

**Minutes of the Meeting
Marion City Council
February 20, 2017**

The Marion City Council met in regular session February 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with Michael D. Alexander presiding. Council members Phyllis Sykes, Donnie Arflack, Jared Byford, D'Anna Sallin, Dwight Sherer, and Mike Byford. City employees in attendance were as follows: Adam Ledford, Melinda Gipson, Pam Enoch, Terri Hart, Brian Thomas, Ray O'Neal, Ronald Howton, and the city attorney Bart Frazer. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Motion by Jared Byford, second by Dwight Sherer to approve the minutes from January 9, 2017 meeting and to approve same as submitted to council. All voted yes.

The council was provided with a bid tabulation sheet of six companies for the West Carlisle Sanitary Sewer Improvements. The city administrator, Adam Ledford, stated the low bid was within the range expected to conduct the project, he stated it was Eclipse Engineering's recommendation to award low bid to M&G, a local business of Marion. Motion by Mike Byford, second by Jared Byford to award low bid to M and G Services, LLC for \$55,130.00 on West Carlisle Sanitary Sewer Improvement. A copy of said bid tabulation is attached and made part of these minutes.

The first reading of ordinance 17-01 an ordinance amending #16-09 The City of Marion, Kentucky annual Budget for Fiscal Year 07/01/16 through 06/30/2017. The city attorney gave the first reading of said ordinance.

The fire chief, Ronald Howton, asked the council for permission that would allow him to bid up to \$35,000 for an updated fire pumper without council approval. A local loan would be used to purchase the truck. He said the department could make annual payments on said loan, from state aid money received each year and would not have to tap into the city's general fund. Motion by Donnie Arflack, second by Jared Byford to allow the fire chief to bid up to \$35,000 on a fire truck. All voted yes.

The City proposed to Farmers Bank & Trust Company and the County a plan to remove the telephone poles along the 100 and 200 blocks of South Main Street and reroute the lines to the back side of the two blocks along Court Street. The plan would remove unsightly utility lines that obscure the view of the courthouse, bank and city hall, and the city would look into replacing streetlights with the decorative lamps used on the other side of the street. This program is projected to cost roughly \$74,000; it is being proposed that the cost be shared between the bank, City, and County at roughly \$25,000 each. The bank has offered to provide the City a short-term loan (3 to 5 years) to cover the upfront cost of the City's portion. Council member D'Anna Sallin, agreed the poles didn't look good, but she had more concerns with how to use limited general fund dollars. After a discussion on this issue, motion by Jared Byford, second by Phyllis Sykes to move forward if the County ok's their part and the Marion Tourism Commission agreed to pay part of the city's share. All voted yes.

Sara Mink-Taylor, E-911 coordinator, presented a presentation to the council on upgrading the city-operated emergency 911 dispatch center. She explained the CAD System to the council; Marion would serve as proto-type for the The Fire Horn Inc., which is hoping to break into the CAD business. This would include an annual \$10 payment to a Paducah-based company that will design a personalized

computer-aided dispatch. It will be designed to provide responders such as police and EMS immediate access to extensive information from their smart phones, or other devices. The Fire Horn Inc., Preston Ursini engineer, was present at the meeting and answered any questions the council had. He stated the city could back out of its partnership with The Firehorn at anytime. He guaranteed the \$10 fee would not change as long as the two continued to partner. After a lengthy discussion, motion by Phyllis Sykes, second by Jared Byford to authorize the city administrator to sign the contract on behalf of the city. All voted yes.

The Code Enforcement Officer, Terri Hart, asked to update the city's code of ordinances to outlaw abandoned and vacant manufactured homes. She said there are 249 single-wide mobile homes in the city, with 50 of them currently vacant. After a brief discussion, the council agreed to consider adding the ordinance for March council meeting.

The city administrator provided a copy of the initial proposed budget in the council's packet. He stated he planned to call together the finance committee to review an updated version of the budget prior to March's meeting. He stated he wanted the council to have a copy of budget in advance, so they could review and if they had any questions or suggestions. He stated his goal was to submit a proposed final budget as soon as March with a final approval of the budget at the April meeting.

The city administrator updated the council on his annual visit with Loss Control representatives from the Kentucky League of Cities. He discussed some organization updates in order to keep down future cost of insurance premiums such as: (a) Sidewalk Ordinance (b) Employee Handbook (c) Legal Language Updates (d) Safety Program Updates.

The city administrator proposed the council to discuss plans for a summer meeting to develop prioritized goals for the organization, and would then further lead to the development of a fully integrated 5 year Capital Improvement Plan. He stated he would like this meeting to take place at the Ed-Tech and include representation from our partnership organizations and city departments.

The city administrator, encouraged the council to fill out the sign-up sheet, which was included in their packet, prior to the council meeting and turn forms in at the beginning of meeting, so that a list can be developed from the request.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion by Jared Byford, second by D'Anna Sallin to appoint Jim Johnson and Jerry Collins to the Revolving Loan Fund Board. All voted yes.

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes inquired about the streetlight on North Maple Street. The Police Chief said the residents need to trim trees; the street has streetlight on each corner and center.

Councilmember Mike Byford stated the Old Pantry Building has gutters hanging from building and high weeds that needed addressing.

Mayor Michael D. Alexander announced this would be his last council meeting. He stated he was announcing his retirement effective February 28, 2017. The mayor had a written letter he read to the council. The letter is attached and made part of these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

MICHAEL D. ALEXANDER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK