

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
Monday, April 15, 2024, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Marion City Council met in Regular Session on April 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor D'Anna Browning presiding. Council members present were Randy Dunn, Wanda Olson, Taylor Davis, Bobby Belt, Dwight Sherer and Mike Byford. City Employees in attendance were as follows: Diane Ford-Benningfield, Layten Croft, Pam Enoch, Jeff Black, Greg Tabor, Chief Bobby West, Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mike Harris, a resident on W. Carlisle Street approached the Mayor and Council with the concern of storm water running into his home. He advised he was appreciative of the new asphalt on the city streets, but he is scared that the added asphalt will make his flooding problems worse. He requested that the council and Mayor approve of putting a "concrete drain box" on South Weldon Street for the rainwater to flow into instead of ponding at his front door. Mayor Browning advised Garry Gerard to investigate this issue. She advised Administrator Ford-Benningfield was also in the group message with Mr. Gerard.

Sharon Bockman, a resident of Country Drive approached the Mayor and Council requesting an update on the speed bumps on Country Drive. The Mayor advised that speed bumps were highly frowned upon. Chief West advised that he have his patrolmen patrol more in that area, but most of the speeding occurs after school when those officers are performing school bus traffic. Ms. Bockman requested signage at the intersection of Old Shady Grove Road and Country Drive advising of the 90-degree turn. Ms. Bockman thanks the city for the recent street paving.

A motion was made by Wanda Olson, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the meeting minutes from March 18, 2024. All present members voted yes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Bobby Belt, seconded by Wanda Olson to approve the meeting minutes from April 1, 2024, and April 4, 2024. All present members voted yes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Taylor Davis, seconded by Randy Dunn to pass Ordinance 24-03 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #23-03 ADOPTING THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 07/01/2023 THROUGH 06/30/2024 BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT". The Legal Services Officer advised there were copies available for the public in lieu of reading the ordinance. A roll call was made, all present members voted yes; motion carried.

The Mayor and City Council were presented with a list of roadways within the City Limits that needed to be paved. Maintenance Supervisor Garry Gerard prepared the list for the council. A copy of this list has been attached and made a part of these minutes. The Council and Mayor had suggested other streets other than listed on the list. The Mayor advised that they would discuss this further in the future.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, advised that medical cannabis would be legal in the state of Kentucky January 2025. He wanted to make the Mayor and Council aware of this so they could think about the limitations they would like to set by ordinance in the City of Marion. Mr. Frazer advised he does not have a model ordinance as of this date but would be investigating it further in the upcoming months.

He advised that if the council wished to pass an ordinance to prohibit or limit dispensaries within the city limits it would need to be prior to January 2025, otherwise the dispensaries would be grandfathered in.

Mr. Tim Thomas updated the Mayor and Council on the work that has been going on at Lake George. He advised the next step is different than he said it would be at the last meeting. He advised sealing the cast iron pipe like the engineering company has approved it would involve dewatering portion of the coffer dam. He advised Schnabel (engineering firm) wished for the material to be a cement type of material and the pipe would have to be dry on both ends which would be an extensive process. He advised that in the dewatering process divers would have to place plastic sheeting on the coffer dam. He advised that MSI would pump the water down in two-foot increments and that would take 2-3 days. Jeff Black advised that Old City Lake is still full at this time. Tim advised the dewatering process would likely occur within two weeks. Dwight Sherer requested to know if this would be an additional cost to the city, Tim advised no, that this was the original plan. A member of the public, Donnie Arflack, asked how long the cement would hold up. Tim Thomas advised around 5-6 years, which would be longer than our current permit.

Mr. Tim Thomas then gave a brief update on the required public forum to rehabilitate Lake George that occurred on April 10, 2024. He advised that no member of the public was in attendance. Mayor Browning advised she would like to have another public meeting in the fall to invite the public to get their ideas and envisions.

Lead Sewer Plant operator, Greg Tabor, advised that in approximately three weeks we would be pumping water to the new sewer plant. He advised all construction was completed and pumps were in place. Mike Byford asked what would happen to the old plant. Diane Ford-Benningfield advised that we are unsure at this time.

Diane Ford-Benningfield advised that the "Clean the Creek" project is going well. She advised that the Conservation District reached out and wanted to offer help to clean the waterways. The Mayor requested that we put signs up warning the public about the fines that could occur when you litter in the creeks.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Byford advised the streetlight near Farmers Bank is out. He also requested to know if there had been any fire hydrants ordered. Diane advised five have been ordered.

Bobby Belt requested to know if when the streetlights were replaced if they were being replaced by LED lights. Diane said yes.

Dwight Sherer advised the Chamber of Commerce did an excellent job with the Eclipse Party at the park. The Mayor and Dwight thanks the Chamber of Commerce.

Diane advised the blessing box near the Veteran's Park is being vandalized. Diane requested that the council agree to move the box behind the Farmer's Market. Chief West advised the box was not being vandalized, it was the food within the box that was being vandalized.

Randy Dunn expressed his gratitude for the new asphalt in town.


Mayor Browning advised she has asked the public for their input on street signs that need to be replaced. She also advised that there was a large disc golf tournament this past weekend that drew a lot of people into town. Mayor Browning advised she spoke with a couple of the people from the tournament that complimented the city and Michele Edwards. Mayor Browning advised there would be a city-wide water flush beginning Sunday night April 21, 2024 through Friday April 26, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM.



D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR



ATTEST: PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK