

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes

Marengo Council Chambers

132 E. Prairie St.

Marengo, IL 60152

February 22, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald Lockhart called the February 22, 2010 regular meeting of the Marengo City Council to order at 7:05 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lockhart led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present for this meeting were Mayor Donald Lockhart, Aldermen: Carole Bartman, Corey Brackmann, Michael Smith, Erik DeBoer, Todd Hall and Steve DiMaria. Also present were: City Attorney Carlos Arevalo, Sgt. Richard Solarz, Assistant to the City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, City Engineer David Johanson, Building Commissioner Jayson Shull, and Superintendent of Public Works Jim Craney. Absent this evening were Aldermen Mike Secor (A death in the family, his father-in-law.) and Pat Signore. Also absent was City Administrator Deborah Nier.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion, seconded by Carole Bartman, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Hall, Bartman and Smith.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. List of Bills
- b. Economic Development Commission Appointment (Diane Torman to fulfill a seat that will expire April, 2012.)
- c. Spring Fling Request (by the Settlers' Days Committee for May 21 to 23, 2010.)

Alderman Steve DiMaria questioned the cost of the 2 chairs purchased by the police department at a cost of \$1,254.00. The chairs are used by the radio dispatcher, and are special ergonomic chairs because of the amount of time that is spent in them.

Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Erik DeBoer, to approve the consent agenda items. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Smith, Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer and Hall.

NEW BUSINESS.

None.

OLD BUSINESS.

Alderman Carole Bartman questioned the current status of the 8th Avenue property that is owned by the City of Marengo. Josh Blakemore stated that the staff is working on any minor repairs that were necessary prior to it being offered as a rental. Once the repairs are complete, there will be an ad placed to rent it out.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS & REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart advised the City Council that he won't be at the next Council meeting. He will be out of state for business. It will be necessary for the Council to pick someone to chair the meeting. The usual procedure is to pick someone with seniority.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Jayson Shull – Building Commissioner. No formal report this evening. The CDC members are trying to schedule a date for the next meeting. They are hoping to have it by the second week of March. Aldermen DiMaria, Secor, Signore and Smith are the Council representatives. Topics on the agenda for that meeting will include the “Sign Ordinance” and “Downtown Parking.” Alderman DiMaria asked about the permanent sign for the tanning salon –Jayson will check into it. Alderman Smith asked about the R.V. Ordinance – wondering if it needed to be updated. Jayson advised that the web site has been updated with the information on this ordinance.

Jim Craney – Superintendent of Public Works. No formal report this evening. Met with the railroad the other day, and our participation in the crossing is about \$27,000. Waste Water Treatment Plant, had a shaft break down. It has been replaced. That cost came from emergency funds. Hopefully it was finished today. This cost about \$13,000 to replace. Alderman DiMaria asked about the status on sand purchases – and was advised that another 400 more ton was ordered. The City is required to order 80% of what was projected. He anticipates ordering another 200 tons. Price should then be upwards of around \$100,000. Salt was reduced by about 500 tons this year. This will be carried over into next year. Alderman Smith asked if there were any problems with our plows, and Jim said that a couple broke down, but they were able to fix those in the shop, so everything is pretty decent at this time. When asked about the potholes around the city, he advised that they are hoping to get back onto that project soon. They have done some work, but not a lot.

Joshua Blakemore – Assistant to the City Administrator. Updated the Council on the Capital Improvement Plan (for Deborah Nier). The first draft is almost complete. Joshua stated that Administrator Nier would like to set up a date for a potential work shop. She is looking for a date after the 15th of March. After some discussion, the date for the Committee of the Whole meeting was set for March 30th at 7:00 P.M.

Sgt. Richard Solarz – Acting Chief of Police. No written report. Acting Chief Richard Solarz announced to the Council that Officer Waller's Dare booth took Runner Up for

Best of Show at the Marengo Expo. Sgt. Fritz completed a tobacco compliance check today and the police are happy to report that for the first time in a year, all of the businesses in Marengo passed.

David Johanson – City Engineer. No written report. Work continues on the Prospect Street project.

Carlos Arevalo – City Attorney. No report. Alderman Carole Bartman asked Attorney Arevalo if contact has been made by the Amcore Bank attorney on the letter of credit. Carlos had originally scheduled a meeting for last Friday, but there was a delay, so that meeting did not happen. Amcore’s attorney will be contacting Attorney Arevalo soon to set a date; they are working on responses to the outline of issues that were presented by the City.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Lockhart advised the City Council that we would be recessing to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing “Land Acquisition.” Alderman Todd Hall made the motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to recess for the purpose of going to Executive Session. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, Brackmann, DiMaria, Bartman, DeBoer and Smith. The Regular Session recessed at 7:21 P.M.

The Regular Session of the City Council re-convened at 7:35 P.M.

Alderman Michael Smith asked when the contract with Charter Communications was up for renewal, and Mayor Lockhart stated that it was in September of 2011. Alderman Bartman asked if we (the City Council) could find out how many households use Charter. Joshua Blakemore will check into this and see if they can get that information.

There was nothing further to come before the Council this evening. Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote by all Aldermen present.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk