

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
November 27, 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, Acting City Attorney David McArdle, City Engineer Tim Hartnett, and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to approve the minutes from the November 11th, 2017 Regular meeting, with a correction on page 4 (TIG should be TIF). The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

Abstain: Martin

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Smith asked for clarification on an invoice, and requested in the future, some itemization of what the invoice is for be supplied as well, as “General Administrative” is not a clear indication of what the invoice is for.

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

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. *Motion to adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 24.01 of the Marengo Municipal Code to update the City's building codes and adopting the latest edition of the international energy conservation code for all commercial projects requiring a permit as required by the Illinois State Legislature*

Public Works Director Moser explained the need to update the City's building codes, as they are out of date. This update will bring most up to 2015 changes required by the Illinois State Legislature. Dan Streit, City of Woodstock Building Inspector, was present and answered questions on the various changes being recommended.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 24.01 of the Marengo Municipal Code to update the City's Building Codes and adopting the latest edition of the International Energy Conservation code for all commercial projects requiring a permit as required by the Illinois State Legislature, with a change (on page 9) to show an effective date of January 1, 2018. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

b. Motion to adopt a resolution determining the amount of funds to be levied for the 2017 Tax Year through real estate taxes (see b.2) and direction on tax levy line items

Finance Director Snelten reviewed the two options that were put together for the various line items, with the main change in the two being the cemetery funds line item. Option 1 shows \$10,000 being levied, and Option 2 shows \$100 being levied – with an increase in the general fund of \$9,900. The total amount of the proposed levy is \$1,585,398.24 which reflects the proposed 5% increase.

Alderman Matt Keenum made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to adopt proposal #2 on the tax levy line items. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

b.2 Finance Director Snelten then reviewed the resolution determining the amount of funds to be levied for the 2017 tax year through real estate taxes for the City of Marengo, McHenry County, IL.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to adopt a resolution determining the amount of funds to be levied for the 2017 Tax Year through real estate taxes, in the amount of 5%. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Attorney McArdle explained to the Council that the Resolution must be adopted and filed with the County Clerk's Office, with the estimated amount of the proposed levy, before the Council can vote on the actual tax levy. Various percentages were discussed - going from 0% up to 5%.

Alderman Michael Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to adopt a resolution determining the amount of funds to be levied for the 2017 Tax Year through real estate taxes, in the amount of \$1,555,200 which is 103%. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

- c. *Motion to approve amendment number three (3) to an agreement with HR Green for engineering services for the 2017 water main replacement project in an amount not to exceed \$12,102 for amendment number three (3), increasing the total contract to a not to exceed amount of \$124,707*

Assistant Administrator Blakemore reviewed the information with the Council on the amendment (#3) for professional services with HR Green, for water main replacement work being done on Route 20, Route 23, and the connection to Willow Road. City Engineer Hartnett spoke about the project and what has occurred to date, and what needs to be done. The total cost of the project is projected to be \$2,009,554. Funds for this will come from the existing bond balance. When completed, the projected bond balance would be \$282,628 (after all projects), or \$462,478 (balance w/out Alternate). It was noted that the Agreement has an error in the lump sum. The correct amount should be Twelve Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Two and 00/100 dollars.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Miller, to approve amendment number three to an agreement with HR Green for engineering services for the 2017 Water Main Replacement Project, in an amount not to exceed \$12,102, increasing the total contract to an amount not to exceed of \$124,707. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

- d. *Motion to approve an agreement with HR Green for engineering services for a left turn lane and water/sewer connections for the 20009 East Grant Highway TIF Project in an amount not to exceed \$23,000*

Assistant Administrator Blakemore explained that the engineering services fee of \$23,000 is being paid by the developer, and will later be included as part of the TIF incentives per the previously approved incentive agreement. City Engineer Hartnett reviewed the left turn lane, water and sewer connections, as well as entrances and exits involved.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve an agreement with HR Green for engineering services for a left turn lane and water/sewer connections for the 20009 E. Grant Highway TIF Project, in an amount not to exceed \$23,000. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

City Clerk Boxleitner questioned why Alderman Hammortree would vote no on a project that is not costing the City anything, Alderman Hammortree explained that he will vote no for everything that HR Green does.

- e. *Motion to approve a resolution permitting work and maintenance on state highways as is permitted by the Illinois Department of Transportation*

This resolution is passed every two years, and it gives the City of Marengo permission, from the Illinois Department of Transportation, to permit work to be performed by the employees of the City in lieu of a surety bond and to bypass obtaining a written permit from IDOT for emergency work on broken water mains and sewers as required on State Property.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve a resolution permitting work and maintenance on State Highways as is permitted by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

f. Discussion and direction on statements of qualifications for wastewater engineering services
Assistant Administrator Blakemore reviewed the tally of engineering companies, as presented by Council members. Included with that information is information from 4 staff persons. After discussion on how to proceed next, it was decided by the Council to set up meetings with the top 4 companies, Strand, McMahan, Fehr Graham, and Trotter, to be interviewed sometime in January. It was recommended that each company be allowed one hour of time with the Council, the first 30 minutes or so for presentation, and the remainder of the time for questions and answers. We would interview 2 at a time. These meetings would be held on a Monday evening, but not on the same nights as our regular meetings.

MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Koziol noted that December 8th will be the official City of Marengo Christmas Tree Lighting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Assistant City Administrator Joshua Blakemore spoke about 300 West LLC/Arnold Engineering project. The Downtown Business-owners Group is looking at holding a meeting this Thursday, but nothing has been confirmed at this time. There will be a meeting with the toll-way on Thursday, with Mayor Koziol, City Engineer Hartnett and McHenry County, to bring everyone up to date. At that same time, the entities will work out what the steps will be for right-of-way, as the County has asked for clarification on who is handling this part of the project. There will be a full agenda for the December 18th, 2017 meeting.

Alderman Hammortree questioned Attorney McArdle about the possible annexation agreement between 300 West LLC and the City of Marengo. Assistant Administrator Blakemore advised that the decision to annex 300 West LLC into the City of Marengo is totally up to the Council.

Alderman Hammortree noted that a company, unknown, has drilled 2 holes on the 300 West property and 55 gallon drums were being dropped into the holes. Assistant Administrator Blakemore will ask 300 West and see what their response is. Alderman Hammortree will provide the location of the holes so they can be checked out.

Public Works Director Howard Moser advised that the new employee will be starting soon. Eric Evertsen has passed the Class C Water Operators License. This brings the total to 3 Class C employees in the City. City crew will be out cleaning water ditches, exercising water valves and trimming trees over the next few months. The work on the landscape beds, at the U-Haul business on the north end of town, has started. The street crews are continuing to work on pot holes around town.

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten noted that the quarterly report for the third quarter will be included in the board packet for the December meeting.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz had submitted a written report to the Council. He advised that Officer Gehrke has talked about retiring in January. He reviewed the schedule for the Police Academy, and where Marengo is for the various dates. At this time, we have a slot reserved for the June session, which would mean that they would be able to start work near the end of next year. Shop With A Cop will be on December 10th, at which time 3 officers will attend. Each child going will receive \$150 to spend however

they choose. Following the shopping, everyone will go to the Harvard Village Hall for breakfast. In previous years, Marengo Auto Group has supplied them with a van to use for transport. Tanya Hernandez is doing well at the academy. Her graduation is scheduled for December 22. The Police Law Institute is requesting a 3 year contract with the City. This is on-line training for all officers, so everyone is up to date on changes, and requirements. The cost for the first year would be \$95 per officer. If no contract is signed, the cost would be \$135 per officer. Chief Solarz is recommending that the City go along with the 3-year contract.

City Engineer Tim Hartnett had no report.

Acting City Attorney David McArdle had no report for this part of the meeting.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to go to Executive Session for a discussion of performance and compensation of personnel and appointment of officer pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) and (3). The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

The meeting recessed at 8:19 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 8:45 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 8:46 PM.



Constance J Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on December 19, 2017.