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CITY NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

Vehicle Sticker Design Winner Announced

Luke Shirley

The City of Marengo is pleased to announce the FY 16/17 vehicle sticker design contest winner as Luke Shirley. Luke is an 8th grader at Marengo Community Middle School. He did an outstanding job designing this year's sticker. Luke was presented with a certificate and \$100 check from the City of Marengo at the April 11, 2016 City Council Meeting.

Current vehicle stickers expire on July 31, 2016. Please stop by City Hall to purchase this new sticker. \$20 for residents and \$5 for senior citizens. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30PM.



Hydrant Flushing Rescheduled to July 11-15

Given that water well #6 was shut down for about a month, starting May 24, Public Works has rescheduled hydrant flushing for the week of July 11-15. This is done to minimize discoloration and improve overall water quality. The procedure is performed in warm weather months by opening and closing hydrants in order to force water through the pipes at high velocity. Doing this removes accumulated mineral sediment and results in clear water. The operation can take a few minutes to over an hour depending on the size and location of the mains.

While crews are flushing near your business or residence you may experience very low pressure or in some rare instances a complete loss of service. You may also experience a temporary discoloration in your water during or immediately following flushing operations. This is caused by iron or manganese particles being dislodged from the main. If you experience discoloration run the cold water tap nearest the water meter until the water runs clear.

2016 Street Improvements

Funding Comes from Called Letters of Credit for Unfinished Subdivisions



The City has called three letters of credit (LOC) from banks that bonded with developers for improvements to three Marengo different subdivisions. These three projects are currently being bid with construction of starting in July and with the expectation that completion will occur by the end of October.

Funds from the **Deerpass Meadows** LOC, part of the Besinger Developments on the northwest corner of Deerpass Road and Telegraph (Route 176) Street, are enough to complete the work in the area which includes a portion of Center Drive and Quail Lane .



In the Besinger **Deerpass Estates Unit #6**, money from the LOC will not cover of the costs to complete the subdivision.

While the outstanding work will be bid out in a series of alternatives, decisions will have to be made as to the priority of what can be completed with the existing funds, once the city has received the bids.

The bidding deadline for all three projects is June 29. Awarding of the construction projects is schedule for the July 11 City council meeting.

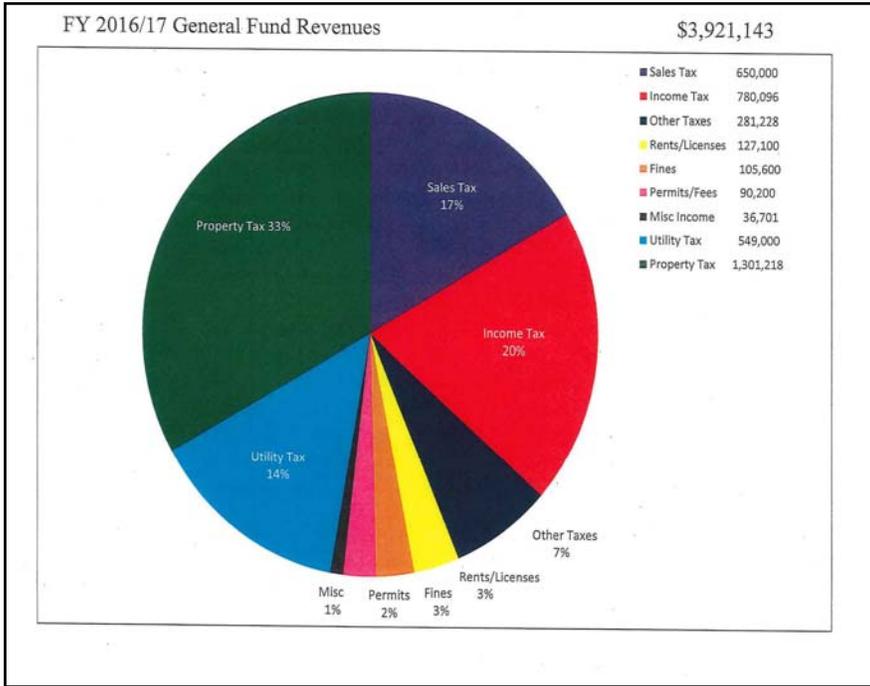


There are enough LOC funds in the multiple-family development **Settlers Cove** account to finish this project located on South Page Street, as it extends north from Forrest Street.

The projects in all three subdivisions are expected to address the work remaining which includes paving, pavement marking, curb replacement, sidewalk installation and replacement, street sign installation, storm water management system repairs and improvements, and water and sanitary sewage treatment collection main repairs.

FY 2016-17 Budgets Approved

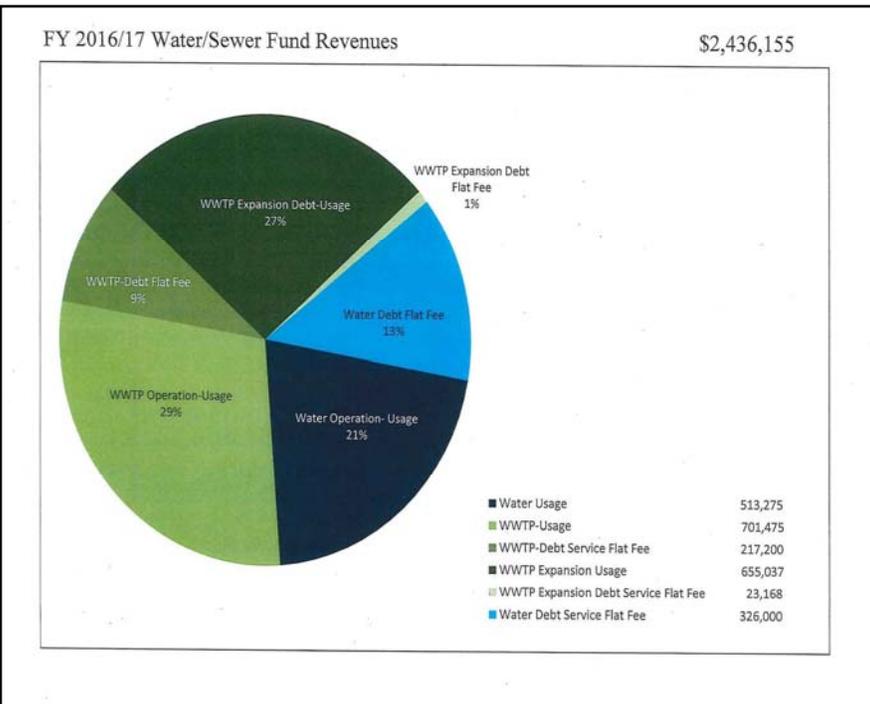
The more things stay the same...the more things stay the same



Last month the City Council approved 6-0 (two members were absent) the budgets that will fund the Marengo's various operations for FY 2016-17. Other than a 3.6 percent increase in water/sanitary sewage treatment rates to offset operations costs that have been undervalued in recent years, revenues have increased nominally.

General Fund

Revenues and expenditures for this year's General Fund have gone up \$55,000, from just under \$3.9 million to just over \$3.9 million. As a result there are no new initiatives in this budget, and given that most all of the city's one time revenues have been exhausted on capital improvement projects in prior years, there are very few dollars left in the General Fund to commit to street resurfacing, sidewalk construction and repairs, or storm water management projects. The good news is, that the due to staff restraints in operating expenditures and a small unanticipated increase in operating revenues during the prior fiscal year, Marengo's General Fund Balance (cash reserve) increased \$69,347 or the equivalent of about 6.6 days of 2016-17 operating expenditures. Going into the new fiscal year, the General Fund has 96.5 days of expenditure equivalents in reserve.



While there are no General Fund dollars (or for that matter Motor fuel Tax Fund) available for capital improvements expenditures Improvements to the Deerpass Meadows, Deerpass Unit #6, and Settlers Cove subdivisions will be made this year because the City recently called Letters of Credit promised by the developers through agreements with the banks. This money can only be spent on the subdivisions for which the LOCs were designated.

The allocation of General Fund Expenditures are effectively unchanged with Police Department expenditures totaling 52 percent of the General Fund. Administration (including all liability insurances, legal and engineering services, planning and community development functions, General Fund related human resources and financial management, and elected officials) total 22 percent. Public Works – streets and public grounds total 21 percent, and building inspection/property maintenance code enforcement total 3 percent. The remaining 2 percent is held in contingency.

Water/Sanitary Sewage Treatment Fund

Revenues for water and sanitary sewage treatment are increasing due to a rate increase that will equal about 3.6 % or about \$7.50 per quarter cost increase for the average Marengo household. These dollars will offset operations costs that, except for last year, have not had an increase since 2012.

(continued to Page 4)

Police Chief Joe Hallman Resigns to go to Wisconsin

Sergeant Richard Solarz Nominated as Interim Chief



Chief Joe Hallman



Sergeant Rich Solarz

Chief Joseph Hallman has tendered his resignation effective June 30 to become the Police Chief at the University of Wisconsin- Platteville. Joe has been with the Marengo Police Department for 27 years, seven of them as Chief.

First hired as a dispatcher in 1989, Joe became a sworn police officer the following year. He rose through the ranks until in 1999 he was named Chief. In 2001, then Mayor Dennis Hammortree decided to replace him and choose a different chief. As a result, Joe returned to rank and then shortly thereafter was promoted to Deputy Chief. Three chiefs later, Mayor Don Lockhart nominated and the City Council approved Hallman's reappointment as Chief in 2011.

During his time as Chief, he has overseen the transfer of in-house dispatching services to outside agencies, first with the Village of Lake In The Hills, and most recently (caused by state-mandated consolidation) to the City of McHenry. During this time of consolidation the City of Marengo has saved approximately \$1.2 million dollars in on-going operations costs, while expending about \$75,000 in one-time capital costs. Additionally, Joe organized the first detective unit in the department, established a neighborhood watch program, and organized the canine program.

While being thankful for their in time in Marengo, Joe, his wife Deb and their two children are looking forward to a new chapter in their lives with their relocation to Southwestern Wisconsin.

Solarz being Nominated as Interim Chief

On June 27, Mayor Lockhart will bring Marengo Sgt. Richard Solarz's name forward to the Council for their consent as his selection as Interim Chief. A 23-year Marengo Police Department veteran, Rich is a graduate from the FBI National Police Academy, and was elected by his peers as the president of his Staff and Command class at Northwestern University. Rich also served in the United States Marine Corps from 1983 to 1987. During his time in the Marines he provided security for American embassies around the world, and trained new Marines to be combat ready.

While Interim Chief, Rich will work on the completion of the transfer of the dispatching function from Lake in the Hills to McHenry, as well as continue his day-to-day direction of the detective unit.

FY 2016/17 Budget (cont.)

Because this increase was reduced somewhat by the City Council during the budget-making process, there will be no build-up of capital improvement reserves for emergency repairs to the water and sewer systems.

The revenue graph (shown in this article) closely mirrors the expenditures planned to be made in the water/sewer fund. Revenues/expenditures show an allocation of 29 percent to sewage treatment operations and 21 percent to water service operations. Allocations to the Wastewater Treatment plant Expansion debt service total 27 percent of the total bill; all other water/sewer debt services total 23 percent.

The water/sewer fund holds 64.6 days of cash reserve, down from 71.5 days held in reserve at the beginning of fiscal year 2015-16. Because the receipts from new rate increase will not be first recognized until August of this year, three months into the FY 2016-17, an intentional one-time draw down of the reserve is expected to reduce the Water/Sewer fund balance to \$307,243, or 63.2 days of reserve.

As is the case in the General Fund, no new initiatives are being contemplated with the staffing levels remaining the same as it has for the past three years. While it has been generally discussed that one or two more staff members are needed to perhaps more effectively run these operations, no new staffing is being contemplated until water/sewer usage increases.

New Call Center Comes On-line in July

Starting on or about July 6th 2016, the Marengo Police Department will be switching its dispatch services from the Village of Lake in the Hills to the City of McHenry. The switch is due to a state mandate that requires the counties in Illinois to consolidate the 911 dispatch centers.

Currently there are six 911 dispatch centers in McHenry County; this number will be reduced to three by the end of 2017. As part of the consolidation the Village of Lake in the Hills has opted to close their dispatch center. Once the consolidation is complete the new expanded dispatch center in McHenry will become the *McHenry County Northeast Regional Communication Center*.

The City of McHenry currently dispatches for the Marengo Fire Department, Marengo Rescue, Union fire Department, Union Police Department, McHenry Police Department, McHenry Township Fire Protection District, and the Johnsborg Police Department. The Woodstock Police Department along with the Harvard Police Department will also be switching to the City of McHenry for their dispatching services in the near future.

The switch to the City of McHenry will not require the citizens of Marengo to dial any different numbers. **For non-emergency situations continue to call 1-815-568-7231, for Emergencies dial 911.**

2016 Annual Drinking Water Report

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

MARENGO

IL1110650

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The source of drinking water used by

MARENGO is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Gary Boden/City Administrator

Phone 815-568-7112

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Trádscale ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

2015 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2015	1.3	1.3	0.756	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2015	0	15	2.6	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

na: not applicable.

AvG: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

2016 Annual Drinking Water Report (Continued)

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall or call our water operator at **815-568-7112**. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

Source of Water. MARENGO To determine Marengo's susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the following documents were reviewed, a Well Site Survey, published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA; a Hazard Review, published in 1990 by the Illinois EPA; and a Source Water Protection Plan prepared by the Village of Marengo and published by the Illinois Rural Water Association in May of 1997. Based on the information obtained in these documents there are 9 potential sources of groundwater contamination that could pose a hazard to groundwater utilized by the Marengo community water supply wells. Furthermore, information provided by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Remedial Project Management Sections of Illinois EPA indicated several additional sites with on-going remediations which may be of concern. Based upon this information, the Illinois EPA has determined that the Marengo Community Water Supply's source water has a high susceptibility to VOC and SOC contamination. The basis for this determination includes the detection of VOC in well #6 and the land use within the recharge areas of the wells. This land use includes both industrial and agricultural properties. However, as a result of monitoring conducted at the wells and entry point to the distribution system, the land use activities and source water protection initiatives by the village (refer to the following section of this report), the Marengo Community Water Supply's source water has a low susceptibility to IOC contamination.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	12/31/2015	1.4	0.3 - 1.08	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2015	4.9	0 - 4.9	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2015	0.11	0.054 - 0.11	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2015	1.21	0.928 - 1.21	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Iron	2015	1.6	0.38 - 1.7		1.0	ppm	N	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits.
Manganese	2015	150	28 - 150	150	150	ppb	N	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2015	1	0 - 0.91	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	2015	51	11 - 51			ppm	N	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration.
Zinc	2015	0.0087	0 - 0.0087	5	5	ppm	N	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Naturally occurring; discharge from metal
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2015	2	0.861 - 2	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

IS THERE LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER?

The City of Marengo Public Works Department performed the IEPA required testing for lead in the drinking water in 2015 and passed. We currently treat the water with phosphate to control the levels of lead in the drinking water as part of our routine distribution process.

This does not guarantee that the water from your faucet is lead free. Typically, lead gets into your water after it leaves the City's mains. Source of lead in your home's water system, is most likely lead pipes or lead sol-

der in your home's own plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water here are some actions that you can take:

Flush your pipes before drinking – anytime that water has not been used for six hours or longer flush the cold water until it becomes as cold as it will get.

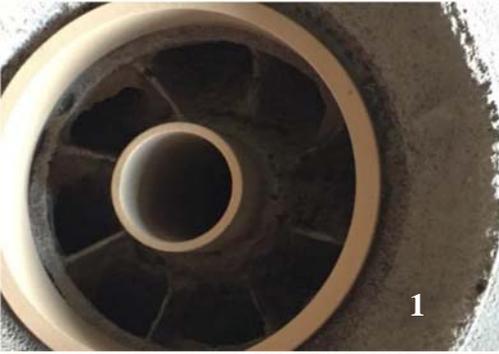
Only use cold water for consumption – use only water from the cold water tap for drinking, cooking and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead.

Have your water tested – Since you cannot see, taste, or smell lead dissolved in water testing is the only sure way of knowing if there are harmful quantities of lead in your water.

If you would like information on having your home's water tested for lead please contact the Public Works Department at (815) 568-2669.

Emergency Pump Repairs Made to City's Largest Well

40-Year Old Well was "Just Wearing Out"



1



2



3



4

On May 24, the pump on city's largest well, in terms of production, sized up a second time in 10 days necessitating the commitment of a \$42,045 emergency expenditure. Well #6, located on the northwest corner of Prospect and Greenlee Streets, was out of service for 24 days while major repairs were made to its pump. Installation of the repaired pump was finished on June 15 and, following the standard of two days of water testing, the well was back on-line during the week of June 20.

During that time when well #6 was off-line, the city could only rely upon water production from Wells #7 and #8 to support the potable water system and to provide water for firefighting. While water was sustained in the system, no viable back-up was available during the time Well #6 was down. This concern was heightened given that Well #8 is a low producer that gives water which requires more treatment. These are some of the reasons why the city intends to construct a new well in a different shallow aquifer on

the west side of Marengo.

It is expected that the repairs made will extend the life of the Well #6 for quite some time. The primary reason to actually shut down a well is if it does not produce enough quality water to cost-effectively distribute it through the system. Over its history, Marengo has decommissioned five wells, the last one being by the little league diamonds at the north end of Sponable Street.



5

Captions on this Page

1. Interior vanes in the pump drive mechanism, located within the shaft showed excessive wear.
2. Severe pitting of exterior 5 foot column indicates heavy wear.
3. One of the pipe sections being lifted over the top of the well house to be dropped down the pump shaft. All the segments combined total about 130 feet.
4. Pipe section being lowered into the pump shaft within the Prospect Street well house.
5. Ground water storage tank located at the end of Greenlee St (South of Rosati's). When water levels were lowered during the June 6th attempt to flush the hydrants, an opportunity presented itself to clean the sediment build up in the tank. Divers went into the tank and vacuumed out the iron build up.

Regalia, Reminders and other References

E-Pay

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve service to our residents, we are offering the following electronic payment options at www.cityofmarengo.com:

- Water/Sewer Payments
- Vehicle Sticker Payments
- Parking/Bond Ordinance violations

Payments can be made by Mastercard, American Express, Discover or E-Check. The convenience fee charged for using credit services is not charged or collected by the City of Marengo.

Email Updates

Want to stay connected with City happenings? Have Marengo City Council agendas, news releases, calendar's of monthly meetings and general updates delivered right to your inbox. To register, go to www.cityofmarengo.com and enter your email address in the "subscribe to email updates" box or stop by City Hall.

Overnight Street Parking

Parking is not allowed on any residential street between the hours of 12:01 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Central Business District parking is not allowed between the hours of 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Violators are subject to a \$25 ordinance violation fine.

2016/17 Vehicle Stickers

The 2016-17 Vehicle Stickers are on sale. The cost is \$20 per vehicle or \$5 per vehicle for those aged 65 years and older. Fees will double August 1, 2016. Residents not displaying a current City vehicle sticker are subject to an ordinance violation fine of \$150.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Donald B. Lockhart
815.568.6559

Ward I
Nicole DeBoer
815.568.0911

Ward II
Michael Smith
815.568.1246

Ward III
Todd Hall
815.568.7273

Ward IV
Dennis Hammortree
815.568.5577

Mike Miller
815.568.6925

Steve Mortensen
815.735.0766

Matt Keenum
815.404.4585

Brett Martin
815.568.1223

City Clerk Constance Boxleitner
815.568.6937



Standing: D. Hammortree, S. Mortensen, C. Boxleitner, N. DeBoer, M. Keenum
Seated: M. Miller, B. Martin, D. Lockhart, M. Smith, T. Hall

Travel Trailers & Recreational Vehicles

Parking of travel trailers, utility trailers or other recreational vehicles shall only be permitted behind the front property line between the dates of April 15 and October 15. After October 15 and prior to April 15, the parking of travel trailers, utility trailers and other recreational vehicles shall only be permitted behind the building setback line.

Garage Sales

A \$5.00 garage sale permit is required. The ordinance allows for 6 days throughout the calendar year. You are allowed three signs for advertisement. Signs must have their own support, they can not be placed on trees, poles or traffic signals.

Approved Resolutions and Ordinances February, March and April 2016

February

16-2-5 An Ordinance Amending Section 33.07-B—Number of Licenses Issued

March

16-3-1 An Ordinance Issuing a Motor Vehicle Special Use Pursuant to Section 15.04 of the Marengo Zoning Code

16-3-2 An Ordinance Vacating Pulse Lane in Marengo, IL as Required by the Terms of an Annexation Agreement Entered into March 9, 1998 by and between the City of Marengo and JJ Carlino and Kevin McCarthy Jr.

April

16-4-1 An Ordinance Ratifying the Establishment of SSA #5-GMT Holdings LLC

16-4-2 An Ordinance Ratifying the Establishment of SSA #6-North Star Trust

16-4-3 An Ordinance Providing for a Supplemental Appropriation for the FY 2015/16.

The June 2016 Marengo Newsletter has been produced by the following staff members: Article contributors: Gary Boden, Howard Moser and Megan Lopez. Desktop publisher: Megan Lopez