



MINUTES

City Council Work Session

4:00 PM - Tuesday, September 3, 2024

City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in informal work session, Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 4:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Grant Harper, Steve Jensen, Will Brandt, Sara Mentzer, and Gage Miskimen

ABSENT: Nicolas AbouAssaly and Randy Strnad

Mayor Pro Tem Mentzer presided over the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation Regarding Community-wide Wayfinding System Design Concepts

Kene Okigbo and Mindy Alvarez with RDG Planning and Design provided a review of the Community-wide Wayfinding System process, the proposed design concepts and an overview of placement, specifications and phasing. Councilmember Harper asked about phasing and the estimate per phase. Okigbo stated that will be looked at during the next step of the process. Councilmember Jensen asked how often the wayfinding system would need to be reviewed. Okigbo stated the system is modular and can be updated as needed internally and that the materials themselves have an estimated warranty of 20 years. Councilmember Harper asked about long-term maintenance for the signage and potential opportunities, challenges and costs. Parks Director Seth Staashelm stated their team brought maintenance and operation considerations to the working group. Okigbo stated maintenance costs can be gathered and shared with the group. Mayor Pro Tem Mentzer stated she is in support of the design and thanked the team for their work to date. She also asked if this project was budgeted. Communications Manager Amber Bisinger stated staff will take the estimate and recommended phasing to add the project to the Capital Improvement Plan for evaluation.

Annual Presentation by Linn County Emergency Management Agency (LCEMA)

BJ Dvorak with LCEMA provided information regarding emergency operations center training, storm watch, the Local Emergency Planning Committee and the Community Emergency Response Team. Information regarding community planning sessions was also shared. Councilmember Harper asked how LCEMA operations have changed since the Duane Arnold Energy Center has closed. Dvorak stated their team would have to have four exercises per year and other trainings when it was open. Dvorak also stated they still have those checklists and disaster documents but will update them to be more general.

OTHER DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION

Budget Discussion: Environmental Scan

Finance Director Lianne Cairry provided information regarding the City's strengths, areas for improvement, opportunities and challenges. A review of revenues and expenditures the City will be monitoring was also shared.

Update regarding Parks Capital Projects

Parks Director Seth Staashelm provided an overview of capital projects and amendments needed. Projects included the Hanna Park Pavilion, Prairie Hill Park Improvements, Lucore Road Property Development, Right-of-Way Landscaping and Planting Replacement and Lowe Park West End Improvements.

UPCOMING AGENDA REVIEW

City Council review of the September 5, 2024 agenda - Council discussed the agenda items with no action taken.

CLOSED SESSION

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

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

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

Approved unanimously

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro Tem Mentzer adjourned the meeting at 6:11 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