Department Promotion: Firefighter Nick Thompson to Lieutenant

Fire Chief Tom Fagan shared information regarding Thompson's accomplishments and recognized his promotion to Lieutenant.

PUBLIC FORUM

Coni Hoskins (1050 S 26th Street) shared concerns about fireworks use in Marion.

Councilmember Mentzer left the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Administrative Services

Minutes of the June 4 and 6, 2024 City Council meetings

Hold harmless agreements with:

- Renee Ferentchak regarding the A Avenue Neighborhood Block Party event on September 28, 2024 at 2545 A Avenue
- Rachel Maker regarding the Pride Fashion Show event on June 29, 2024 in the Uptown Artway and North Plaza
- The City of Marion regarding the Fireworks and Fireflies event on July 3, 2024 at Lowe Park
- Molly Mulherin regarding the BBQ Block party event on July 3, 2024 at 4042 Kinderhook Lane
- Chains Interrupted regarding the Red Sand Project event on July 27, 2024 in the Uptown Artway and North Plaza

Motion to approve the following FY2024-2025 Cigarette Permit Applications:

- Big Shots Bar & Grill
- BP to Go #6
- Casey's General Store #2760, #2770, #2919, #2924 and #3562
- Corner Mart
- Dollar General Store #7226 and #7398
- Greenleaf Tobacco & Vape
- Fareway Stores, Inc #949
- Hawkeye Vapor
- Hawks Smoke Shop
- Hy-Vee Fast & Fresh, Hy-Vee Food Store and Hy-Vee Gas
- Kum & Go #503 and #509
- Kwik Star #589, #1008 and #1172
- Mega Retail LLC
- Marion Food Market
- Murphy USA #7287
- Neighborhood Tobacco Outlet
- Smokin Joe's Tobacco & Liquor Outlet #10
- Walgreens #03876
- Walmart #3630
- Wrigleyville

Liquor licenses including the following:

- New - Best Western Plus - 90 Twixt Town Road Northeast
- New - Marion Chamber of Commerce - 1070 7th Avenue
- New - Marion Chamber of Commerce - 4500 N 10th Street
- New - Goldfinch Tap & Eatery - 740 10th Street
- Renewal - Dollar General #7226 - 1135 East Post Road
- Renewal - Marion Food Market - 5005 10th Avenue
- Renewal - Big Shots Bar and Grill - 1803 6th Avenue
- Renewal - TownPlace Suites by Marriott - 2823 7th Avenue

Receive and file correspondence regarding Fuf Renfer's resignation from the Marion Arts Council

Mayor AbouAssaly recommended appointments/reappointments:

- Tree Board
 - Dale Kretschmar - 455 Woodbine Drive - term expiration 12/31/24

- Library Board
 - Ross McIntyre - 1360 41st Street Place - term expiration 6/30/28
 - Chelsea Nunn - 2061 Agate Street - term expiration 6/30/28
 - Melissa Alexander - 2950 Downing Street - term expiration 6/30/28
 - Kelsey Logan - 4151 Aster Court - term expiration 6/30/28
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
 - Dave Hockett - Planning - no term expiration

Receive and file May 2024 department monthly report

Payments as presented in the amount of \$3,751,729.94

Resolution No. 31979 naming depositories and deposit limits

Resolution No. 31980 approving amendment no. 1 to contract between Farmers State Bank and the City of Marion for Banking Services

Resolution No. 31981 approving the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Property and Liability Insurance Program and authorizing payment in an amount not to exceed \$623,686

Resolution No. 31982 approving the proposed allocation of the Hotel/Motel funding for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Resolution No. 31983 setting date for public hearing on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the Central Corridor Urban Renewal Area

Resolution No. 31984 approving purchase from Tyler Technologies to add payment services to our current agreement and authorizing payment not to exceed \$9,956

Resolution No. 31985 amending the Schedule of Fees, Bonds and Insurance effective July 1, 2024

Motion to receive and file the following job description of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Volunteer position within the Marion Fire Department

Motion to receive and file updated job descriptions for Parks Maintenance Manager and City Arborist

Motion to approve the bargaining unit agreement calendar as follows:

- Resolution No. 31986 approving collective bargaining agreement with Local 231 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027
- Resolution No. 31987 approving collective bargaining agreement with Local 1937 International Association of Firefighters (IAF) for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027
- Resolution No. 31988 approving collective bargaining agreement with Marion Policeman's Protective Association (MPPA) for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025

Resolution No. 31989 accepting City Policies

Engineering

Resolution No. 31990 approving a purchase agreement with Basquin Investments LLC, 246 7th Avenue, regarding the Alburnett Road Extension Project and authorizing payment in the amount of \$3,605 (TRANS-18-092)

Community Development

Resolution No. 31991 approving the Big Shots Bar and Grill roof-mounted solar installation Central Corridor Review for property located at 1803 6th Avenue, Marion, Iowa (Rod Hunt)

Motion to receive and file a request to amend the Marion City Code regarding artist live-work space in the U-1, Uptown zoning district currently within a development moratorium (Deane Richardson and Gae Sharp-Richardson)

Moved by Harper, seconded by Jensen, to approve consent agenda as shown above.

Approved unanimously

Mayor AbouAssaly relinquished the gavel to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen at 5:48 p.m. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen presided over the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA WITH MAYOR ABOUASSALY'S ABSTENTION

Community Development

Resolution No. 31992 approving the Echo Ridge Estates 5th Addition Final Plat and memorandum of agreement for property located north of Echo Hill Road and west of Alburnett Road (Integrity Custom Homes, LLC)

Moved by Jensen, seconded by Harper, to approve consent agenda with Mayor AbouAssaly's abstention as shown above.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Harper, Jensen, Miskimen, Brandt, and Strnad

Abstained: AbouAssaly

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen relinquished the gavel to Mayor AbouAssaly at 5:48 p.m. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

Engineering

Public Hearing regarding the 2024 Fire Training Tower Site Plan

Mayor AbouAssaly opened the public hearing regarding item referenced above. Public Services Director Mike Barkalow provided a staff report. No comments, written or verbal, were received. Mayor AbouAssaly declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor AbouAssaly relinquished the gavel to Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen at 5:54 p.m. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen presided over the meeting.

Motion to approve project calendar regarding the 2024 Fire Training Tower Site Plan as follows:

- Resolution No. 31993 adopting final plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimate of cost regarding the 2024 Fire Training Tower Site Plan (FACS-20-007)
- Resolution No. 31994 awarding bid, authorizing approval of the contract, bonds and insurance with Abode Construction, Inc. regarding the 2024 Fire Training Tower Site Plan, and authorizing payment in the amount of \$274,800.25 (FACS-20-007)

Moved by Brandt, seconded by Jensen, to approve project calendar as shown above. Councilmember Jensen asked if there are any other similar training facilities in the area. Fire Chief Tom Fagan stated he is not aware of any other facilities in Eastern Iowa where both structures are at the same site. Councilmember Strnad spoke about the ISO rating in Marion and how this facility will help possibly lower the rating which in turn will help insurance rates for property owners.

Approved by the following votes:

Ayes: Harper, Jensen, Miskimen, Brandt, and Strnad

Abstained: AbouAssaly

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Miskimen relinquished the gavel to Mayor AbouAssaly at 6:02 p.m. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Craig Rairdin (1000 Creekbend Court) shared concerns about the Indian Creek Sewer Segment 7 and CeMar Trail Closure. He also provided comments about enforcement of our code as it relates to biking on the sidewalks in Uptown Marion.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Harper thanked Deputy City Manager Kim Downs for the briefing she made at the recent Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO) Policy Board meeting regarding the work done to help share information about the Tower Terrace Road project in Washington D.C.

Councilmember Jensen congratulated the Marion Boys Baseball team and their achievement on being number one in the state.

Mayor AbouAssaly spoke about the recent visit to Washington D.C. to discuss the Tower Terrace Road project. Mayor AbouAssaly also talked about how Marion partners with other community agencies to join community orientation programs for summer interns in the region. Mayor AbouAssaly also spoke about attending the Juneteenth Festival this past weekend along with the Marion Civil Rights Commission.

ADJOURN

Mayor AbouAssaly adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
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