

**MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Marengo Council Chambers
132 E Prairie St
Marengo, IL 60152
August 10, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald Lockhart called the August 10, 2009 meeting of the Marengo City Council to order at 7:00 pm.

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, Erik DeBoer, Mike Secor, Michael Smith, and Steve DiMaria. Also present were City Administrator Deborah Nier, City Attorney Carlos Arevalo, Superintendent of Public Works Jim Craney, Building Commissioner Jayson Shull, Assistant to the City Administrator Joshua Blakemore and City Engineer David Johanson. Absent were Aldermen Pat Signore and Todd Hall.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Secor, to approve the minutes for the July 13, 2009 Regular meeting, and the July 27, 2009 Regular meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Bartman, Smith and Secor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **List of bills**
- b. **Block Party Request**
- c. **Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive Request**

Alderman Brackmann asked if the \$46,000.00 to Houseal Lavigne would come from other sources. Joshua Blakemore stated that 80% would come from an RTA grant. Alderman Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items, seconded by Alderman Secor. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, Brackmann, DiMaria, Bartman, DeBoer, and Smith.

NEW BUSINESS

Deerpess Meadows Letter of Credit Reduction #7.

The amount of the Deerpess Meadows LOC reduction recommended by Smith Engineering is \$60,543.75. There were no questions on this request. Alderman DiMaria

made a motion to approve the requested reduction in the LOC#7, seconded by Alderman Bartman. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Smith, Brackmann, DiMaria, Bartman, Secor and DeBoer.

Marengo Fire Protection District Shared Training Facility Discussion

Deborah Nier spoke on this proposal. It is being suggested that an entrance way be made (on the second floor of City Hall) between City Hall and the Fire Department in order to facilitate training by both the Police Department and the Fire Department – receiving advanced North East Multi-Regional Training (NEMRT) on a regular basis. Presently, NEMRT will not allow the facility to be used because it is not ADA compliant. By installing a doorway between the two buildings, it would allow the training center to be ADA compliant through the use of the City Hall's elevator. NEMRT would then upgrade the status on the current facility to a regional training facility. This would give both departments the ability to host monthly training seminars – and would be free to both police and fire personnel as the hosting agency. The proposal is being presented at this time for discussion purposes only – as there are no specific costs available for review. Once the cost estimates are available, they will be presented to the Council for their review and consideration.

OLD BUSINESS

Wireless Alarm Monitoring Ad Hoc Committee Report

Alderman Michael Smith stated that there was a meeting last week with discussion on having each of the vendors fill out an RFP and present quotes 3 different ways: Lease – Lease to own – Outright purchase. One required stipulation was that it be a 5-year renewable contract term. Both Alderman Smith and Administrator Nier will review the updated RFP. Each committee member received an article on how to weight and rate each RFP. Alderman Smith requested that each of the responses be weighted and rated the same and then scored. Each of the members will then submit their suggestions and ratings for review. Alderman Smith and Administrator Nier will tally the results and present the information, hopefully at the next council meeting.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Donald Lockhart had nothing to report at this time.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Jayson Shull – Building Commissioner. The Building Department has been busy with roofing permits, due to the large amount of hail claims in the area. Commissioner Shull prepared a report for all members of the Council to review. The plans for the Marengo Entertainment Center are under currently under review. It was reported that the 15 minute parking signs in front of Video Town are up and approval is pending at this time from IDOT to incorporate that area to 2 parking spots – instead of one. Once approval is received, the striping of that parking area will change to match the new parking situation. An Alderman inquired as to who enforces the parking ordinance. Commissioner Shull stated the Building Department Code Enforcement Officer enforces the 2 hr. parking while the Police Department enforces the overnight and handicapped parking.

Jim Craney – Superintendent of Public Works. The Public Works Department is busy repairing the streets around town. They are also going to be taking down some trees.

Joshua Blakemore – Assistant to the City Administrator. Assistant Blakemore met earlier this evening with representatives from Pace, Riley Township and Marengo Township about the Dial-A-Ride Service grant funding they are hoping to apply for through McHenry County. At the request of the two townships, a survey will be put out to members of the community about expanding the service – options they are looking at are: expanding the service 2 hours each day during the week, 3 hours each day during the week, or add a 4 hour block on Saturday. Some of the places these surveys will be available are at the local library, and on the City’s website.

Joshua was advised that the cable channel information had not been updated since June. He will check with Anna and see that it gets taken care of.

Joshua talked about the TIF workshop and it was agreed that a date of September 2nd be set up for this purpose. This is a Wednesday night – 7 pm – held at the City Hall. All Council Members are asked to be present for this initial meeting.

Alderman DiMaria asked about the SSA for Indian Trails? Attorney Arevalo reported that he had forwarded some information to Joshua on this, and it is known as SSA#2. If there is any work that would need to be done in that area, the City would have to levy in December to make sure that the taxes would come out of that area to pay for the work.

David Johanson – City Engineer. Mr. Johanson submitted his written report, and also left a separate packet describing some new things that are going to occur with SEC’s merger. Please don’t hesitate to give him a call if you have any questions on the information.

Deborah Neir – City Administrator. Administrator Nier had no report tonight.

Carlos Arevalo – City Attorney. Attorney Arevalo updated the Council members on the new Video Gaming Act that was recently approved. It allows for gambling on a liquor license holder premises. The existing ordinance prohibits gambling on these premises. The new law allows the City to amend their ordinance to allow video gambling to be done in 4 types of establishments: fraternal establishment, veteran’s establishment, where alcoholic beverages are consumed (bar), and a truck stop establishment. You have to have “consumption on site” to qualify. This is a “revenue driven act” that would allow each establishment to install up to five (5) machines on their premises. The anticipation is that an establishment with 5 machines would yield approximately \$11,250 to the City from those revenues. If the City allows this, there would be a charge of \$25 per machine that the City would collect at the start. The City has 2 choices in this – (1) vote to prevent it within the City, or (2) vote to accept it. The Gaming Board has been given the task of coming up with the rules to administer the program. Those rules are not expected to come out any time soon.

Mayor Lockhart reported to the Council that the Ash Boer has come to Marengo. Steps will be taken to remove diseased trees.

Dane Checolinski – Coordinator, Marengo Economic Development Commission, was asked if there was anything new about Diversapak. Mr. Checolinski reported that the County is working on a finance package for them.

Alderman Brackmann asked Attorney Arevalo about the proposed bed and breakfast. Deb Nier answered that Alderman Signore has called a CDC meeting about this for Thursday at 7 pm.

Mayor Lockhart asked the Aldermen to review the information in their packet pertaining to the various townships and districts meeting dates that was part of the Strategic Planning. He asked the Aldermen to let the City know which of these meetings they would be available to attend. Joshua will coordinate the meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There is no Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the City Council meeting this evening, Alderman Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Bartman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: DiMaria, Secor, Bartman, DeBoer, Brackmann and Smith. Mayor Lockhart officially adjourned the meeting at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk