

**Marengo City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
November 23, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donald B Lockhart called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mike Secor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present are Mayor Donald Lockhart, Aldermen James Regelin, Matt Keenum, Nicole DeBoer, Brett Martin, Todd Hall and Steve Mortensen. Also present are City Administrator Gary Boden, Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Sergeant Riley (and Shadow), City Engineer Tim Hartnett, City Attorney Carlos Arevalo, and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten. Alderman Michael Smith and Dennis Hammortree were absent. It was noted that Alderman Smith is out of state due to a medical situation with a family member.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two residents addressed the Council, expressing their thoughts and concerns regarding item 8C on the agenda, involving changes being considered for the Cemetery Board.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

State Champion Zion Lutheran School Boys Cross Country Team / 4th Place LSA National Finishers

Mayor Lockhart presented individual certificates to all the members of the Boys Cross Country Team, and congratulated them on their win.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart gave his report at this time, recognizing the accomplishments of the various sports teams in Marengo. Zion Middle School Boys Cross Country Team and the Marengo High School Foot Ball Team have brought pride to the City of Marengo. Congratulations to them all. The high school basketball team looks like it is going to have another great year, so good luck to them as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman James Regelin, to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2015 regular meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes:	Mortensen, DeBoer, Hall, Regelin and Mayor Lockhart
Nays:	0
Abstain:	Martin

The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. List of Bills

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the Consent Agenda. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes:	Regelin, Keenum, Mortensen, DeBoer, Martin and Hall
-------	---

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Annual Police Pension Report to City Council

The report was presented by Officer Andrew Kjellgren. He reviewed the information with the Council members. According to the State report, the City is currently about 45% funded, while their records show Marengo to be at 42%.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to accept the Annual Police Pension Report. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Martin, Hall, Keenum, Mortensen, Regelin and DeBoer

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

b. Authorization to Execute Agreement with Power Energy Solutions for City Lighting Upgrades as Allowable by Grant Funding

Assistant City Administrator Blakemore presented the information to the Council on this agreement. This will be done through Power Energy Solutions.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, for authorization to execute an agreement with Power Energy Solutions for City lighting upgrades as allowable by grant funding with the understanding that if the work is in progress, and if the grant from DCEO does not occur, the scope of the work being performed would be reduced to just the work that would be done under the ICEF grant. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Keenum, Martin, Mortensen, Regelin, Hall and DeBoer

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

c. Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 of the Marengo Municipal Code

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to withdraw this item.

Some members of the Council felt that there was not adequate discussion by the Council on the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Cemetery Board meetings.

Alderman Keenum stated (for the record) anyone that decides to keep it at the status quo, is someone who is deciding to spend \$38,000 in the red when there is an opportunity to erase that debt.

Cemetery Board member George Bauman explained that the \$38,000 in question comes from the general fund of the board. If those funds come from the reserves each year, then their balance is depleted accordingly.

Gene Carroccia, a resident, commented that he was never solicited by George Bauman, for the Marengo Monument Company, when he was planning his parent's funerals.

Mayor Lockhart requested that the Council vote on the motion made. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Hall, DeBoer, Mortensen, Martin and Mayor Lockhart

Nays: Keenum and Regelin

Abstain: 0

The motion passed, and the Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 of the Marengo Municipal Code was withdrawn.

d. FY 15/16 – 2nd Quarter Budget Report

Finance Director Snelten reviewed the report with the City Council, noting percentages for revenue for the General Fund revenue at 67.61%. General Fund Expenses are currently at 50.65% of the projected annual.

e. Resolution Determining the Amount of Funds to be levied for the 2015 Tax Year through Real Estate Taxes

Finance Director Snelten reviewed the information, and recommended that the City levy 5%, which is the same as the previous year's amount.

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to request 5% tax levied for the 2015 Tax Year through Real Estate Taxes, as per the recommendation from the Finance Committee. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Mortensen, Martin, Regelin, DeBoer, Keenum and Hall
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

f. Authorization to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County Regarding McRide Service

Assistant City Administrator Blakemore reviewed the agreement with the City Council, updating them on possible changes. Marengo and Riley Townships are continuing their support of the program.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, authorizing the City to Execute the Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County regarding the McRide Service. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: DeBoer, Mortensen, Keenum, Martin and Hall
Nay: Regelin
Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

g. Authorization to Reclassify Chief Code Enforcement Officer Position in Management Pay Plan

Administrator Boden spoke on the changes that have occurred with code enforcement within the City, and the need for the reclassification.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, for authorization to reclassify the Chief Code Enforcement Officer position in Management Pay Plan. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: DeBoer, Regelin, Hall, Keenum, Mortensen and Martin
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

The motion passed.

h. Status report on People v. 300 West LLC and the Arnold Engineering Co, and Court-ordered Mediation and Consideration of Court's Request for the City to Participate in Medication Proceedings

Administrator Boden updated the Council on the most recent happenings. There was an order from a judge about the need for the parties to submit to Remediation, and the City be included in this process. Attorney

Arevalo added information on a settlement effort being pursued. The City has expended approximately \$30,000 in costs gathering information on the City's behalf. We are requesting to be reimbursed for those costs from 300 West LLC and Arnold Engineering.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore reported that the street department is doing okay at this time.

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten had nothing further to report.

Sergeant Riley (and Shadow) reported that the K-9 Program is hopefully going to continue. He, and Shadow, will be attending the Knights of Columbus breakfast on the 24th of January. The Knights of Columbus will be donating their profits from this breakfast to the K-9 Program.

City Engineer Tim Hartnett had no further report.

City Administrator Gary Boden stated that there will be a PZC meeting on December 16th. The possible proposal for an annexation agreement with Super Mix will be the subject under discussion and review. The City has hired a Public Works Director. His name is Howard Moser, and he will be starting on January 4, 2016. The proposed expansion of the self-storage facility is on hold at this time, pending a meeting between the property owner and the City.

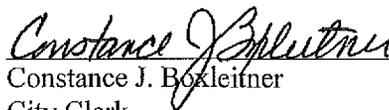
City Attorney Carlos Arevalo had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman James Regelin, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.



Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk

These minutes were approved by the City Council on December 14, 2015.