

MARENGO CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers
132 E. Prairie Street
Marengo, IL 60152
April 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Koziol called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor John 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.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident spoke about various things going on in the City, such as buildings in the downtown area looking rundown, resident's properties looking like junkyards. He wondered if there was something that a citizen of Marengo could do to help the City out with situations that are seen. He made a suggestion of the City to contact the County for help in Community Service Projects. He thanked Chief Solarz for his service to the community and wished him well in his retirement.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – 2019 Vehicle Sticker Award Winner – Elizabeth Dominguez

Mayor Koziol presented a Certificate to Elizabeth Dominguez, along with her cash prize.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 25, 2019 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, DeSerto, Hammortree and Martin

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF LIST OF BILLS

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Matt Keenum, to approve the list of bills, in an amount totaling \$119,543.63. The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The motion passed.

APPOINTMENT TO THE VACANT ALDERMANIC SEATS

Mayor Koziol removed this item from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. *Motion to Approve an Ordinance Amending Chapter 43, Offenses Against Public Peace, Safety and Morals, of the Marengo Municipal Code*

Chief Solarz explained the amendment to the ordinance in Chapter 43 of the Marengo Municipal Code. The changes allow the police department to deal with problems under this ordinance locally.

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Mortensen, to approve an Ordinance amending Chapter 43, Offenses Against Public Peace, Safety and Morals, of the Marengo Municipal Code. 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 stated that the County has advised that certification of the results of the election will be done on the 23rd of April. If all goes as expected, the 13th of May is when the appointments will be on the Council agenda.

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND STAFF REPORTS

Finance Director Jennifer Snelten had no report.

Chief of Police Rich Solarz advised that the City will need to update the smoking ordinance due to Governor Pritzker signing into law the change in the age for the purchase of cigarettes and vaping devices. The new law takes effect on July 1st, 2019.

City Administrator Joshua Blakemore advised that the proposed budget will be on the next agenda. He spoke with Joyce Nardulli (our lobbyist) and things are progressing well on a capital bill, and they will keep up to date on how it is going. He recommended that residents contact Senator Wilcox and Representative Reich and to stress to them the importance of "member initiatives" as these will be part of the capital bill, and ask them to support Marengo's projects. There are items that will be discussed in closed session this evening.

Acting City Attorney David McArdle agreed about the Council going into Executive Session.

REPORTS AND STATEMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Alderman Keenum asked about what kind of response had been received regarding the 2 alderman positions that are open at this time, and Mayor Koziol noted that there were 8 to 9 residents interested in those positions. When questioned about why they did not run for the position, the general response was that they did not know the procedure.

Alderman Miller reminded everyone that the clean up at the Marengo Cemetery is this Saturday – rain or shine.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. *Discussion of Personnel Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)*
- b. *Discussion of Pending or Imminent Litigation Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11)*

Alderman Nicole DeBoer made a motion at 7:11 PM, seconded by Alderman Mike DeSerto, to go to Executive Session for a discussion of Personnel pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), and for Pending or Imminent Litigation, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11). The aldermen voted as follows:

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

Nays: 0

The Motion passed.

ROLL CALL FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Returning from Executive Session at 7:39 PM, are Mayor John Koziol; Aldermen Mike Miller, Mike DeSerto, Nicole DeBoer, Steve Mortensen, Matt Keenum, Todd Hall, Brett Martin and Dennis Hammortree. Also present is Attorney David McArdle.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Todd Hall made a motion at 7:39 PM, seconded by Alderman Nicole DeBoer, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with a voice vote.



Constance Boaleitner
City Clerk

The City Council approved these minutes on April 22, 2019.