

**Marengo City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
October 24, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Interim Chief of Police Rich Solarz led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present this evening are Mayor Donald Lockhart; Aldermen Mike Miller, Michael Smith, Nicole DeBoer, Dennis Hammortree, Brett Martin, Todd Hall and Steve Mortensen. Also present are City Administrator Gary Boden, Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Interim Chief of Police Rich Solarz, Public Works Director Howard Moser, City Attorney Carlos Arevalo and City Engineer Tim Hartnett. Alderman Matt Keenum and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten were absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident expressed concerns about the traffic on Route 23 during the construction phase of the I90/Rte 23 Interchange Project, and after the project is completed. (City Engineer Hartnett addressed those concerns during the presentation of information under New Business – 7b.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 10, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alderman DeBoer noted that there was an error in the minutes (on the vote shown at the top of page 2) and that an amended copy of the minutes had been given to the Council.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve the amended copy of the minutes from the October 10th, 2016 Regular Meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Mortensen, DeBoer, Miller, Hall, Smith, Hammortree and Martin
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: Keenum

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Todd Hall requested that two invoices be separated out from the List of Bills, to be discussed separately. The Council agreed, and the invoices from H. R. Green (page 6- #100667 in the amount of \$2,058.0, and page 7 - #107373 in the amount of \$4,666.50) were separated from the List of Bills.

There were questions raised on invoices regarding engineering services for the interchange design. City Engineer Hartnett explained the invoices, and why the City was paying them. These invoices will be “credited” to the City as their share of the expenses incurred for the project. There was a question on an invoice for legal services involving the Brookside Meadows annexation agreement and why it wasn’t paid under retained personnel, and Administrator Boden answered that question.

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to pay the List of Bills. The aldermen voted as follows;

Ayes: Smith, Mortensen, DeBoer, Miller and Hall
Nays: Martin and Hammortree
Abstain: 0
Absent: Keenum

The motion passed.

The Council discussed the two invoices from H. R. Green, generated from a request for information received, and were forwarded to the engineering firm for completion. City Engineer Hartnett explained the procedure that was followed to provide copies of emails between the City and H. R. Green for “any and all correspondence from January 1, 2015 to the date of the FOIA request.”

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to approve the payment of the two invoices from H. R. Green, one in the amount of \$2,058.00, and one in the amount of \$4,666.50. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Martin, Hall, Mortensen, Miller, DeBoer and Smith
Nays: Hammortree
Abstain: 0
Absent: Keenum

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation of Annual Police Pension Report from Marengo Police Pension Board

Todd Schroder, with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP, presented information on the Actuarial valuation of the Marengo Police Pension Fund and explained their findings on where the City is at on their obligations for this fund. Options to increase the fund were discussed.

b. Discussion and Request for Direction on Design Options for the Proposed Tollway Interchange at Route 23

City Engineer Hartnett spoke about the concern expressed earlier on the access onto Route 23 when the construction process begins, and explained that work on Route 23 is conducted by IDOT and they have specific guidelines for width, access, etc. Administrator Boden verified that Route 23 would NOT be closed during the construction process.

H.R. Green presented 4 alternates being considered for the access ramps from the Tollway interchange at Route 23. Alternate 1 is a “Diamond with stop signs”; Alternate 2 is a “Diamond with roundabouts”; Alternate 3 is a “Parclo with stop signs”, and Alternate 4 is a “Parclo with roundabouts.” In terms of costs, Alternate 1 is the cheapest, Alternate 2 is next, Alternate 4 is next, and Alternate 3 is the most expensive. Alternate 4 is the preferred configuration by IDOT, the Tollway, and the County. The City will be asked for their preference at the November 14, 2016 meeting.

c. Action on an Intergovernmental Agreement with Marengo Township Regarding Utility Easements

The agreement involves operation and maintenance of water mains for Ritz Road and Railroad Street residents who will receive city water to help mitigate problems with private water well contamination.

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, second by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Marengo Township regarding utility easements. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Hall, DeBoer, Mortensen, Smith, Hammortree, Martin and Miller
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

Absent: Keenum
The motion passed.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart had no report this evening.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore spoke briefly on the pension fund payment situation and the percentages from 2009 to present. The City has received a letter from the Cemetery Board for funding, and that they are planning on attending the next Council meeting to discuss this. He and Gary attended the Police Pension Board meeting last week, and reviewed the City's situation with the board. Mayor and Josh met last week with representatives from Plum Garden Restaurant, in McHenry, on a possible new liquor license option, for the dispensing of wine & cheese at the Sullivan's strip mall location.

Public Works Director Howard Moser reported that the fall tree planting started today, and should be completed by tomorrow. One faulty hydrant has been replaced on Ann and Grant Highway. A water main connection on Courtney will be starting soon. Brush collection will start on November 7th. The final lift paving is underway in Brookside Meadows.

Interim Chief of Police Sgt Solarz is working with RadiCom on the possible purchase, by them, of the old Kenwood radios. The City currently has 10 of them.

City Engineer Tim Hartnett will be meeting Thursday with IDOT. They are meeting routinely with WWTP personnel.

City Administrator Gary Boden advised that the City is in discussion with the contractor at Unit 6 at Deerpass, on the final paving to be done to complete and correct the mistakes that were made. There was not enough milling done, and the over-paving was too much. The cost to correct these mistakes is \$60,000. Administrator Boden is asking if the Council would agree to waive the bidding process to allow the project to be done at this time, and the possibility of holding a special meeting to vote on the project. The Council's consensus was to proceed with the requests.

City Attorney Carlos Arevalo had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to Discuss Matters Pertaining to Personnel
Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to go to Executive Session, pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss matters pertaining to personnel. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Miller, Smith, DeBoer, Martin, Hall and Mortensen
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: Keenum
(Alderman Hammortree did not vote)

The motion passed.

The Regular Meeting recessed at 8:55 PM
The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:14 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.



Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on November 14, 2016.