

**MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Marengo Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie St.
Marengo, IL 60152
October 12, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald Lockhart called the October 12, 2009 regular meeting of the Marengo City Council to order at 7:00 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, Eric DeBoer, Mike Secor, Todd Hall and Steve DiMaria. Also present were Attorney Carlos Arevalo, City Administrator Deborah Nier, Assistant to the Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Chief of Police Martin Podosek, Superintendent of Public Works Jim Craney and City Engineer David Johanson. Absent were Alderman Pat Signore and Alderman Michael Smith.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 14th Regular meeting were reviewed. Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Hall, Bartman and Secor.

The minutes of the September 28th meeting were corrected. Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Hall and Secor.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. List of Bills

Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the list of bills. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, Hall, Brackmann, DiMaria, Bartman, and DeBoer.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2009/2010 Liability Insurance Renewal Proposal

Joshua Blakemore talked about the liability insurance proposal. He introduced Sandra Hannon – from Arthur Gallagher and Associates. They received 3 quotes on the insurance, and were recommending One Beacon as the option that they would recommend. They offer more coverage at a lower premium – saving the City about 17% from last year’s premium. They had also received a quote from Trident – Argonaut – their cost was about \$2,000 less than One Beach – but the coverage’s were less. Specifics are spelled out in the formal proposal that was presented. She had been asked to put together a cost of increasing the umbrella coverage from the current \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000. The additional cost would be about \$2,500 for the year. A quick pole of the Aldermen indicated that the majority of them were inclined to keep the coverage where it was and save the \$2,500.

Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the proposal from One Beacon Insurance for the Liability Insurance coverage for the City – and maintain the umbrella limit at \$5,000,000. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, Bartman, Hall, Secor and DeBoer.

b. Resolution for Improvement by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code – MFT Audit.

Deborah Nier, City Administrator, explained that this was required by the IDOT to conduct an audit of the Motor Fuel Tax account. The cost of this audit is \$5,800. This is being done per IDOT’s directive. This is semi-routine – as explained by David Johanson. This was previously approved for SEC to do the audit, and the resolution would allow the City to use MFT funds to pay for the process. Alderman Eric DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve DiMaria, to approve the resolution – with the stipulation of the audit costs not to exceed the \$5,800 projected cost. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, DeBoer, DiMaria, Brackmann, Secor and Bartman.

c. Resolution for Improvement by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code – Street Program.

Deborah Nier, explained that this was similar to the prior proposal – only this involves using MFT funds to help fund the street repairs. This would be in conjunction with the money that the City received from the State. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$754,800. The State awarded the City \$635,000 – so the City’s cost would be \$119,800. Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion, seconded by Alderman Carole Bartman, to approve the resolution. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: DiMaria, Secor, Bartman, DeBoer, Brackmann and Hall.

d. Agreement with SEC Group for Engineering Services Related to Emergency Repair Project.

Deborah Nier stated that the estimated engineering costs for the Emergency Repair Project would be about \$74,800. The City has to enter into an agreement with SEC utilizing the contract form that is provided by IDOT for this. MFT funds will pay for these costs. Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Eric

DeBoer, to approve the agreement with SEC Group – for engineering services related to the emergency repair project. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, DeBoer, DiMaria, Brackmann, Bartman and Hall.

e. **Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement for Continued Participation in the McHenry County Gang Task Force.**

Chief Martin Podosek suggested the City renew their inter-governmental agreement in the task force. The agreement is due to expire on November 1st, 2009. Attorney Carlos Arevalo felt that the indemnity language in the agreement is too basic, and needs to be made clearer. He felt that this might leave us open for possible problems. Attorney Arevalo suggested approving the agreement at this time, and then allow the staff to work out the wording with the Mayor, the Chief and the Attorney. The County does not have to approve the request with the wording altered, but it is hopeful that they will. Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the renewal of the inter-government agreement for continued participation in the McHenry County Gang Task Force – subject to review by our Chief of Police, our staff and the City Attorney. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: DeBoer, Bartman, Hall, Secor, Brackmann and DiMaria.

f. **Engineered Polymer Solutions Business Incentives Program Agreement.**

Joshua Blakemore spoke on this agreement. EPS has already obtained the required building permits for the project, and if the agreement is approved, a refund will be sent to them to rebate 10% of those costs back. This would be a 20,000 sq. ft. addition – with 10,000 being on the first floor and 10,000 for the second floor. This agreement is similar to the others that have recently been passed by the Council. Alderman Todd Hall suggested to Joshua that the EDC keep the City Council advised of possible agreements that are in the works so that there is some advance notice that they are looking at applying for the incentive. The abatement that is being applied for applies only to the increase in the value of the property- not on the existing value. Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion to approve the business incentive application agreement with EPS Materials. Alderman Eric DeBoer seconded the motion. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Hall, Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer and Secor.

g. **Swedish American Medical Facility Business Incentives Program Agreement.**

Don Daniels spoke on behalf of Swedish American Medical Facility. They hope to be starting the renovation of the building after the first of the year – anticipating being fully operational by late spring or early summer. Alderman Bartman asked for clarification on how the tax was figured – parts are not very clear. The Mayor stated this would be a great asset to the City, especially to the senior citizen who cannot get out to other towns for quality medical care. Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Carole Bartman, to approve the business incentives application agreement for Swedish American Health Systems. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, DiMaria, Secor, Bartman, DeBoer and Brackmann.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart stated “At the previous meeting, on September 28th, 2009, the Council amended the liquor ordinance to allow for a bowling alley. There was a statement made that if the entertainment center received the license it (the center) might be closer to the school than the required 100’. That is not the case. Everything has been measured, and they are more than that distance from the school. I just wanted to clear that up. It was a concern – that people would get the wrong idea. That they were trying to slip something in – and the owners of the building were concerned that it just didn’t look good in the newspaper. I wanted to bring this up during statements and reports this evening to bring this to everyone’s attention. So we are all on the same page. They are not within 100 feet of the school.”

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Jim Craney – Superintendent of Public Works. The streets projects are coming along very well. The paving of Page Street is currently in the works. There was a water main break which was taken care of. He is looking at purchasing salt for the winter.

Joshua Blakemore – Assistant to the City Administrator. A letter was received from Ehler’s & Associates. They do not recommend making the TIF districts one – they recommend keeping them separate. They have been in contact with Mr. Franks about his property and waiting on information back from him before they proceed further on this.

Martin Podosek – Chief of Police. A report was given to Council earlier. Settler’s Days went well – no major incidents. They are putting together the exact costs to the City.

David Johanson – City Engineer. Report is in packet. Prospect field work is almost done. On the question about the stop sign at Mildred and Meadow Lane – he has a memo on this, with their recommendation as well.

Deborah Nier – City Administrator. Hopes to have the Capital Improvement Plan almost completed by Christmas time so it can be considered for budget purposes. On a personal note, she attended Settlers Day’s for the first time and greatly enjoyed it.

Alderman DiMaria questioned the budget graph that was in the packet, and Deborah explained that these figures are gone over at the regular staff meetings, on where they are at and where the hope to be. They seem to be doing okay at the present time. She also discussed options that are being looked at.

Carlos Arevalo – City Attorney. No report.

Mayor Lockhart advised that the Council would be going to Executive Session at this time for the purpose of Collective Bargaining and pending Litigation. Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to go to executive session. The

motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, Brackmann, Bartman, DiMaria, Hall and DeBoer.

The regular meeting was recessed at 7:54 pm.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:01 PM.

There was no further business to come before the Council. Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Corey Brackmann, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with an aye voice vote by all aldermen present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk