

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
February 11, 2019

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, Mike DeSerto, 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. City Engineer, Tim Hartnett, was absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *January 28, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes*

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

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Steve Mortensen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to approve the list of bills in the amount of \$115,282.13. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation from Marengo Fire and Rescue Districts regarding upcoming referendum

Chief Robert Bradbury and Assistant Chief John Kimmel presented information to the Council on current and past employees of the two departments. The average length of time that individuals are with Marengo is 3 years, after which they apply to other districts that offer benefits. There are no current benefits with the Marengo Districts. They showed comparisons of what Marengo pays (with no benefits), and what Cary Fire District, and Hampshire Fire District offer (both of which include benefit packages). They explained that there will be two questions on the April 2, 2019 ballot – one for the Fire District and one for the Rescue Squad District. The current percentage that is paid (for taxes) is 6.5% (roughly). The proposed increase would take that to 7%. The benefits that were discussed included adding a sick day and a vacation day, and funds for health coverage. The Departments will be holding informational meetings with the Community to bring this information to all the residents.

b. Update on Economic Development activity – Teresa Nortillo

Teresa Nortillo, Marengo's Economic Development Consultant, updated the Council on what has been happening at the various trade shows. There have been several developer meetings, and the use of digital marketing was used to enhance the developments presence.

c. Motion to authorize the Execution of an Agreement with George Roach & Associates for completion of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 in an amount not to exceed \$18,500

Finance Director Snelten spoke about the execution of the agreement with George Roach & Associates, noting that the projected cost of \$18,500 is \$500 higher than last year.

Alderman Matt Keenum made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to authorize the execution of an Agreement with George Roach & Associates for completion of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 in an amount not to exceed \$18,500. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT

Mayor Koziol commented on another snow storm, and asking the residents to be understanding about being short staffed, and that they will do the best they can.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten reported that a review of our Standard & Poors rating (S & P) will be happening soon. There is hope that with the steps being taken with the pension fund, our rating will go up. There is a meeting scheduled for Feb. 28th, 2019. She hopes to put together a meeting with the local banks, as well as those within a close proximity, to see if we can do better with our investments.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz advised that there is a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the Marengo Police Department and the Child Advocacy Center, and have also signed up with the McHenry County Criminal Sexual Assault Protocol.

City Administrator Joshua Blakemore noted that the City will be closed next Monday for President's Day. The 20th, he will be attending a pre-con meeting regarding the toll-way. There is a PZC meeting next Tuesday regarding an amendment to the Special Use for the shooting range to allow for manufacturing per ATF regulations. Also that evening will be a request for a Special Use Permit for the old library for use as a tattoo parlor. This past Saturday, Congresswoman Loren Underwood hosted a meeting Saturday afternoon. It was well attended, and individuals got a chance to meet one-on-one with the Congresswoman. One of the City employees took a job position with the City of St. Charles, so we will need to fill that position soon. The mowing contract with Acres Group is up for renewal, and there is an option to extend the existing contract for a 3rd year, with no increase in the price. He then spoke about two items regarding the WWTP and HR Greens solutions, the HVAC room, and the disc filter room, and the status for each. A letter has been sent to Ovivo and Williams Brothers (last Friday) regarding the problems with the leaky finger weirs and the Sonolyzer, demanding that these items be fixed.

City Attorney David McArdle had no report.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Alderman Miller questioned how the road salt supplies were holding up, and Administrator Blakemore reported that a delivery of salt was received today, so we are good.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Discussion of pending or imminent litigation pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11)

Mayor Koziol advised that the Council would not be going into Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Todd Hall, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.



Constance J. Boxleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on February 25, 2019.

