

Marengo City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Marengo Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
January 9, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald B. Lockhart called the Regular Meeting of the Marengo City Council to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Donald Lockhart led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present at this meeting are Mayor Donald Lockhart, Aldermen: Carole Bartman, Corey Brackmann, Michael Smith, Erik DeBoer, Mike Secor, Pat Signore, Todd Hall, and Steve DiMaria. Also present is City Attorney Carlos Arevalo, Acting Chief of Police Joseph Hallman, Public Works/Building Commissioner Jayson Shull and Acting City Administrator Joshua Blakemore.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel and Collective Bargaining. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Hall, Bartman, Smith, Secor and Signore.

The Regular Meeting recessed at 7:02 pm.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 7:44 pm.

ROLL CALL (following Executive Session)

Present are Mayor Lockhart, Aldermen: Hall, DeBoer, DiMaria, Smith, Brackmann, Secor, Signore and Bartman.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Craig Beto, 503 5th Ave., Marengo. Mr. Beto spoke on the City's Administrator search, and the money expended for this search. He also spoke on the City's denying a reduction in fees that were requested by Habitat for Humanity because of a lack of funds. Questioned the logic behind this.

Wayne Beto, 5th Ave. Marengo. Spoke on his support of the current Acting City Administrator, and questioned why he wasn't considered for the position. Spoke on the spending of money to get rid of the previous administrator. Spoke also on the denial of Habitat for Humanity's request for a reduction in fees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Corey Brackmann made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for the December 12, 2011 City Council Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Smith, Brackmann, DiMaria, DeBoer, Signore, Hall and Secor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. List of bills
- b. 5K Run Request – Hooves to Heal

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

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Appointment of City Administrator**

Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion, seconded by Alderman Pat Signore, to appoint Gary Boden as the next City Administrator effective January 10, 2012. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Smith, Signore, DiMaria, and DeBoer. Also voting yes on this motion is Mayor Donald Lockhart. Voting no on this motion are Aldermen: Brackmann, Bartman, Hall and Secor.

- b. **Approval of City Administrator's Employment Agreement**

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve DiMaria, to approve the City Administrator's Employment Agreement. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: DiMaria, Signore, DeBoer, and Smith. Also voting yes on this motion is Mayor Donald Lockhart. Voting no on this motion are Aldermen: Secor, Bartman, Brackmann and Hall.

- c. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Marengo Fire Protection District Regarding Shared Storage Space.**

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Marengo Fire Protection District regarding the shared storage space. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, DeBoer, DiMaria, Brackmann, Smith, Bartman, Signore and Hall.

- d. **Discussion regarding bank accounts/interest rates for various City funds.**

Jennifer Snelton, Deputy Treasurer, has recommended moving some accounts to take advantage of better interest rates. The accounts being recommended are the Motor Fuel Tax Fund, W/S Capital Construction Fund, Capital Improvements Fund, and the Debt Service Fund. It was recommended that these funds be moved to Prairie Community Bank, with a current earnings rate of 0.50%, and with 102% collateralization of the balances on each account over the FDIC coverage of \$250,000.

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, to approve staff's investigation of new accounts to maximize the interest rate subject to future review by the City Administrator. Alderman Michael Smith seconded the motion. When questioned by Alderman Bartman on the motion not being

specific on where the new accounts would be, Alderman Pat Signore rescinded his motion to allow a motion to be made include specific wording.

Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Pat Signore, to approve the movement of the four accounts as recommended by the Deputy Treasurer, from Castle Bank to Prairie Community Bank, subject to the approval of the new City Administrator. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: DeBoer, Bartman, Hall, Smith, Secor, Brackmann, DiMaria and Signore.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Jayson Shull, Public Works/Building Commissioner.

Report is in the board packet. There have been 3 main breaks (one occurring this morning) this year. Discussed the Landings of Marengo development.

Joshua Blakemore, Acting City Administrator.

Updated the Council on the status of the plans for the Prospect Street project. Hoping to move forward with "right of way" acquisition by the end of January. A budget trend report was in the board packet for all to review. There will be a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on Monday, with a concept plan review for the 50 acres being developed by Grismer and Volkening that abut the Park District property.

Acting Chief of Police, Joseph Hallman.

Donations have been received to help fund the K-9 program. One was a cash donation from the Zion Ladies Aid Association, and the other was from Tony Remke (in the form of tokens for the dog wash). Sgt. Riley was involved this morning in an accident with the K-9 vehicle, and the vehicle was rolled. No one was injured (including the dog), but the car is a possible total.

Carlos Arevalo, City Attorney.

No report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was nothing further this evening for Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Steve DiMaria made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to adjourn the Regular Meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk