

**APPROVED**

**MARENGO CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
City Council Chambers  
132 E. Prairie Street  
Marengo, IL 60152  
January 22, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John Koziol called the meeting to order at 7:03 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 and Steve Mortensen. Also present are City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Chief of Police Richard Solarz, Public Works Director Howard Moser, Acting City Attorney David McArdle and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten. Aldermen Brett Martin and Todd Hall, as well as City Engineer Tim Hartnett were absent.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident questioned the Council about the City Ordinance regarding shoveling of sidewalks both in the downtown area and also in the residential areas. He also questioned if there could be something done different when the City parking lots are plowed so that the sidewalks around those lots are cleared as well.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Chief Solarz presented "Letters of Recognition" to Officer Andrew Kjellgren and to Sgt. Paul Fritz, along with "Life Saving Medals" for their actions on November 6, 2017, regarding a house fire and the saving of the resident who was in the home and was unresponsive. Chief Bradbury presented "Letters of Recognition" from the Fire and Rescue Squads. The Marengo Fire Department has fire gear for the police department to use if the need should ever arise again. Sgt. Adam Boyce was unable to attend this meeting, and will be presented with the "Letter of Recognition" and the "Life Saving Medal" at a future Council meeting.

Chief Solarz reported that 4 officers were submitted for special recognition to the McHenry County Chiefs of Police Association, for Officer of the Year. They are Officer Andrew Kjellgren, Sgt. Paul Fritz, Sgt Adam Boyce and Officer Jerry (JR) Rzotkiewicz. The committee was unable to pick one winner of the award, so they opted to make the 4 officers co-awardees. They each received a plaque noting that they had been nominated, and each also received the award.

**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 follows:

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

APPROVED

**NEW BUSINESS**

*a. Status Report from the Marengo Cemetery Board*

Board members Marty Mohr and Raymond Knake updated the Council on what the board has been doing since they started on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. All of the cemetery records have been moved into City Hall, along with the computer and printer. At the first meeting, they made the following appointments: Chairperson is Marty Mohr, Recorder is Donnie Bottcher, and Treasurer is Raymond Knake. They will be putting out RFP's for both grave openings and mowing. Raymond Knake has been appointed Interim Superintendent to handle the day-to-day business of the cemetery. He will be doing this for a 90 day period of time, and he will be paid \$1,000 a month. If he takes the position full time, he will resign from the board. Loudenbeck Services will continue to provide burial services for the same 90-day period of time. They completed an inventory list of the property (mowers, trimmers, etc) and are putting values on those items.

*b. Presentation and Discussion with Firms Submitting Statements of Qualifications for Wastewater Engineering Services*

Strand Associates representatives Troy Stinson, Andy Craven and Troy Larson gave a 35 minute power-point presentation of their company, services, and recommendations for possible improvements. Following the presentation, they answered questions from the City Council.

*c. Motion to Ratify the Mayor's Authorization of Emergency Repairs of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Centrifuge in an amount not to exceed \$12,149.00, and to Waive the Competitive Bid Process*

Public Works Director Moser spoke to the Council about the problem that occurred with the centrifuge, and what was required to get it back up and running. The plant is only equipped with one centrifuge, so these repairs were considered an emergency situation. City Administrator Blakemore authorized issuance of a purchase order for the repairs, and upon receiving the cost of the repairs (\$12,149.00) Mayor Koziol authorized the repairs. The Council is being asked to ratify the authorizations and to approve the waiver of the competitive bid process.

Alderman Matt Keenum made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, ratifying the Mayor's Authorization of Emergency Repairs of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Centrifuge, in an amount not to exceed \$12,149.00, and to approve the Waiver of the Competitive Bid Process. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

**MAYOR'S STATEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Mayor Koziol also congratulated the officers for their receiving the Officer of the Year awards, from the McHenry County Chiefs Association.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS**

*Finance Director Jennifer Snelten* had no report.

*Public Works Director Howard Moser* noted that M E Simpson was out and performed leak detection services recently on the water distribution system last week. He received several calls today due to the rain that has now brought with it large puddles in various areas of the City. The street department is working on a grind and patch list for the streets.

*Chief of Police Rich Solarz* updated the Council on the possible new hire for the Department, advising that the individual has passed the polygraph test. He reviewed the status on the remaining 3 possible candidates to be considered for hire.

*City Administrator Joshua Blakemore* spoke about plans that have been submitted for the McGill parking lot project (which is owned by the Marengo United Methodist Church), which had been reviewed by HR Green and have been forwarded back to the church. He met last week with the solar farm group and updated the Council on that meeting. We are still waiting on a meeting between IDOT and the Dunkin Donuts project group. Budget worksheets have been handed out to the various departments. Information on the water-main project on Route 20 & 23 was presented.

Administrator Blakemore and Mayor Koziol spoke briefly about the Solar Farm possible project. Mayor Koziol is hoping to having a kiosk installed (possibly at one of the schools) which would show how much power the panel is generating, and how much money the City is saving by using the solar panel.

Alderman Smith questioned if it would be possible to set up a community co-op involving businesses, residents, the schools and the City. Administrator Blakemore explained that his understanding was that the company tried to deal with Com Ed, but that selling within the community is also a possibility.

*Acting City Attorney David McArdle* questioned the City's procedure on work orders and purchase orders. He will be updating the Council in Executive Session regarding two items.

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

Alderman Miller asked about anyone showing any interest in the properties that are vacant on the West end of town. Mayor Koziol advised that a handful of individuals have expressed interest, but have not pursued anything.

Alderman DeBoer asked about the work that is being done to the old foundry building. Public Works Director Moser explained that they are looking at potentially selling off part of the building, and the work that is being done is to split the building.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. *Discussion of Pending or Imminent Litigation and Property Acquisition Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (5) (11)*
- b. *Semi-annual Review of Executive Session Minutes*

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Michael Smith, to go to Executive Session for the discussion of pending or imminent litigation and property acquisition pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (5) (11), and the Semi-Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

*The meeting recessed at 9:05 PM.  
The meeting reconvened at 9:27 PM.*

**ROLL CALL**

Present are Mayor John Koziol; Aldermen Michael Smith, Matt Keenum, Steve Mortensen, Nicole DeBoer, Mike Miller and Dennis Hammortree. Also present are City Administrator Joshua Blakemore and Acting City Attorney David McArdle. Aldermen Brett Martin and Todd Hall were absent.

**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 9:28 PM.

  
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*Constance J. Rodleitner*  
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on February 12, 2018.