

APPROVED

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
October 9, 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, 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 Engineer Tim Hartnett and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten. Alderman Dennis Hammortree was absent.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY *Promotion of Shaun Boeckh to Police Department Sergeant.*

Chief Solarz performed the swearing in of Officer Boeckh, promoting him to Sergeant Shaun Boeckh.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 25, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2017 regular meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

A question regarding the purchase of uniforms for the newly hired officer was the City's normal procedure, and Chief Solarz explained that this is standard procedure, and that the officers sign a pre-employment agreement that if they "fail out" they are responsible to pay back the cost to the City.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer 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, Martin and Hall
Nays: 0
Absent: Hammortree

The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. *An Ordinance Decreasing the Number of Class B Liquor Licenses – Removal of McCormick Mart Liquor License*
- b. *Consent to Mayor's Appointment for the Marengo Fire and Police Commission – Amy Thiede*

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to approve the Consent Agenda. The aldermen vote as follows:

APPROVED

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

NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation and Motion to Accept the Audit for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 – George Roach & Associates.

George Roach reviewed the audit with the Council, explaining that the audit that is done is considered to be a “clean – unmodified opinion” which means that the opinions expressed on the financial reports of the City are materially correct as of the end of your fiscal year. Specific areas that were addressed by George included information shown on Page 14, which shows the balance sheet showing the City’s General Fund having about \$836,000, all other combined non-major funds have a combined total of about \$966,000, and the Capital Improvement Fund has \$591,772. Water Sewer Funds were reviewed on page 17, Revenues & Expenditures on page 18, and the Police Pension information on page 35. George explained how the determination is made on what is needed for that fund. The debt obligation schedules were shown on pages 45 to 47.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to accept the audit from George Roach & Associates for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

b. Motion Approving and Authorizing the Acceptance of the Proposed 2017 / 2018 Property & Liability Insurance Renewal

Assistant City Administrator Blakemore reviewed the information on the proposed 2017/2018 Property and Liability Insurance Renewal proposal from Arthur J Gallagher & Company, which shows an increase of about 1% to 2% over last year, or a total premium of \$84,656. Alderman DeBoer questioned why we are paying for coverage on the house at 8th Avenue when that house has been torn down, and the property is vacant. Ethan Salsinger, from AJG, will adjust the coverage to show no coverage for a dwelling, and get back to the City with the amended amounts.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve the proposed 2017/2018 Property & Liability Insurance Renewal with an adjustment made to reduce the coverage for the property at 8th Avenue, as there is no longer a house at that location. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

c. Update from Marengo Cemetery Board on Issues Raised by City Council Concerning Cemetery Operations

Brittany Richardson, Marengo Cemetery Board member, handed out information to the Council, and then read a prepared statement. A copy of that statement is attached. In the statement, she advised the Council that she would be resigning from the board on the 15th of December. Alderman Mortensen asked her to

reconsider this action, and she declined. She also indicated that 2 other members of the board, George Bauman and Jim Zenk would also be submitting their resignations as well.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Koziol noted that with the statement from the Cemetery Board member, a Committee of the Whole will be required. He will confer with Council members on a date.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore noted that the City has advertised to replace the vacancy at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. When talking about the water/sewer fund, with depreciation taken into account, the City will be okay for the next couple of years, at which time the loan on the 8th Avenue property will be paid off. He discussed the new City signs that will need to be moved, due to "right of way" problems on some of them. He is working with Tim (Hartnett) on contacting property owners on getting an "access easement" document signed to allow the placement of the signs. He expressed his thanks to the City Staff for their putting together the City float for Settler's Days.

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten had nothing further to add this evening.

Public Works Director Howard Moser noted that the second round of brush pickup with start on the 6th of November, 2017. Phosphorous Removal Feasibility Study was completed and submitted to the IEPA on schedule and on budget. The Christmas tree, which is being donated by Walnut Creek Nursery, will be planted this Thursday. It is a Norway spruce. The road condition summary – relative to the City streets – was sent to all Aldermen last week. This is a starting point on setting up a schedule for repairs (starting with those listed as 1 – 2).

Chief of Police Rich Solarz stated that the weekend (Settler's Days) went well with only 2 arrests (bar fights) being made on Friday evening.

City Engineer Tim Hartnett had submitted a written report to the Council, in the board packet, and had nothing further to add.

Acting City Attorney David McArdle had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Alderman Keenum praised the Staff and the Chamber for the great work on Settler's Days. Alderman Smith asked City Engineer Hartnett about the water project on pipes, noting that an article he read stated that some of the concrete pipes contain asbestos. He also asked if there was much transite pipes left to be replaced. Engineer Hartnett replied that the pipe being used for the water projects are ductile iron pipes or PVC. He also advised that there is about 200 feet, located on Locust Street.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to adjourn. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.



Constance J. Bowleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on October 23, 2017