

CITY OF MARENGO
MAY 22, 2006
COUNCIL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:08 p.m., Mayor Lockhart called to order the May 22, 2006, Marengo City Council meeting. He then led the "Pledge of Allegiance:

ROLL CALL

Present for roll call were Mayor Lockhart, Alderman Jennings, Alderman Shelton, Alderman Otis, Alderman Secor, Alderman Spear and Alderman Signore. Alderman Trainor and Alderman Genot were absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Marengo Fire Chief, Bob Bradbury, stated unfortunately, we always see and hear the bad things reported in the media. He has worked with numerous Police Departments in his career and felt the Marengo Police Department has done an excellent job in handling the unfortunate happening that occurred Mother's Day.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor Lockhart acknowledged Sgt. Rodney Riley for graduating from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. He is only the second officer from the Marengo Police Department to do so.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Hall had no written report nor did anyone have any questions for him.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-COW, APRIL 25, 2006 & MAY 8, 2006 CITY COUNCIL
Alderman Signore asked to have the two sets of minutes voted on separately.

Alderman Otis made a motion to approve the April 25, 2006, Committee of the Whole minutes. The motion was seconded by Alderman Secor. The motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Jennings, Shelton, Otis, Secor and Signore. Alderman Spear abstained.

Alderman Shelton made and Alderman Secor seconded the motion to approve the May 8, 2006, City Council minutes as presented. Motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Otis, Secor, Spear and Mayor Lockhart. Abstaining were Aldermen: Jennings and Signore.

FARMER'S MARKET REQUEST

The City received a request from Bob Levin to have the annual Farmer's Market starting Friday, June 17, from 2-6:00 p.m. in parking lot one and to have the Farmer's Market banner put up as soon as possible.

After discussion regarding the parking in this lot, Alderman Otis made and Alderman Spear seconded a motion to approve the requests for the Farmer's Market with the understanding that a

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letter is sent to the downtown businesses advising them their employees are to park on the side streets at all times, not in the municipal parking lot. Motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Spear, Signore, Jennings, Shelton and Otis.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT-FIEPKE

A motion was made to appoint Steve Fiepke from Wastewater Treatment Plant, to replace Tom Chismore, who has left City employment by Alderman Otis; seconded Alderman Secor. Motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Spear, Signore, Jennings, Shelton and Otis.

ORDINANCE 06-5-3 AMENDING CHAPTER 24, BUILDING CODE, EXHIBIT A FEE SCHEDULE

Alderman Signore stated he was please to see these (building permit) fees adjusted to what our actual costs are and not based on what another community is charging.

Questions/discussions regarded the fee for deck inspections, the office time rate, rates for water & sewer connection fees seemed to be on the low side even with the CPI increase, formal analysis done for the water and sewer hookup fees, proposed fees are to catch up with the CPI increases that were not done over the last several years per Ordinance 97-9-7, CPI increase can be done without having to be approved by the members every year, if we have the capability in house to determine what our hookup costs are and how to go about it, shouldn't base our fees on what other communities are charging but in what it actually costs us and would like to see a specific date set to determine what our actual cost for water and sewer connections are.

Alderman Signore made a motion to approve this as a short term fix and three months from now revisit this situation based on actual numbers and make another evaluation at that point; seconded by Alderman Shelton. Motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Secor, Signore, Spear, Jennings, Shelton and Otis.

Alderman Secor asked, "Now did that motion encompass all of this including the other kind of fees?" Mayor Lockhart replied, "Yes, that is all included."

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK VACANT AND APPOINTING DEPUTY CLERK AS ACTING CLERK 06-5-B

Our attorney stated it was important to pass this resolution to declare this office as vacant as the former clerk left the office and is not coming back in order for the deputy clerk to sign until such time a clerk is elected/appointed to the office. This will alleviate having the ordinances signed with the former clerk's name.

A motion was made by Alderman Shelton and seconded by Alderman Signore to approve vacating the office of the City Clerk and appointing Diane Schwoch as the Acting City Clerk. Motion carried with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Signore, Shelton, Otis, Secor, Jennings and Spear.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for discussion.

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MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart had nothing to report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

A written report was submitted. Commissioner Shull advised the Masonry Council will make a presentation at the Community Development Committee meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

A written report was submitted by the Street Department, the Water & Sewer Department and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Alderman Otis announced she attended the EDC meeting where it was stated "Clean Sweep" was a success and how nice it was to hear a truck to pick up the garbage collected was not available so someone from Supt. Craney's staff stepped up to the plate to provide this service.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Kottke apologized for not having a written report in the packet as his department has been rather busy with the murder investigation. He did thank Alderman Signore and his wife and Alderman Trainor for providing some food to the many agencies involved with trying to help solve the investigation.

ENGINEER

Baxter & Woodman supplied a written report. Alderman Jennings asked if there were any plans to extend sewer to Shady Lane. Mr. Gavle replied there has been some talk about it, however, he has not seen any design drawings or any firm proposal for this extension.

Supt. Craney stated he believed Intern Administrator Josh Blakemore was going to look into this. Supt Craney thought Josh might be looking into a block grant for this project.

Alderman Otis wanted to know if Baxter & Woodman would be coming up with a figure that would be more in line for hookup fees with the estimated cost we received for the improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Plant as she felt he would be best equipped to do so out of those sitting at the table this evening.

Mr. Gavle stated based on those calculations, he could if the members would like him to do so as they have done a fair amount of water and sanitary sewer rate studies for municipalities. Alderman Otis stated she wasn't necessarily thinking of a study but asked how much money he was talking about.

Mr. Gavle stated after confirming with Administrator Hartman, he would send a scope of services for the members to review. The scope can range from being very simple to being very complex. They can look into what other communities are charging and what it costs us in our capacity. Sometimes they get involved with billing issues and what the cost is for the operation and maintenance of the system as well.

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The comment was made we probably could do some of this in house and perhaps Baxter & Woodman could supplement this information, However, we should to go ahead and have Mr. Gavle draw this up.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

A written report was submitted by Administrator Hartman.

Mayor Lockhart asked if anyone had any questions before the members went into Executive Session. No one had any questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Lockhart stated he needed a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition at 7:38 p.m. Alderman Signore so moved; seconded by Alderman Otis. Motion passed with an aye voice vote from Alderman: Jennings, Otis, Spear, Shelton, Secor and Signore.

The members returned from Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business for discussion, Alderman Signore made and Alderman Jennings seconded a motion to adjourn the May 22, 2006, Marengo City Council meeting at 8:06 p.m. The motion passed with a unanimous aye voice vote.

Submitted by: Diane L. Schwoch,
Acting City Clerk