

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

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, Nicole DeBoer, Dennis Hammortree, Brett Martin, Todd Hall and Steve Mortensen. Also present are City Administrator Joshua Blakemore, Chief of Police Richard Solarz, Acting City Attorney David McArdle and Finance Director Jennifer Snelten.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - *Officer Bass – Letter of Recognition and Life Saving Award*

Chief Richard Solarz presented Officer Sonya Bass with a Letter of Recognition and Life Saving Award for her actions in two situations. First was in interacting with a young person, engaging them in activity and making them feel special. The second was in recognizing a male in need of assistance, providing CPR on that individual, assisting in using NARCON on that person, and continuing with CPR until he responded. Chief Bob Bradbury also presented a Letter of Recognition to Officer Bass, congratulating her for her fine work with the fire and rescue squads.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *October 8, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes*

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve the minutes from the meeting. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

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

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation from the Marengo Park District on upcoming Referendum

Terri Paulauski and Joe Vallez, from the Marengo Park District, presented information to the Council regarding the “advisory, non-binding referendum” that is on the ballot for the November 6th election.

There are three large debts: 2003 (\$1,550,000), 2012 (\$1,154,529), and 2017 (\$1,599,899). They are hoping to combine 2003 and 2012, and restructure the payment schedule. The referendum is asking for the citizens of Marengo to approve spending approximately \$150,000 to determine if it is feasible to open the pool, which would involve a significant increase in property tax paid to the Park District. Also, the residents are being asked, if the reopening of the pool is approved, would they approve a second significant increase to property taxes.

b. Motion to Approve an Escrow Agreement with Marengo Solar LLC, regarding property owned by Richard Johnson and Judith Feddema

Information was provided by Marengo Solar LLC, whereby an escrow account is being set up, from cash monies received, to meet the requirement of an LOC, for the property owned by Richard Johnson and Judith Feddema.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve an escrow agreement with Marengo Solar LLC, regarding property owned by Richard Johnson and Judith Feddema. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

c. Motion to Approve an Escrow Agreement with Marengo Solar LLC, regarding property owned by Nelligan Investments LLC

This escrow agreement with Marengo Solar LLC is for the property owned by Nelligan Investments LLC, and will be handled the same as the one for the Johnson/Feddema property.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to approve an escrow agreement with Marengo Solar LLC, regarding property owned by Nelligan Investments LLC. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

d. Presentation and Update from Strand Associates on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Evaluation

Troy Stinson and Matt Richards, with Strand Associates, presented their report on the operation and needs for the WWTP. There are several areas that need to be addressed, and they will now be putting together a cost estimate for those items. The Council suggested that they meet with Tim Hartnett (H R Green) and go over the report, and get some additional information from him on the plant. They were requested to attend the November 13th meeting (the next regular scheduled Council meeting) and address some of the Council's concerns at that time.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT

Mayor Koziol had no report this evening.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten noted that the audit was almost complete, but a delay has occurred following the passing of the police pension funding policy. George Roach & Associates are applying for an extension on the filing of the audit. The draft report from Lauterbach and Amen, taking the adopting of the funding policy into account, shows an increase of about 6% on our funding ratio. The month end reports were in the board packet. Projections for the property tax had not been received from the County.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz noted that on November 5th, Sgt Fritz will be making a presentation at the middle school at 5 PM, regarding vaping. Animal Control dropped off a chip reader recently, which the police will be able to use to identify pets that are found with no tags. Saturday is the DEA Drug Take Back date, with the collection being from 10 am to 2 pm. The new squad car is just about ready – decals are being applied.

City Administrator Joshua Blakemore spoke about the water main project and the final surfacing on Greenlee Street/Lou Zecchin project. Friday, Mayor Koziol, Teresa and Josh will be attending the next conference - the Chicago Industrial and Logistics Conference. Hyper-stitch is moving their location to the old Dollar General location (into the front part of the building). The ground has been “broken” on the Dunkin Donuts project. The toll way will be taking action on the construction IGA, and the proposed schedule for the project has been finalized. The current status on replacing the various personnel – a candidate for the water foreman is being interviewed. We have advertised recently for the WWTP foreman position, and are still receiving applications for the Public Works Director position, with a final application date of this Friday. Alderman Miller recommended that the City put a plan into effect in case there is a snowstorm, or some other such happening, before someone can be hired. Josh indicated that he would work on that.

Acting City Attorney David McArdle had no report this evening.

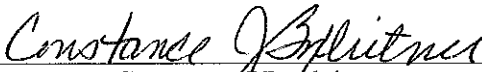
REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

None

Mayor Koziol advised that there would not be an Executive Session this evening.

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 8:21 PM.



Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on November 13, 2018.