

**Marengo City Council
Regular City Council Meeting
Marengo Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
September 12, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald Lockhart called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Donald Lockhart led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Lockhart asked for a moment of silence in memory of all the September 11th victims, survivors, firemen and rescue personnel, and their courageous job.

ROLL CALL

Present for this special meeting are Mayor Donald Lockhart, Aldermen: Carole Bartman, Mike Secor, Pat Signore and Todd Hall. 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. Absent from this meeting are Alderman Corey Brackmann, Michael Smith, Erik DeBoer, and Steve DiMaria.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Marengo High School – honor for State Champion Softball Team. Present at this evenings meeting are the members of the Marengo Softball Team that took first place in State. A road sign will be placed for all to see their accomplishment as they enter town. Jack Franks and IDOT provided the signs.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2011 – Special Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, Bartman, Secor and Signore. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Signore, Hall, and Secor. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the minutes of the August 22nd 2011, Regular Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Signore, Secor, Hall and Bartman. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the minutes of the August 25th 2011, Special Meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Signore, Bartman, Hall and Secor. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

Alderman Mike Secor made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the minutes of the August 4th 2011, Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Hall, Secor, Signore and Bartman. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **List of Bills**
- b. **Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale Request.**

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the consent agenda items A and B if there is no discussion regarding either. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Signore, Secor, Bartman and Hall. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **2011/2012 Insurance Benefits Renewal**

Mike Kozemzak of Invision Benefits representative went over the renewal information, and answered questions from the Aldermen. There will be a rate increase of 8.96% that is less than the projected increase in the budget.

(Alderman Michael Smith entered the meeting at 7:17 PM.)

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the renewal as it is presented, at the 8.96% increase, and to stay with Blue Cross. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Secor, Smith, Bartman, Signore and Hall.

- b. **Update on Wastewater Treatment Plant Project**

Tim Bronn, from McMahon Associates, discussed the outcome of the bids that were received, and will be looking at amending the proposed project to get the cost down. The Council requested a breakdown of the proposed various costs of the project. He will work with the IEPA on their requirements, and report back to the City with his findings.

- c. **Ordinance Extending Cable Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications.**

Alderman Pat Signore made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to approve the 90-day extension to the cable franchise agreement with Charter Communications. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Bartman, Hall, Smith, Secor and Signore.

The settlement with Charter (to send payment) should be completed by the middle of September.

- d. **Special Permission to building a fence in public right-of-way as per Marengo Municipal Code – 325 North State Street.**

Dale and Ginny Hertel, 325 N. State Street, Marengo. They are requesting permission to install a decorative fence on the corners of the property at 325 N. State Street. This will be a removable fence. Alderman Carole Bartman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Secor, to allow decorative corner fencing in the City Right of Way at 325 N. State St. The motion passed with an aye vote by Aldermen: Smith, Bartman, Signore, and Secor. Mayor Lockhart voted yes on this motion. Voting no on this motion is Alderman Todd Hall.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Authorization to purchase skid loader as per FY 11/12 budget.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart attended the 9/11 ceremony held on Sunday in front of the fire barn. The various groups did a great job.

DEPARTMENT HEAD & STAFF REPORTS

Jayson Shull, Public Works/Building Commissioner. The two new trucks are in. The paving of Rowland Street (350') was completed today, with the driveway approaches being done tomorrow. Estimated that the City saved \$7,000 to \$8,000 by doing this in-house. Bids are being accepted on the new roof for Well #6. There is a CDC meeting scheduled for the 21st.

Acting Chief of Police Joseph Hallman. Recently attended a conference in Springfield for Emergency Management, and brought back ideas. Reported that there were no liquor violations for July and August. The police are preparing for possible problems that may occur following the news that there will be another wave of foreclosures in the City.

Connie Boxleitner, City Clerk, praised the Marengo Police and McHenry County Sheriff's Department for their meeting held at McDonald's recently, addressing the recent break-ins that have been occurring, and how the residents could protect themselves better.

Joshua Blakemore, Acting City Administrator. The audit, by Roach & Associates, should be completed and ready the end of September, first of October. Tax payments are on track. City has lost the tenant on Grant Highway. Budget is on track. Staff will be training with E/Pay soon.

Carlos Arevalo, City Attorney. City did serve the Call on the Letter of Credit, and are waiting on the response from the bank at this time.

Joshua Blakemore updated the Council on the following: (1) hotel status, (2) Prospect St & Rt. 20 project (3) Western Corridor/Metra station and (4) EDC projects.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

ADJOURNMENT.

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to adjourn. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk