

**MARENGO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 9, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Lockhart called to order the July 9, 2007, Marengo City Council meeting and then led the "Pledge of Allegiance".

ROLL CALL

Roll call was delayed until later.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dennis Goers, 719 North State, is in the special floodway area (unnamed creek) and has been trying since August, 2004, to get a permit to build a room addition. His property is 6" below the level. In 2004 he came to the City for a permit and was told he had to go through our engineer, Baxter & Woodman. They in turn advised him since he was in this floodway, he couldn't get a permit until he did specific things one of which was to get a topographical survey which he did.

He applied for the permit again in June and received a letter stating it was again denied by the Building Dept. The letter stated he had to contact the IL Dept. of Water Conservation District or the Army Corp of Engineers if he wanted to proceed.

He went to the IL Dept. of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resource located in Bartlett and talked to William Voight. After showing him exacting where he lived on maps Mr. Voight had, he was told that he was indeed in the floodplain and as of now, there was nothing Mr. Voight could do to help him get his permit until the City revises the flood map.

The drainage ditch that was dug on the eastside of town back in 1985 does not appear on the new flood map. If the City were to redo the map, there is the possibility he could get out of this floodway and be able to obtain his permit and perhaps get out of the flood insurance program that he has to pay \$1,200 a year for as well as other residents that might be able to get out of the floodplain and save them money as well.

He again asked for our consideration to revise the flood map. The mayor stated we would look into it.

Fire Chief Bradbury asked for permission to address the members during the dispatch fee discussion. Mayor Lockhart said, "That would be fine."

Barry Beckwith, Chief of Marengo Rescue, also asked permission to address the members during the dispatch fee discussion. Mayor Lockhart said, "That's fine."

Ronald Rood, Supt. of Riley School District, asked to address the members under item b, impact fees and development contributions under Old Business. Mayor Lockhart said, "That's fine. Same thing for you Doctor? It will be fine. We will open it up so everyone has an opportunity to speak."

ROLL CALL

Present for roll were Mayor Lockhart, Alderman Bradbury, Alderman Shelton, Alderman Smith, Alderman Hall, Alderman Secor and Alderman Signore. Alderman Trainor and Alderman Spear were absent.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 11, 2007, COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE SESSION COUNCIL MINUTES

Alderman Shelton made and Alderman Secor seconded a motion to approve the above mentioned minutes. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Shelton, Hall, Bradbury, Smith, Secor and Signore.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 25, 2007, REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

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Alderman Secor made a motion to approve the above mentioned minutes; seconded by Alderman Bradbury. Alderman Bradbury, Smith, Secor and Mayor Lockhart voted aye. Alderman Shelton, Hall and Signore abstained. Our attorney asked if there was an alderman who was absent tonight but present at the June 25th meeting. He was advised Alderman Trainor was present. The attorney stated there was a problem as there were not enough votes to make it official so he advised this be moved until Alderman Trainor would be present.

JUNE 25, 2007, FOUR SEASONS PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

These minutes will also be moved for approval when Alderman Trainor will be present to make it an official vote.

JUNE 26, 2007, TIF JOINT REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The attorney advised the above minutes were for FYI only as none of the members were present for the meeting.

LIST OF BILLS

After the question was answered regarding the purchase of two new computers was answered, Alderman Secor made and Alderman Smith seconded a motion to approve the List of Bills as presented. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Smith, Shelton, Signore, Bradbury, Secor and Hall.

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A LEASE WITH IDOT FOR THEIR USE OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

This is a two year renewal lease with IDOT. They use bay 1 at the Public Works building and space at our salt dome at the WWTP during the snow removal season. IDOT will pay \$3,325 per year for the term of the lease which represents a 5.56% increase over the last lease agreement.

The Public Works staff has no problems with leasing the space to IDOT. Staff reviewed the proposed lease and found it to be essentially the same language as the previous agreement except for the rent increase.

Alderman Shelton made a motion to approve the lease under the new parameters; seconded by Alderman Bradbury. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Hall, Smith, Shelton, Secor, Signore and Bradbury.

MIDNIGHT IN MARENGO 5K RACE REQUEST

The City has received a request for permission to hold a 5K Run/Walk on Sept. 22 beginning at midnight. It will start and end at Joe's Place and is a benefit for the Marengo Food Pantry. The Police Dept. has had no problems with this event in the past.

Dennis Dougherty, one of the organizers, came forward to answer any questions the members might have. He stated they average about 80 participants that are primarily junior high and high school age kids with the parents usually accompanying them. About 2/3 of them run and the other 1/3 walks.

Alderman Signore moved to approve the request; seconded by Alderman Shelton contingent upon receiving the certificate of insurance. It passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Signore, Secor, Bradbury, Hall, Shelton and Smith.

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR THE MAPLE STREET WATER MAIN DESIGN WORK WITH BAXTER & WOODMAN

Administrator Hartman advised the Maple Street watermain replacement was included in the budget. It is separate from the resurfacing of Maple but is tied together with the project.

The proposal is for fees for professional services with regard to project planning, execution, design and permitting with IDOT and IEPA.

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The question was raised if we had an employee who would perhaps be able to handle some of the scope of services listed by our engineer to save us some money. Supt. Craney felt we could help them with item 1- Confer with City staff from time to time to clarify and define the general scope, extent and character of the project; item 3-inspect existing site and analyze for best location to install the new watermain; item 5- obtain data or records which indicated the locations of existing utilities and item 6-contact IDOT to discuss their requirements for connection within their pavement area.

Mr. Gavle stated he has talked to Supt. Craney and rather than the lump sum of not to exceed \$14,000, they are willing to do this on an hourly basis that will not exceed the \$14,000 amount.

IDOT is getting ready to go out for bids for the resurfacing so time is of the essence to start getting the permits, etc. for the watermain replacement.

Supt. Craney advised Mr. Gavle tonight that he would like to bring the watermain off of Maple over to Forest so that Four Seasons Point in Time wouldn't have to cut up a new street. So, this will be included in the watermain work.

The question was raised as to what the average hourly rate was. Mr. Gavle replied the rate varied as it depended on the qualifications of the individual and felt the average would be \$59 or \$60.

Supt. Craney advised he would be on site most of the time and would like to know if the members wanted to go with the flat \$14,000 lump sum or with the hourly rate not to exceed \$14,000 as time is of the essence as this needs to get started ASAP.

Mr. Gavle understood the authorization was to have an engineering service agreement and if the members would approve an hourly rate basis with an amount not to exceed \$14,000, he could set the agreement in that manner.

Alderman Bradbury stated considering there is the time restraint, she would be in favor of the hourly fee if it meant the \$14,000 could be reduced.

Alderman Signore thought that sometimes receiving these items a month after they are written puts the members in a position where they don't have time to consider or make amendments as the letter was dated June 14th and the City Council received it for a July 9th meeting.

Alderman Bradbury made a motion to accept this recommendation based on the hourly rate which will not exceed \$14,000; seconded by Alderman Secor. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Hall, Shelton, Smith and Bradbury. Alderman Signore voted nay.

ORDINANCE 07-7-1-DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING ITS SALE OR DISPOSAL

The question was raised as to what steps have been taken to make people aware the Police Dept. has these items before they are disposed. Deputy Chief Hallman stated the last time it was put on the website and community board and they sat around for several hours only to have no one show up. They are trying to keep this type of property moving; most of which is disposed. The PD is looking at alternative ways to make money on it but it is difficult to recoup any kind of money on these types of items.

Alderman Signore moved to approve; seconded by Alderman Bradbury. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Hall, Bradbury, Smith, Secor, Shelton and Signore.

ORDINANCE 07-7-2-AMENDING SECTION 25.12 & 25.13, DELINQUENT WATER BILLING PROCEDURES

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The changes for this ordinance include increasing the administrative fee from \$20 to \$30, increasing the turn on fee from \$15 to \$100 and \$150 if it is not during regular department working hours, stipulates reinstatement of service shall not occur between the hours of 8:00 p.m. through 7:00 a.m., the City may place a lien of the property if the bill is not paid within 60 days and declare the property "unfit for human occupancy" if water service to the premises is terminated and allows for a hearing with the General Administration Committee regarding a bill. The members were advised the billing clerk sends out between 40-50 shut-off letters per billing cycle and there are probably about a handful that actually do get their water turned off.

The \$15 fee for turning the water back on doesn't cover our cost especially if it occurs after hours or on weekends and for years we have seen where there are holes in some areas that needed to be strengthened and this proposal provides that.

The question was raised as to how somebody gets their water turned back on after hours. The reply was the resident goes to the Police Department, pays cash and they then contact the on call Water Dept. employee to come in and turn the water back on.

By raising the fees, the residents might become more conscientious about their bill and might make it a priority to get in paid on time to avoid these higher fees.

Mayor Lockhart stated we have been very receptive in trying to work with the public through the Water Dept. but it gets to a point where we can only do so much and it seems to be the same people over and over. The City is willing to set up a payment plan for those who are delinquent to pay their bill.

The question was raised if there was a lag period to when it actually goes into effect or in essence, are we obligated to give notification to the residents that this has been changed. Our attorney advised a clause could be inserted that allows for a grace period to some degree and as an example gave a date of Sept. 1st as to when this would become effective and then publicize the changes so there is notice to the individuals that may be effected. At that point, we could say this was approved in July and went into effect whatever day they so choose so there is no surprise. It was stated the increase fee could probably also be printed on the bill to aware the citizens of the change.

Alderman Smith said, "I would make a motion that we put in a clause to make sure that when the next set of water bills are sent out that it is actually on the water bill that the ordinance has been changed so there is no question to any of the residents who pay their water bill that this is going into effect." Our attorney wanted to know what date was to be used and Alderman Signore wanted to know if the information could be printed on the bill like the vehicle sticker where states if not paid by July 1st, you pay double. Our attorney felt this is what Alderman Smith was suggesting.

Alderman Smith then said, "I guess I would make the motion with the fact the ordinance would actually go in with the water bill that goes out on August 1st; that would start the thirty day." Administrator Hartman said, "So if anybody in that cycle becomes delinquent?" Alderman Smith said, "Yes" and Mayor Lockhart said, "After that-after August 1st"; Alderman Smith replied, "After August 1st." Alderman Signore seconded the motion. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Smith, Bradbury, Shelton, Hall, Signore and Secor.

RESOLUTION 07-7-A-SUPPORTING THE FUNDING FOR THE ALGONQUIN WESTERN BYPASS AND RT 47 WIDENING IN HUNTLEY AS WELL AS OTHER CRITICAL ROAD PROJECTS

This item was placed on the agenda per the request of Alderman Smith. He thought all of the members had received a letter from Congressman Manzullo requesting all McHenry County city governmental bodies pass a resolution showing their support for Senator Dick Durbin, Senator Barack Obama and Congressman Manzullo to release the millions of dollars in federal funds that have been secured for road projects in Illinois, especially here in McHenry County.

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The resolution basically provides support to lobby the governor to release these funds some of which have been held he believed since 1998 and 1999 and more recently 6.2 billion dollars in federal gas tax funds for IDOT.

It requests the Governor and Secretary of State to come to McHenry County to meet with area state legislators, mayors, county officials and economic development officials to discuss the importance of road improvement needs in the area.

Mayor Lockhart stated he was not opposed to this, however if the governor won't even appear before his people in Springfield, he doubted he would come here but they could give it a try as long as the Council votes for it.

With there being no questions regarding this, Alderman Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 07-7-A as written; seconded by Alderman Bradbury. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Smith, Signore, Bradbury, Hall and Shelton.

OLD BUSINESS

DISPATCH FEE DISCUSSION

Alderman Bradbury excused herself from this discussion and left the room at 7:49 p.m. Mayor Lockhart asked Fire Chief Bradbury to step forward.

Chief Bradbury hoped the members had received a copy of their (Marengo Fire Dept, Marengo-Union Rescue Squad, Union Police Dept. and Fire Dept.) proposal.

The proposal contained an error. It had Administrator Hartman said the fees were negotiable which he did not say; someone else did. He stated these fees need to be settled.

The Marengo Fire Dept., Marengo Rescue Squad and the Union Fire Dept. are all trying to switch to a different radio frequency that other departments are not on as this would give them clearer communication.

He wanted to clarify three points in his letter and to show the difference between the City's figures and their figures. First of all, he didn't figure in insurance, FICA and other employee benefits into his overall wages because he didn't have those figures. Secondly, the dispatcher's incidental duty credits he deducted these as insurance where Administrator Hartman deducted them as 33% of the overall package.

He then talked about the capital equipment upgrades. Per past administration the last increase they got, some of that money was pay for the upgrades of new systems. In the intergovernmental agreement they have with the City dated July 9, 2003, it states Marengo shall maintained by Marengo and any cost of maintenance repairs, replacement and installation shall be borne by Marengo, meaning the equipment we have so they shouldn't be bearing these expenses as they have their own expenses. They have an expense of about \$17,000 to upgrade their system into our dispatch center.

His next point had to do with the multiple call-outs. Administrator Hartman's letter stated the calculated City's subsidy for the proposal is higher due to a reduced call volume to omit "multiple call outs". What is meant by multiple call outs is when there is a call, the Rescue Squad and one or both of the Fire Departments and all the entities involved are dispatched and charged the dispatch fee. He didn't feel this was fair. The same is true for a fire call as they automatically send the Rescue Squad and Union Fire Dept and all three are charged again. It is hard for them to swallow this because if they have a fire call, the Rescue Squad is coming to support the Fire Dept. and if there is a Rescue Squad call, the Fire Dept. goes to support them.

The problem they have with the multiple call out fee is that all the entities are trying to work together. He gave the example if the Rescue Squad calls them for a lift assist for a patient they get charged a dispatch fee. His crew doesn't have to help assist but this way a second ambulance doesn't have to be out of service to help one patient. They feel this is double dipping and isn't right. He stated Administrator Hartman said this was a business decision which is correct. Chief Bradbury has been trying to work with all the entities. His

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department has given the Public Works Dept. \$10-12,000 worth of air packs. They gave the Police Dept. a car. They do fit tests for all the police officers as this is required every year for their air masks. It is only \$35 per officer which is a great deal but they don't charge the City plus they accommodate the officers for the time of day they need them. One of his fire fighters came in at midnight to accommodate the Police Dept. at no charge. He stated, "That's working together." He has heard several times that they need to work together. He has also heard this from the mayor.

The \$15.08 figure he came up with is their fair share. They are not being subsidized at all. They are not asking for the same deal as Harvard gets as they don't even pay for dispatch fees as they are willing to pay their fair share.

The members could go with the administrator's number of \$18.95 or their number of \$15.08 but they believe in working together and a 42% increase was not part of working together. Also by getting more money from them, it is like stealing from Peter to pay Paul. They are all taxing districts and they need to look out for the citizens.

Chief Barry Beckwith of the Marengo Rescue Squad addressed the members next. He just started this position May 1st and was quite astonished when he saw this 42% increase.

The voters passed a referendum that sought more personnel for the Rescue District. One hundred percent of the referendum money they are receiving is going toward the increase personnel. When he started May 1st at night they had one paramedic and 2 EMTs. By November 1st of this year, they will have 3 paramedics and 3 EMTs on duty manning three ambulances. During the day there is going to be the Deputy Chief and himself available for a fourth ambulance or the extrication truck.

The budget just approved by the Rescue District has \$667,000 for payroll. The increase they will be receiving in revenue is going to be \$525,000 so more than 100% of the referendum money is going to the personnel he needs. The District covers 144 square miles out of one station. It is unacceptable for him as a paramedic and chief to have a 12 minute response time.

By November, they will have an ambulance at the Rescue District, one in the Fire Protection District (already have one in place) and hoped to have one in Union to better serve the community in response time.

At the six month mark for 2007, they have had a 16% increase in calls so they are looking at having over 1,300 calls. If we increase the base rate and the new per call rate, it will amount to \$9,400 more for the dispatch fee. This was tough for him to accept as he could buy a new cardiac monitor for \$9,400 that would benefit the citizens a lot more.

He and Chief Bradbury have the same goal, which is to provide their personnel with the best equipment possible as they need to preserve life and property efficiently.

They have increased the communications capability as they had some very old equipment and have updated it as personal safety is a priority. They need a professional, consistent and helpful communication system. Their whole profession is based on communicating with each other to be safe.

He wanted to be shown what the 42% increase in service the Rescue District and the Fire Protection District would receive.

The Rescue Squad District has solely funded an opticon system (\$10,000) for changing the traffic light at Rt. 20 & 23 which will be a safety factor for all entities.

He stated if the NYFD had an upgraded communication system, 121 firefighters lives could have been saved on 9/11. He can't take that chance with his personnel. He is going to find the best dispatch service, the best

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communication system, the best education and the best equipment to keep them safe. Chief Ervin Boeldt, Union Fire Protection District, felt the entities should all get together and work this out. He also thought 42% was a hefty increase but did say the dispatchers did a great job. Administrator Hartman advised Chief Boeldt the 42% increase was based on the rate for 2006.

Mayor Lockhart stated there was a bad storm that came through the area today. He happened to be at City Hall at the time. The dispatcher was over whelmed with phone calls so he helped her out. He felt there was more to this than just fees as the dispatcher was stressed with the additional work put on her shoulders with all the 911 calls ringing one after the other and saw her totally overworked. The problem here was the City doesn't have extra funds for additional dispatchers.

He was told the entities were going to go to SEECOM. He recommended they go because he didn't know what to do as the dispatcher today didn't even have time to go to the bathroom. Unfortunately, none of the entities saw what all happened there.

He gave the Fire Dept. credit for doing a great job today with putting out the fire for the house that was struck by lightening. Basically his entire life has been in public service so he knows where they are coming from but there is only so much we can put in a two pound coffee can. We are at a point the way Marengo has grown (not the fault of the other entities) that we have a problem with our personnel. He heard all the calls that came in and would have helped answer the 911 calls but didn't know what to do with the call if it was a real emergency. So, there was more to this program than just dollars and cents and how much they were going to pay for a call as we might not be able to handle the entities is what he was trying to say to them and be able to handle them in a good way.

He has heard we are trying to take away extra money from the Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad because they had their referendums passed. Nothing is further from the truth and if Union had a problem with this, why didn't they approach us as they never once picked up the phone to call him.

He said, "I don't care what the City Council does. We will continue if they want to vote for it. I have not talked to one of the City Council members about this issue because I didn't want to be accused of trying to put something in their mind. They are hearing this most or all of them for the first time probably. I believe in letting the Council make up their own mind and their own decision. This isn't something that has been done ahead of time."

He stated he wants cooperation between the entities but the problem is we only have one dispatcher and if we are going to take this on, we are going to have to get more help. He was frankly surprised as he sat and watched what the dispatcher went through today with all the alarms going off and the Deputy Chief off answering alarm calls so he couldn't come in to help.

He stated this was an extraordinary day and then at the last minute the dispatcher got a Mavis box from Lake in the Halls so she was involved with that at this end.

Chief Bradbury advised the reason Union didn't get hold of him was he had permission to represent them as well during the negotiations. Mayor Lockhart stated he heard other people in Union were not happy but anybody that wants to know where he stands could pick up the phone and call him.

Mayor Lockhart stated we were not trying to screw them out of any money here as this was a serious matter that we have here. Chief Bradbury agreed and thought it would be great if we were to hire another dispatcher. Mayor Lockhart advised he didn't know if we would be able to do so.

Chief Bradbury stated he was the one who advised if the fee was left at \$19.00 a call, they were going to go to SEECOM and he meant that. As he discussed with Chief Beckwith if the City wanted them to go to SEECOM, that was fine.

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Mayor Lockhart stated the position of the Police Dept. right now was they were overbooked. Chief Bradbury replied, "Well then you have a different problem, Mr. Mayor because it is only 2,000 calls additional that we give you a year. 2,000 calls. Let me tell you what a dispatcher, another dispatcher can handle in other departments. They handle up to 10,000 calls, so maybe it is training. I don't know but that is one of the problems. These fires that we have do not happen on a regular basis. We know that. That is an unusual call."

Mayor Lockhart again stated today was an unusual day but it did happen. It was handled to a point and didn't believe it was the training as she was a very effective telecommunicator. He believed there was just too much traffic with all the calls that came in at once. He wished everyone in the room could have sat there to see what all went on. It made him nuts just to watch her.

He didn't know if we would be able to put on another dispatcher and as he told Chief Bradbury before, if they need to go somewhere else that was better for them, they should do so in his opinion. It was up to the members however to decide. He doesn't want to see them leave and didn't want it to become a personal thing but if this was going to become a personal issue, he wanted it stopped. Chief Bradbury stated this was a business issue.

Alderman Signore asked if they could talk about the multiple call out issue. He wanted to know what additional work there was if the Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad were called out for a traffic accident. Deputy Chief Hallman advised it was based on what type of situation the call was for as every call is different and if any of the entities go to a call and they are not needed, they still get charged the fee. Per contract, there is no way an entity can be charged a minimum fee rather than the full fee if they are not needed but this could be put into the contract.

Deputy Chief Hallman stated the other entities are the ones who set up the protocol as to who gets dispatched to one of their calls. They are the ones who give the guidelines if they want to get called to all accidents, etc. and the dispatchers are trained as to the protocols of each entity. Once an entity is sent back from a call, there is no further radio traffic.

Mayor Lockhart advised the dispatcher acts as a records clerk when they are not on the radio since the department doesn't have a person in this capacity.

Chief Beckwith came forward to advise the protocol for his department. He said he was a dispatcher at one point and knew it is hectic but with the Instant Command System and the National Instant Management, he thought within three minutes of arriving on the scene, the dispatcher should be talking to one person. All the other equipment that comes in doesn't matter as the dispatcher only talks to the scene commander as far as wants and needs.

He was aware the budget might not allow an additional dispatcher but sometimes it is what is needed. He appreciated the mayor helping the dispatcher out today and stated this was a thankless job but is a vital link in what they do for a successful outcome of the situation.

Mayor Lockhart stated if the members wanted to continue dispatching for the entities then we would need to look at alternatives as far as employing more people as they have grown and are growing more all the time and mentioned we should have our own records department but like everything else, we don't have the money. He was concerned about providing the service to the other entities and wasn't sure if we would be able to do it. There was no way we would be able to supply a dedicated dispatcher as we have been on this anti-growth for so long now that it is killing us.

Chief Bradbury confirmed we have dedicated dispatchers but it is not a perfect situation and felt they shouldn't be charged top dollar for a non-perfect system. Mayor Lockhart responded, "I don't know that we can. It's up to the Council which direction they want to go. I've said enough. It's up to the Council; go ahead and discuss it."

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Some of the items then discussed were: how things would change for the other entities if they went to SEECOM; what role our dispatcher would play if they went to SEECOM; SEECOM would do all the logistics and record keeping; one alderman knew what it was like not to be able to take a biological break by being overworked but also knew where the entities were coming from as wasn't sure if there was a resolution for this; the budget contains \$30,000 (FYI it is \$40,000) for radio room income which we wouldn't get if they went to SEECOM; members need to determine whether we can handle the call volume; can't put a price on life; PD would love to have two dispatchers for each shift but can't afford it; the amount of calls will not go down with more people moving into the area; didn't feel Union Fire Dept. calls were as much of an issue as Marengo Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad for the amount of calls; members will have to decide to let them go to SEECOM or add more help to be able to handle it; we can't keep going the way we have been as something needs to get done; contract states a 90 day notice for either party; a member felt the members should not be put in the position to decide what numbers should be used but should be decided by the entities involved; a member felt they were asked to make policy decisions but felt this was a daily operation decision (mayor and administrator disagreed with this statement); staff has sat down to try and negotiate this as we have one set of figures and they have another so this is why they are discussing it now with everybody present as it needs to be cleared up; a member stated this was the first time they had heard we had a problem handling calls and if we can't, we need to admit we can't so they can go to SEECOM if that is the case; SEECOM has five dispatchers on duty for police and fire and they handle 65,000 calls a year; Chief Beckwith wanted no hard feelings but it is business and he has to protect his personnel and the community they serve; Mayor Lockhart has no hard feelings and stated they all do a wonderful job and in his heart didn't believe we could take care of the other entities like they had in the past due to the growth and felt if Chief Kottke were here (was at school), he would tell them the same thing; the decision didn't have to be made tonight but it was put on the table for discussion with everyone present; it's hard to get part-time dispatchers; in 2003 we handled 5,946 calls of which 775 were for other agencies in 2004, we handled 6,285 calls of which 1,315 were for other agencies, in 2005 we handled 6,990 of which 1,664 were for other agencies and in 2006 we handled 6,858 calls of which 1,567 which were for other agencies; numbers stated include multiple call outs; sounds like we have a staffing issue with the volume of calls we get and wondered if there would still be staffing issues if the other agencies, which represent about 25% of the calls, go to SEECOM; Chief Bradbury wondered if we had thought about going to SEECOM, however, we have a contract with the employees and have to live up to that contract; a citizen came forward and stated it was unbelievable the amount of calls that come over his scanner for this area only each night and suggested having fund raisers, etc. to help raised money for additional help as the City needs these people; putting on another dispatcher is not a problem-it's paying the dispatcher; City's budget is down to bare bones; more to dispatching than just answering calls; have unfunded additional mandated racial profiling reporting to do; the entities would like to have the members make a decision tonight so they know where they are at as this has been in discussion with staff since March; Deputy Chief Hallman felt at peak times the dispatchers were overburdened; if we didn't have to dispatch the other agencies, the department would have to evaluate the situation to see if another dispatcher was warranted but felt there would be other things for them to do; PD has most of their calls during the afternoon and would have to look into what time of day they receive most of the calls for the other agencies; a member didn't want this to be a public safety issue where it overburdens the dispatcher and we are not able to provide the service thus would like more information before making a decision; Chief Bradbury stated one benefit of having the City provide dispatch service rather than SEECOM is that the City provides a more personalized service, which is nice; this is a safety issue for our employees as well if the dispatchers are overburdened; recommended this be put over for two weeks to get more information and give the members time to talk to the agencies if they wished; a member felt the multi call out situation needed to be ironed out; the City might have to give a little and the other agencies might have to give a little; don't want to lose the \$25-30,000 in revenue but if it becomes a safety issue, that's something that will have to be considered; another member apologized and stated based on what had all been brought up, he could not make a decision tonight; staff wanted direction which way the members would like them to approach the cost of the services; would like to see arguments for and against continuing to offer service because if there is a staffing issue no matter what the amount is we get for a call if it is not enough to hire additional staffing, we are not doing anything to solve the problem if the problem truly is the staffing; tonight was the first night Administrator Hartman heard about the staffing issue as this was not an issue when he approached this exercise-it was just the dollar and cents issue; another option might be to hire a part-time records clerk to help with the

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dispatcher work load; Mayor Lockhart felt we needed two bodies for dispatching rather than a records clerk; most fire and rescue squads are the same entity and therefore would require only one callout and Mayor Lockhart announced this would be postponed.

At 9:10 p.m. Mayor Lockhart asked for Alderman Bradbury to return to the meeting.

IMPACT FEES AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Administrator Hartman gave a brief background on how they arrived at the numbers for Resolution 07-4-A and how Grand Pointe Homes stated with the passage of these fees, it was economically infeasible for them to move forward with their project.

Since the approval of these fees, there were three new aldermen elected. Therefore, there was direction to have this put back on the agenda for further discussion. Administrator Hartman wasn't sure how they wanted to approach this but what he was looking for tonight was some sort of resolution as to whether or not these fees were appropriate based on the collective determination of the members and/or if any changes need to be made, how those changes should be made. If there were any changes, a new resolution would then be presented to the members for approval.

He presented the members a spread sheet supplied to him by Alderman Trainor who could not be present for the meeting tonight that compared the resolution schedule, a previous proposal by Alderman Hall and the Grand Pointe Homes discussion.

He had a discussion with Alderman Hall regarding these calculations. Alderman Trainor's calculations show that Alderman Hall's figures are about \$33,000 less than the Grand Pointe Homes offer. Alderman Hall confirmed it was based on the different breakdown of units that she put into her assumptions versus his assumptions. Alderman Hall distributed his figures. So, there are two different positions to give the City Council Members additional information for consideration.

Alderman Hall wanted to know if we had heard anything about these new fees from other developers. He was advised that of the other two active developers, one expressed some concern but is still proceeding (Seven Oaks) and the other is still early in the development stage (River Ridge) but did give a verbal expression of concern of the fees. So if they did have a problem with these fees, it would be prudent on their part to pull out now before entering negotiations for the annexation agreement.

Some of the discussion items included: how much higher we were with our fees compared to the County or Union just in regards to the school fees; it is advantageous for the developer to build outside of our 1½ mile jurisdiction; a member felt we are telling everyone that with these high school fees we don't want development here in Marengo; Alderman Hall explained where he was coming from with his fee amounts; felt the Rt. 20 issue was Grand Pointe Homes biggest contention; Grand Pointe stated they would not break ground until the housing market changed; given the current housing market, Alderman Hall might be correct that the fee structure is too high but it might not be too high two or three years down the road if the market rebounds; a member would like to see what exactly the school district's are basing what they need for fees before making a decision; Dr. Rood, Riley School District asked the members to be courageous in asking for the school fees and will provide the breakdown of why they need the amount of money they requested; Dr. Angel stated the impact fee money they are requesting is all for mortar and bricks and the transition fees were for educational purposes; the District 165 School Board is supportive of helping the City with incentives for businesses but with real estate, they weren't enthusiastic about providing tax breaks for development; Mayor Lockhart thanked the school districts for their support for the TIF District and getting some industrial and commercial growth in the City; if a Marengo resident is paying a lower percentage of their assessed tax value to the schools compared to other communities, maybe those other communities don't have to get money on the front end as much as we do because they get it on the backend; the school's tax rate continues to drop; a member thought it wasn't a fair comparison to just look at the numbers of Union and the County because there are different parameters that would go into a project being put in Union and the County that don't exist in Marengo and that's why Marengo

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continues to be attractive to developers; members have been told we would not get more businesses in town until we get more rooftops and with these school fees, we are not competitive with other communities; a CPI rate clause can be added as part of the annexation agreement; Kennedy Homes produced .92 students (K-12); City has adopted the Naperville formula in our Subdivision Ordinance for impact fees; a member felt the Grand Pointe Homes project didn't have the "wow" factor for our community that a larger project might have that would enhance our position to get in more businesses and other arterial taxes; felt if we lower the school fees for this project, we would be subsidizing the Rt. 20 improvement which is a huge issue with this project; felt we needed to have a fee structure in place but felt it was way too high for some fees; County can't charge a transition fee and a member felt if we were to reduce the fees, the developer probably wouldn't reduce the cost of the home to reflect the reduction.

It was consensus of the members they probably would not be able to decide this tonight so a Committee of the Whole meeting was set to further discuss this at 7:00 p.m. on July 31st.

Alderman Signore asked Administrator Hartman if he could elaborate more at this meeting on how they could add an adjustment within the annexation agreement as he was more open to looking at this if he knew we could make an adjustment if somebody doesn't break ground in three or five years.

Administrator Hartman stated in was already built in the annexation agreement as these figures are held in place up to a certain period at which time the CPI factor is in place.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart had nothing additional to say or report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The members were given an update on the utility tax audit.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

A written report was submitted.

Alderman Signore wanted to know if the department had anything in process where the code enforcer would just drive around town as there is still a whole lot of stuff in town that is pretty visible that doesn't show up on the report; he is aware though that this is just getting started. He was wondering what the department's plans were to move forward.

Commissioner Shull stated the original plan was for her to get familiar with the different sections of town and what to look for. He also advised this is just a part-time position as they didn't have the staff and resources for it to be a full time position even though they are aware there is enough out there for it to be a full time position. So for the first two months, they just want her to become familiar with things that are very obvious. They really haven't hashed out a plan of attack yet for more detailed infractions.

The car on Courtney Drive discussed at a previous meeting was moved but it was moved back since it still wasn't sold. Alderman Signore however was glad to see it on the report.

PUBLIC WORKS

Written reports were submitted by the Street Dept., WWTP and Water & Sewer Dept.

Orally Supt. Craney reported well #6 is down due to the storm we had today. Parts have been ordered and hopefully after some electrical items get checked, it will be up and running sometime tomorrow. He is having Mr. Nadeau keep track of everything for insurance purposes.

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He also advised every time we know a storm is coming, we make sure the elevated and ground level storage tanks are filled to capacity in the event something like this happens.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A written report was submitted for review and orally Deputy Chief Hallman informed the members the PD lost part of their telephone system during the storm. Fortunately they have a backup system but it did fry part of the dispatch console-not the 911 system or the computer equipment, just the phone system. They feel it might be a grounding issue and are checking into it to make sure the lines are protected in the future.

Alderman Signore stated he and the Deputy Chief had e-mail communications regarding the emergency sirens we have in the City. Of the three sirens, only the newest of the three (Greenlee St.) is capable of operating without power. Deputy Chief Hallman stated the siren out at the park is a newer one and might be able to operate as well but he has been able to follow up on it.

Alderman Signore asked the other members how they felt about this. Mayor Lockhart felt the one siren wouldn't be enough especially for safety and a backup should get looked into; Alderman Smith agreed.

Deputy Chief Hallman stated he would look into this further especially the one out at the park and perhaps Administrator Hartman could find money in the budget for ESDA to purchase a new siren or a backup system. He advised the newer sirens have battery operated backups and really don't need generators as they only need to operate for a short period of time.

Alderman Signore stated we know one doesn't have any type of backup, the other is a question mark and thought they should know as it was something they need to get a price on and get it taken care of. He was under the assumption any storm siren we had, had a backup but he found out that was not true.

Alderman Bradbury was glad to see the additional training for the police officers as she felt the better trained they were, the better the citizens of Marengo would be served.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

A written report was submitted. The question was raised as to what constitutes a 50 or 100 year rain. Mr. Gavle advised it was a probably analysis and if they were asking about rainfall depth, it was 7 1/2 inches in a 24 hour period. This gets updated as they have found growth/urbanization has increased the rainfall depth because of the higher amount of evaporation that goes into the atmosphere.

ADMINSTRATOR'S REPORT

There was no written report. Orally, he reported the Joint Review Board meeting for the TIF District was held and the TIF District was unanimously approved by the various taxing bodies in attendance. The next step is the August 13th public hearing. A notice of this hearing will have to be published twice per our attorney as it is part of the process.

We are moving forward with the Rt. 20 cost share issue. Information was collected and given to our engineer and they in turn have been working with the contractor for Marengo Market Place to validate costs.

The first meeting for the County Groundwater Protection Committee will be held tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. at the County. We are going to these meetings to ensure we have a seat at the table and are aware of what's going on.

The Planning & Zoning Commission will be moving forward with the zoning application for the Martin property which is on the northeast corner Thorne Road and Rt. 20 just west of the Chemtool sight.

CITY ATTORNEY

The attorney had nothing to report.

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Mayor Lockhart announced the St. Baldrick's events will be taking place on July 14 at Waters Edge Golf Course and officially proclaimed July 14th as St. Baldrick's Day in Marengo. Alderman Smith challenged any of the aldermen to sit in the dunk tank to help raise money. Alderman Smith asked Deputy Chief Hallman if the component he has to buy for the phone system covered by insurance. Deputy Chief Hallman didn't know what the cost would be so he couldn't really answer that questions. He then asked Deputy Chief Hallman if this was for the AT&T phone network or someone else. Deputy Chief Hallman replied he was not sure of the network. Alderman Smith asked him to let him know if he had any issues with AT&T as he might have some pull.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no need to go into Executive Session tonight and no further items for discussion, Alderman Signore made a motion to adjourn the July 9, 2007, Marengo City Council meeting at 10:32 p.m.; seconded by Alderman Secor. The motion passed with a unanimous aye voice vote.

Submitted by: Theresa A. Hoschouer,
City Clerk