

**APPROVED**

**Marengo City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
City Council Chambers  
132 E. Prairie Street  
Marengo, IL 60152  
May 8, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John Koziol called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Koziol led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

*Recognition of Nicole Fitch – 2017/218 Vehicle Sticker Design Contest Winner*

Mayor Koziol presented a certificate and cash prize to Nicole Fitch for winning the Vehicle Sticker Design Contest.

**SWEARING IN CEREMONY / RECOGNITION OF PROMOTION**

*Officer Adam Boyce as a Sergeant*

Chief Solarz read the oath to Officer Adam Boyce, promoting him to Sergeant Adam Boyce.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Residents expressed concern for the clutter that is accumulating around town, boats parked on property that never gets moved, vehicles that are parked with no valid plates; TV's left at the curbside for garbage pickup. There are also sidewalks in town area that are in need of repair/replacement. They are concerned that the City no longer enforces municipal codes. There is also concern for the handicap areas in town.

The owner of a local business requested that the City not approve any new liquor licenses for liquor stores, as there are many of them currently in use.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*April 24, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes and May 2, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes*

Alderman Michael Smith requested a correction be made to the April 24, 2017 minutes, showing him voting on the list of bills for that meeting.

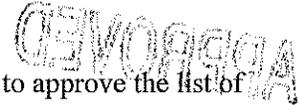
Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2017 Regular Meeting, with the correction of adding Alderman Smith's name to the voting on the list of bills, and also to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2017 Special Meeting. The aldermen voted as follows

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

The motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS**

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to approve the list of bills. The aldermen voted as follow:



Ayes: Martin, Hammortree, Hall, Keenum, Mortensen, Miller, DeBoer and Smith

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*a. Presentation and Update from Marengo Park District on New Playground at Indian Oaks Park*  
Terri Paulauski, President of the Board of Commissioners for the Marengo Park District, spoke about the playground project at Indian Oaks Park. The assembly work on the project will be taking place on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May. They are asking for volunteers to help with the project, and ask that if you have the time to give, please let them know. They will be providing lunch for all the workers that day. They will be naming the playground “Intren Playground”, following a sizeable donation from Intren. She also advised that there is an open spot on the board if anyone is interested.

*b. Action on an Amendment to Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for West Grant Highway Water Main Replacement Project – Adding Engineering for State Street Water Main Replacement*

Assistant Administrator Blakemore reviewed with the Council the previous approval given for engineering services for water main replacement along West Grant Highway, with a projected cost of \$1,090,000. Recent water main breaks on North State Street (between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue) have the staff looking at adding that area to the project. The area is old transit water main, and the additional cost should be about \$800,000. The combined project is estimated to be \$1,890,000.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to approve an amendment to the Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for West Grant Highway Water Main Replacement Project, adding engineering for State Street Water Main Replacement. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Smith, Keenum, Martin, Mortensen, DeBoer, Hall, Miller and Hammortree

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

*c. Action on Accepting a Bid for Downtown Sidewalk Repair – Downtown TIF Project*

Public Works Director Moser presented information on the quotes that were received for the project. The Council was in agreement that the work should be done, but felt that fixing the areas of the sidewalks that involved the handicap ramps might be a better use for the funds at this time. Director Moser suggested looking into getting costs for doing that work (which should be about 8 ramps). Assistant Administrator Blakemore advised the Council that if these funds are not used by the spring of 2018, they go away.

The Council also discussed options for replacement of areas of sidewalks in need of repair with possibly a “memorial” brick project. These areas could be scattered throughout the downtown. Director Moser suggested that if the business-owners in the downtown area have ideas on improvements for that area, to please contact him to discuss them.

Alderman Matt Keenum made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to reject the bids received for the Downtown Sidewalk Repair – Downtown TIF Project. The aldermen voted as followed:

Ayes: Hall, DeBoer, Mortensen, Smith, Hammortree, Martin, Keenum and Miller  
Nays: 0  
The motion passed.

*d. Approval of Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget*

Assistant Administrator Blakemore presented the final proposed 2017/2018 Budget to the Council, answering questions on the various items.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018. The alderman voted as follows:

Ayes: Miller, Keenum, Smith, DeBoer, Hammortree, Martin, Hall and Mortensen  
Nays: 0  
The motion passed.

*e. Authorization to Waive Competitive Bid Process & Purchase a New Squad as per FY 2017/2018 Budget, from the Veto Enterprises*

Chief Solarz presented information to the Council for the possible purchase of a new squad car. If the City purchases the vehicle through the State of Illinois procurement section, the projected cost would be \$25,580. In checking with other sources, Chief Solarz found that Veto Enterprises could purchase a vehicle through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative program, and the cost would be \$25,510. He is asking for permission to waive the competitive bid process and to purchase the new squad through Veto Enterprises.

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to authorize to waive the competitive bid process and to purchase the new squad car (2017 Ford Interceptor Sedan – Police Package – AWD) at an approximate price of \$25,510. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Keenum, Mortensen, DeBoer, Miller, Hall, Smith, Hammortree and Martin  
Nays: 0  
The motion passed.

**MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Mayor Koziol asked the public how the audio system was working, and the response was it was better. He questioned the delivery of board packets and the option of having the documentation sent via email, or having the police department deliver. The general opinion was to send by email, but to also have the packet available to be picked up at City Hall. Mayor Koziol will be going this week for a tour of the WWTP, and recommended that each of the aldermen make time to do this as well. The City is checking into redoing/updating the signs when you come into town, as they are showing signs of wear. Another project that is being looked at is upgrading the computers – looking at leasing options as well as outright purchase of same. He has implemented a change in items on the agenda that require motions. Previously the Council would make the motion and then open the item up for discussion. The recent training session that he attended recommended discussing items first and then going to a motion.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS**

*Finance Director Jennifer Snelten* had no report.

*Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore* advised that there will be a PZC meeting next week with various items being discussed. (1) Marengo Guns is looking for a special use to accommodate their Ceracote Process. This will require a zoning text change. (2) The new strip mall on the East end of town

is seeking a special use (commercial use), as they are looking to add drive thru lanes and possibly expanding their operation to include 4 businesses. Josh has started a (hopefully) weekly email to the Mayor and the Council to keep everyone updated on what is happening in the City. He spoke briefly about the U-Haul operation that has moved the downtown area to the North end of town. They are working with the owner to get a special use permit for that situation. He met recently with Corey Brackmann to go over the strip mall project and TIF. (Information on what has been going on with this project was sent via email to the Council earlier.) IDOT has sent email to the City regarding a traffic signal at Route 23 & Coral Road, and are asking for the City to participate cost wise for a portion of the cost as part of that intersection is in the City limits. He reminded the Council on the possibility of hiring a part time person to work on code enforcement and permits to work with Director Moser. The City currently employees a temp person (through an agency) to assist on that job.

*Public Works Director Howard Moser* updated the Council on Taco Bell. Tours are always available for Council members to see the WWTP process. Please contact him to schedule a date and time for this. WWTP – UV System is back on line, as well as Basin #1 of the SBR, because of the increased flow that has happened from the recent rains. An Eco-Dome has been installed (as a demo) to help with the oxidation ditch. Tree pruning should be done this week. They are getting proposals for sanitary sewer televising. Rick Yearton and Director Moser participated in a demonstration for a push camera to go into the sewer system as a potential purchase this year. The street sweeper is on its last legs, and a possible replacement has been found, if the Council approves. It is a 1999 Pelican – and the owner is asking \$25,000.

Alderman Hammortree requested that the City look into opening the area at the WWTP for citizens to bring brush to be disposed of following storms, rather than to have to store it at their residences until the next official brush pick up in the fall. Director Moser said that is a possibility and that the yard (where the brush is at) is pretty much open 5 days a week, during regular hours.

*Chief of Police Rich Solarz* advised that last Thursday the Police Commission met and discussed the current applicants. One was a strong possibility, but he declined to continue with the process due to his not residing within the 40 mile radius required, and he did not want to move. There will be a special meeting next Monday of the commission, to look at 3 other applications. The City is on a wait list for sending individuals to the academy for training.

*City Engineer Tim Hartnett* had submitted a written report to the Council, and noted that they are now using a larger text so it should be easier to read and review.

*City Attorney Carlos Arevalo* spoke about the applicant that came before the Council in March regarding the building on Route 20 and the possible use of TIF funds. The applicant has requested assurance from the City that they will be able to get the requested license. Attorney Arevalo explained that the City is unable to issue a license until such time as there is an actual structure in place, and a license is not contractual in that the City cannot agree to issue a license. Attorney Arevalo suggested sending them a letter spelling out the conditions that will be need to be met (TIF Development Agreement, zoning – special use - condition requirements, engineering and planning requirements, IDOT requirements, state statutory requirements necessary for the actual state license to be issued, etc) in order for the City to be in a position to issue the requested license. This would be similar to what was required for the original Road Ranger project. The applicant will be attending the PZC meeting next week, and this probably will be part of the discussion that evening.

#### **REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL**

Alderman Keenum made a suggestion that the City look at bringing in a different engineering firm to oversee the WWTP operations. He clarified that he has no concerns with any of the work of HR Green,

or of Tim Hartnett. Other aldermen agreed with his suggestion. Engineer Hartnett stated that he understood the reason behind the request, and added that he would provide documents and discussion to whatever firm the City brings in so that firm had the information they would need.

Alderman Smith asked about pothole repairs, and Director Moser advised that the crew would be going out the end of this week to continue working on getting this done.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*a. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) – Personnel*

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to enter into Executive Session, Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) – Personnel. The aldermen voted as follows

Ayes: Smith, Keenum, Mortensen, DeBoer, Miller, Martin, Hall and Hammortree

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

*The Regular Meeting recessed at 8:46 PM.*

*The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:46 PM.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM.

  
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Constance J. Bozleitner  
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on May 22, 2017.