

Meeting of the Marion City Council
April 17, 2017

The Marion City Council met in regular session April 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Jared Byford presiding. Council members present were: Phyllis Sykes, Darrin Tabor, Donnie Arflack, Dwight Sherer, D'Anna Sallin, and Mike Byford. City employees in attendance were as follows: Adam Ledford, Melinda Gipson, Pam Enoch, Brian Thomas, Terri Hart, Ray O'Neal, Ronald Howton, and the city attorney. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Motion by Mike Byford, second by Phyllis Sykes to approve the minutes from the March 20, 2017 meeting to council. All voted yes.

The city attorney gave the second reading of ordinance 17-02, an ordinance of the City of Marion, Kentucky amending chapter 92: nuisances by establishing subsection 92.09 junked, wrecked, or non operative mobile manufactured homes. After a brief discussion on the wording of this ordinance, the council decided to table it, until next month's meeting. All agreed.

The council was provided with a Marion employee handbook in their packet to review. The city administrator, Adam Ledford, said the handbook would be presented at the May's council meeting for consideration. He stated if the council approves the employee handbook it would have to be made into an ordinance which would require two readings for adoption. Once the employee handbook is approved, then he would have a city employee meeting to go over it.

The city administrator stated the City was still waiting on an update from KLC on the cost of the city employee's health insurance. He stated after getting those figures, he would be working on the final proposed budget. There will be a follow-up budget meeting scheduled to review the changes with the department heads and council subcommittee. He stated he would be asking the Mayor to approve a schedule that will include 1st Reading of the budget on May 15th, and a special called council meeting to approve the 2nd reading the week of May 22nd so that the city can meet the deadline and have it approved by the end of May.

Jenny Sosh, Senior Citizens Coordinator, was present requesting the City continue funding meals on wheels. She stated how important this program was to the community. The mayor thought the City should hold off until seeing what the citizens of Marion are being taxed on. Councilmember Dwight Sherer was against taking this program out of the budget, he stated the City needed to look into the numbers before making any decisions.

The city administrator provided a draft ordinance of the annual pay plan in their packets. He stated his proposal was to put a freeze on the employee salaries for a 2nd year while the City can commit to focusing on making the organization financially healthy. Councilmember Darrin Tabor proposed cutting the monthly salary of the council. Changing the council salary would not become effective until a new city council was elected in 2019.

The city attorney gave the first reading of ordinance 17-03, entitled, "An Ordinance of the City of Marion, Kentucky amending chapter 74: Traffic and Parking Schedules, Schedule V: maximum weight for certain streets, subsection B'. The council had many questions and concerns with this ordinance.

Mayor Jared Byford thought this might be a step in the right direction and force the state to do something. Councilmember Dwight Sherer stated he didn't like this ordinance at all. He said it would cause more problems than the city could imagine. The Utility Director, Brian Thomas, said it would take a half-million dollars to begin to fix this road. To properly fix the road, it would need to be taken down to its base and rebuilt. Councilmember's Donnie Arflack and D'Ann Sallin both stated there had to be a solution to these issues pertaining to this road. Councilmember D'Anna Sallin is concerned with the welfare of the public, particularly for children on buses and parents picking up and dropping off students at CCES.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes complemented Marion Tourism and Main Street on the good job of making Main Street look so nice.

Councilmember Donnie Arflack asked if all easements had been signed for the sewer project on Carlisle. There is one easement left to be signed.

Councilmember Donnie Arflack had a request from EMS to patch holes on Blackburn Street. The city administrator said he would have the utility director look into it.

Councilmember D'Anna Sallin stated 209 North College Street appeared to have a tire business and could cause some mosquitoes issues. A letter has been sent regarding the operation of a business and the code enforcement officer will check into the matter.

Councilmember Mike Byford said someone had requested that Industrial Drive be changed to John Newcom Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

JARED BYFORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK