

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
November 13, 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, Todd Hall and Steve Mortensen. Also present are Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Chief of Police Richard Solarz, Public Works Director Howard Moser, Acting City Attorney David McArdle, City Engineer Tim Hartnett and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten. Alderman Brett Martin was absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

James Hotchkiss spoke to the Council about the McHenry County Chapter of the Citizen's Climate Lobby. He is asking the City to adopt a resolution in support of a carbon fee and dividend system. He explained how the program would work, and urged the Council to do their part in helping with climate change.

Gene Carroccia, speaking on behalf of the Marengo Radio Station, requested that the Council speak more into the microphones. The recordings are not always clear because of the lack of volume of the person talking.

SPECIAL PROCLAMATION – *Proclamation making November 15, 2017 "School Board Members Day"*
Mayor Koziol noted that November 15, 2017 is proclaimed as School Board Members Day.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – *Volunteer Service Award - Marengo Settler's Days Inc., and Marengo Community Farmer's Market*

Mayor Koziol presented plaques to representatives from Marengo Settler's Days, Inc and Marengo Community Farmer's Market.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *October 16, 2017 Special meeting minutes*
 October 23, 2017 Regular meeting minutes
 October 30, 2017 Special meeting minutes

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve the minutes for the October 16, 2017 Special meeting, the October 23, 2017 Regular meeting and the October 30, 2017 Special meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to remove the invoice from Zukowski, Rogers, Flood and McArdle from the list of bills, to be voted on separately.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer amended her original motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to pay the bills, with the changes that Attorney McArdle stated (reducing his hourly rate to \$165) applicable to his current invoice, and all future invoices. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

NEW BUSINESS

a. Motion to consent to Mayor's appointments to Marengo Cemetery Board

Mayor Koziol recommended the following persons to be appointed to the Marengo Cemetery Board: Marty Mohr, Raymond Knake and Donnie Bottcher.

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dennis Hammortree, to approve the appointment of Marty Mohr, Raymond Knake and Donnie Bottcher to serve on the Marengo Cemetery Board, to be effective the 15th of December, 2017, when the current boards resignation is effective. The Council voted as follows:

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

b. Annual Presentation of Police Pension Fund report by the Police Pension Board

Officers Andrew Kjellgren and Jerry Rzotkiewicz presented the recent report from the Police Pension Board, reviewing the current payments made toward the pension and the board recommendation of \$502,034.00, which is the minimum statutory required amount. Todd Schroeder, with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP was present this evening to discuss the GASB report, and the projections shown.

c. Discussion and Motion to Determine Estimated Amount of Tax Levy for FY 2017/2018

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten discussed the tax levy for FY 2017/2018. There is an increase in the property tax extension of \$35,091 (2.32%) after the County Clerk has applied the property tax extension limitation. This would be a total of \$1,544,994. The staff is recommending an increase of 5% tax levy over the prior year's extension, increasing the total amount of the tax levy to be \$1,585,398. Direction was requested on the amount of the tax levy as well as where to apply the additional funds. The options would be putting the funds into the General Fund, or applying them to the Police Pension Fund. If applied to the PPF, the amount that would be submitted this year would be \$450,647, which would still be \$51,387 short of the statutory requirement. Alderman Keenum clarified that the City's share of the total tax levy that homeowners receive is actually about 12% of their total tax bill. The Council had no clear recommendation on the amount to apply to the cemetery board line item of the tax levy.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, authorizing a tax levy for FY 2017/2018 for 5%, per the staff's recommendation. The aldermen voted as follows:

Ayes: Smith, Keenum, Mortensen, DeBoer and Mayor Koziol
Nays: Hall, Miller and Hammortree

Absent: Martin
The motion passed.

d. Discussion and Direction on Statements of Qualifications for Wastewater Engineering Services
The aldermen were asked to provide their top 5 firms to be considered for wastewater engineering services, via email, to Assistant City Administrator Blakemore so he can compile the information. This will be discussed further at the next meeting, the 27th of November.

e. Motion Approving an Agreement with Integrated Public Resources for Class 1 Wastewater Operator Services

Public Works Director Howard Moser, reviewed information with the Council regarding approving an agreement with IPR (Integrated Public Resources) for wastewater operator services. This service was previously done through MCO, but they are leaving the State of Illinois. Jason Vohs, who was previously employed by MCO, is now employed by IPR. The rate with IPR is the same as we had with MCO.

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve an agreement with Integrated Public Resources for Class 1 Wastewater Operator Services. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

f. Motion Approving a Resolution Adopting the McHenry County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Public Works Director Moser presented information relative to the adoption of the McHenry County Hazard Mitigation Plan, originally adopted by the City Council in 2011. There is no cost to the City for adopting this plan, and any work involved in it will be handled by Public Works Director Moser.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Miller, to approve the adoption of the McHenry County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

g. Motion Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County for McRide Services
Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore reviewed information with the Council regarding the new IGA with McHenry County for McRide services. He advised that if Riley and Marengo Townships wish to participate in the McRide program, they will be required to sign their own IGA. The contribution for 2018 is to be \$7,648.

Alderman Dennis Hammortree made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with McHenry County for McRide Services, effective Jan. 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

h. Motion approving an ordinance declaring certain municipal property as surplus

Public Works Director Moser noted that the City has taken delivery of the new 2017 International 7400 plow truck, which will replace the 1997 IH 4700 model. The 1997 will be placed with Obenauf Auction Services, Inc, to be sold at auction.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Miller, to approve the ordinance declaring certain municipal property as surplus. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

MAYOR’S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Koziol spoke about the residential fire that occurred last week, and how quickly the police, rescue squad and fire department responded. He attended the Veterans Day program at MCHS last Friday, his first time ever, and was impressed by the turnout and the program.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore has talked with Corey Brackmann recently on the TIF project that is being pursued on the East end of town. They are hoping to attend the December PZC to present information and get approval from them. Alderman Miller questioned the Ritz Road construction project of the water main. City Engineer Hartnett advised that the water main is in, and they are adding the valves (at the end of the line) and the automatic flushing system. Once that is complete, they will start on services. The new City signs project is progressing slowly, but is progressing. Alderman Smith questioned the current status of the City’s contingency fund, and was told that two projects used some of those funds, and he will get back to the Council with what is left in that fund. Alderman Miller asked the status of the U-Haul business on the North end of town, and what the deadline was for getting the screening wall built. The owners had an incorrect date for when the job was to be completed, but have since been told the correct deadline date (November 26st). Public Works Director Moser will keep in touch to make sure they meet this deadline.

Public Works Director Howard Moser reported that they have been conducting interviews to fill the position of utility worker. They hope to be done with that process by next week. He met recently with IDOT to discuss various items. One item discussed was the possible reduction to the speed limit on Route 176. They also discussed the property at the corner of Rte 20 & 23, and possible options to stop that corner building from getting hit. Also discussed the ADA ramps along Rte 20 & 23, and how to bring them up to code, it was mentioned that a resurfacing project starting at the intersection of Route 14 (in Harvard) to the toll-way for Route 23 was being looked at, with the work starting in June of 2018. This project will include upgrading all of the ADA ramps.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz reported that October 28th was the DEA Drug Take Back Day. He turned over 77# of prescription drugs that had been dropped off at the drop box in the police department lobby. Three officers responded to the fire on Route 20 last week, rescuing a resident that was found in the home.

City Engineer Tim Hartnett had provided a Task Update Report to the Council. Howard and his team, put together information on the streets in the City, and he is now working on the maps. These maps will be brought to the next Council meeting, showing the individual streets, color coded, marked 1 through 10. There are over 32 miles of roads within the City. Using a rating of 1 being the worst and 10 being the best, there are about 5 miles of 1’s, 2’s & 3’s. He recommends attacking those first. The cost for

reconstruction of a street (which would be the 1's and 2's) would be about \$400,000 to \$500,000 per mile.

Acting City Attorney David McArdle had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Alderman Hall advised that he had been in touch with Johnson Controls, who are the largest cemetery and funeral home broker in the United States. They, Johnson Controls, felt that if the City was serious about selling the cemetery, they could probably locate multiple buyers in 6 to 8 months.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. *Discussion of performance and compensation of personnel and appointment of officer pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) and (3) and potential litigation*

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to go to Executive Session for a discussion of performance and compensation of personnel and appointment of officer pursuant to 5 LCS 120/2 (c) (1) and (3), and potential litigation. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

*The meeting recessed at 8:33 PM.
The meeting reconvened at 9:24 PM.*

ROLE CALL

Present after the Executive Session are Mayor Koziol, Aldermen Smith, Keenum, Mortensen, DeBoer, Hall, Miller and Hammortree. Also present is Acting City Attorney David McArdle. Alderman Brett Martin was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote, but with one vote cast in the negative. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.



Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on November 28, 2017.