

**City of Marengo
City Council Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie St.
Marengo, IL 60152
August 22, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald B. Lockhart called the August 22, 2011 meeting of the Marengo City Council to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lockhart led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sheryl J Blackwell-Barnes, 463½ Dietz Street, Marengo, expressed her concern about the increased costs for the sewer/water service, and requested that the City look at helping the seniors out with the increased cost. Mayor Lockhart asked that Ms. Blackwell-Barnes meet at this time with the Acting City Administrator, Joshua Blakemore to discuss the matter.

APPROVAL OF MINTUES

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the minutes for the August 8, 2011 Regular Meeting, the August 8, 2011 Special Meeting, and the July 27, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Brackmann, DiMaria, Hall, Bartman, Smith, Secor and Signore.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **List of Bills**
- b. **Settlers' Days Sign Request**
- c. **Ordinance Declaring Certain Municipal Property as Surplus**

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

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Discussion on Electricity Purchasing Referendum – Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC).**

David Hoover, representative with NIMEC, explained the options that are available for municipal aggregation. The discount that would be realized is greater than if an individual

household were to pursue the change, because of the quantity of households involved in the process. A referendum would be required to pursue a change in the electric costs.

b. Authorization to Purchase Skid Loader as per FY 11/12 Budget.

This item was removed from the agenda.

c. Authorization to Purchase two (2) Ford F-350's as per FY 11/12 Budget.

Jayson Shull presented information on the outcome of the search for the purchase of 2 replacement trucks (1 for the water department and 1 for the street department. The best price was found through Currie Motors in Frankfort, Illinois.

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve DiMaria, to authorize the purchase of two 2011 Ford F350's for a total purchase price of \$52,186 (\$26,093 each). The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, Hall, DiMaria and Smith. Also voting yes on this motion is Mayor Lockhart. Voting no on the motion are Aldermen: Signore, Brackmann, and Bartman.

d. An Ordinance Proposing the Establishment of Special Service Area Number 5 within the City of Marengo, and providing for a Public Hearing for the property commonly known as Pleasant Grove Estates (f/k/a Seven Oaks).

Attorney Cahill explained the proposed ordinance that would establish a back-up SSA in the event the homeowners association failed to maintain the common area. The action this evening will propose the establishment of the SSA, and sets the hearing date for public hearing on this issue.

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the Ordinance as proposed. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Smith, Brackmann, Signore, DiMaria, Bartman, Hall and Secor.

e. An Ordinance Proposing the Establishment of Special Service Area Number 6 within the City of Marengo and providing for a Public Hearing (North Star Trust).

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the Ordinance as proposed. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, DiMaria, Smith, Brackmann, Secor, Signore and Bartman.

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Carole Bartman posed a question on a bill that was approved this evening. This was on the Maple Street Improvements from 2007.

Alderman Michael Smith supplied information on his search on the inter-net for other communities in the area, on their water/sewer rates. Our proposed rates are less than the normal rates for other communities of like size. He has suggested that the City make this information available to residents.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

No report this evening.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Jayson Shull, Public Works/Building Commissioner. Report was in board packet. The landscaping on the Riley Street project will be starting this week. Asphalt paver has been received and training on it has begun. Will look at doing Rowland Drive and one of the City alleys for training. Updated the Council on Shell gas station.

Acting Chief of Police, Joseph Hallman. Report was in board packet. Department is stepping up enforcement of the vehicle stickers, behind in that duty, but are working on it.

Mayor Lockhart added that the City of Marengo had received a congratulatory letter from Commonwealth Edison on the job that the Marengo Police Department performed in protecting Commonwealth Edison property, and the copper stored, at the recent break-in.

Joshua Blakemore, Acting City Administrator. Spoke with Jay at the treatment plant and the clarifier is okay for now, and the plant is holding its own at this time. The bids for the Water-treatment Plant project are to be opened on the 25th of August. The website goes live tonight. E-Pay project is coming along. Received health insurance renewals, with an increase of 8% projected. Alderman Steve DiMaria posed the question about saving money by going to I-Pads for the Aldermen instead of printing all the pages that are sent out in the board packets, and also in saving time by not having to use the Police Department to deliver those packets. This will be checked into.

Mayor Donald Lockhart requested a Special Meeting to be scheduled for this week. The date of August 25th at 6:30 pm was set.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Lockhart stated that there would not be an Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk