

**Marengo City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
April 10, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Clerk, Connie Boxleitner, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2017 regular meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the list of bills. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation and Request for Direction on Draft FY 17/18 Budget – Water/Sewer Fund, Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and other Miscellaneous Funds*

Assistant Administrator Blakemore reviewed the information with the Council on the various budget items relating to the Water/Sewer Fund, Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and other miscellaneous funds. He had provided the Council with information on revenue sources (page 14), water department expenses (page 15), equipment fund designations (page 17) and clarification of monies for main breaks,

Well 7 rehab, televising, structure repairs and lining expenses (page 18). The projected WWTP expansion fund balances and water improvement bonds funds were shown on page 19. Existing Letters of Credit were spelled out on page 20.

Josh then reviewed specific funds: Police Pension Fund (page 9), Motor Fuel Tax (page 10), Audit expenses and Debt Service (page 11), and the current status of the two TIF's (page 13).

Alderman Hammortree expressed concern that this budget would handicap the incoming Mayor, and asked that it not be approved until the swearing in had occurred. Other Council members did not have a problem with the usual procedure that has been followed, stating that the budget can be amended, or adjusted, in the future, as it is a basic guideline for expenses for the various departments to follow.

Alderman Keenum reminded the Council of his displeasure of the (increased) tax levy for the cemetery.

The Council accepted the information presented, and the proposed budget will be on the agenda for approval at the next scheduled Council meeting.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Lockhart noted that Mayor Elect John Koziol was present this evening, and he congratulated him on his victory. They will be meeting on Tuesday to go over the various projects that the City has in the works. Mayor Elect Koziol thanked Mayor Lockhart and is looking forward to working with everyone.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore advised that Public Works Director Moser will present information on the proposed sidewalk project for the downtown area (making use of TIF monies) at the next meeting. Megan Lopez has asked that everyone come early to the first meeting in May, when the newly elected Council will be sworn in) so a new group photo can be taken that evening. There is a balance in the General Fund Contingency Fund of around \$65,000, and he is looking for suggestions on what to do with it. There are options: replenish the retirement fund – add money to the retirement fund - transfer the additional funds to the police pension fund – leave them in the General Fund. If the Council wants to move the balance to one of the options, the move will need to take place at the next Council meeting. If not moved or transferred, the amount will then convert to the General Fund as a fund balance amount. He updated the Council on what is happening with McRide and possible changes next year with how the funding is handled.

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten had nothing further to report.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz updated the Council on Officer McGinley. He is in his second week at the Police Academy, and things are going well. Officer Warren has advised that July 10th will be his last date of employment with the Police Department, and has tendered his resignation. Chief Solarz is looking for direction from the Council on proceeding to replace him. He has a list of 9 possible candidates – one of which has already completed the academy training. If approved by the Council, they will start with the polygraph process on that applicant, as well as a background check. The Department has been asked by Locust School to conduct an Active Shooter Drill, similar to the one that was done at the Middle School, on this Thursday. There will be no students present, as this will be strictly for the teachers and staff.

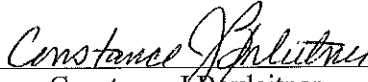
City Engineer Tim Hartnett had submitted a written report on the status of the various projects. He also informed Council about a recent "fly over" of the interchange project where pictures were taken by a fixed wing drone. This was done with the approval of the FAA, the Tollway, and IDOT.

City Administrator Gary Boden spoke about the handout that was given to the Council this evening showing the costs of water rates for surrounding areas. This was put together by the City of Genoa. *City Attorney Carlos Arevalo* had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

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 8:21 PM.



Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on April 24, 2017.