

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
Monday, December 18, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Marion City Council met in Regular Session on December 18, 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, Ray O'Neal, Jeff Black, Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

A motion was made by Bobby Belt, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the minutes from the council meeting on November 20, 2023. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Jeffery Walker was in attendance and presented the 2022-2023 City of Marion Audit to the City Council. He advised the independent audit performed did not find any issues with the city's finances. He did mention the extra spending in the water department due to the water crisis.

Mr. Tim Thomas, Ben Webster with Schnabel, and Eric Sidebottom with MSI then gave the Mayor and the Council an update on the coffer dam project at Lake George. Mr. Thomas advised that MSI and their subcontractors would be moving dirt very soon. He advised there have been some supply issues. Mr. Thomas then advised that we needed an engineer with dam experience, and that's exactly what Schnabel has provided us with. He advised that they have worked well with the KY Division of Water and helped the city obtain the proper permits for this project. Mr. Ben Webster and Mr. Eric Sidebottom then explained the coffer dam project in great detail to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Webster advised this coffer dam will only be an interim fix to last approximately 5 years. He advised that the permit for the dam is only permitted for 5 years. Mayor Browning then questioned if the footprint of the lake would change. Mr. Webster advised no; the water level won't change. The Mayor then reminds the council and public that the cost of this project will be fully reimbursed by Kentucky Emergency Management. Councilman Bobby Belt requested to know if this coffer dam would be inspected yearly and Mr. Webster advised that would be up to the Division of Water, but that typically they are on a schedule of 2-3 years.

Mr. Tim Thomas advised the Mayor and Council that there is a grant opportunity through USDA to help with the restoration of Lake George but that the city needed to act quickly if that is the direction the council wants to go in. Dwight Sherer made a motion to advertise the RFP needed to receive and evaluate responses in reference to this grant opportunity. Wanda Olson seconded said motion, with all present members voting yes. Motion carried.

Wanda Olson made a motion to pass Resolution 23-07, Randy Dunn seconded the motion with the vote as follow; Dunn – yes, Olson – Yes, Davis – Yes, Sherer – yes, Belt – yes, Byford – No. Motion carried.

Taylor Davis motioned to surplus the property at 119 Shady Lane with a reserve of \$2500.00. Bobby Belt seconded the motion with all present members voting yes. Motion carried.

Wanda Olson made a motion to accept the Mayor's appointment of Bobby West as the ABC Officer and Ray O'Neal as the ABC assistant officer. Randy Dunn seconded the motion with all present members voting yes. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Randy Dunn requested an update on the scheduled blacktopping. Diane Ford-Benningfield advised the wastewater plant was completed. She advised Rogers Group unfortunately had a fatal accident with one of their crews that interrupted the end of their season, and they would not be getting to our city streets until Spring 2024. Dwight Sherer requested to know if the bids on the asphalt would stay the same, Diane advised yes.

Bobby Belt wishes everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mike Byford requested to know where the Revolving Loan Committee was on their current application. Diane advised that the group is meeting on December 20th, 2023. He also advised that the street sign at Cherry and First Street is down.

Diane Ford-Benningfield gave everyone an update on the roof project which included the sports complex being nearly completed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.


D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR


ATTEST: LAYTEN CROFT, ASST. CITY CLERK