

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
May 21, 2018**

The Marion City Council met in regular session May 21, 2018 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, Pam Enoch, Terri Hart, Brian Thomas, Ray O'Neal, Ronald Howton, and the city attorney. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phyllis Hardin was present at the council meeting to answer any questions or concerns the council had regarding Marion Tourism. Council member Donnie Arflack stated Michele Edwards, Marion Tourism Director, was in the process of getting a line item budget ready to give to the council upon their request.

Becky Tyner-Belt was present at the council meeting to address the council on her concerns about how the citizen's tax dollars are being spent. She stated she knew by her own experience the importance of dispatchers, police officers, and fire protection. She stated she was a proud tax-payer and wants her money used for safety, protection and commerce, not special interests, and was in favor of funding the airport.

Scott Tabor was present at the council meeting to address the council on his concerns about how citizen's tax dollars are being spent. He had concerns with discontinuing leaf collection this fall. He also had concerns with the state of city streets, and fire hydrants. He felt tax dollars needed to be spent toward leaf pick-up, and other city issues rather than subsidizing third party organizations.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Motion by Dwight Sherer, second by D'Anna Sallin to approve the minutes of the special called meeting May 14, 2018 minutes as submitted to council. All voted yes.

Mayor Jared Byford recognized Dayton Simpkins for being awarded the status of Eagle Scout. He stated Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Scouts of America.

The city attorney gave the second reading of ordinance 18-03, entitled, "An ordinance amending ordinance #17-05-The City of Marion, Kentucky annual budget for FY 07/01/17 through 06/30/18. Motion by Darrin Tabor, second by Donnie Arflack to adopt said ordinance with the vote being as follows: Phyllis Sykes yes, Darrin Tabor yes, Donnie Arflack yes, Dwight Sherer yes, D'Anna Sallin yes, and Mike Byford yes. Motion carried.

The city attorney gave the second reading of ordinance 18-04, entitled, "An ordinance adopting the Pay Plan for classified City Employees and non-elected officials for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, and adopting the pay plan for elected and appointed officials for the same fiscal year. Motion by Dwight Sherer, second by Mike Byford to adopt said ordinance with the vote being as follows: Phyllis Sykes yes, Darrin Tabor yes, Donnie Arflack yes, Dwight Sherer yes, D'Anna Sallin yes, and Mike Byford yes. Motion carried.

The city attorney gave the second reading of ordinance 18-05, entitled, "An ordinance adopting the City Marion, Kentucky annual budget for Fiscal Year 07/01/18 through 06/30/19 by estimating revenue and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of City government. Motion by Dwight Sherer, second by Mike Byford, then council discussed several concerns about the annual budget. Council member Phyllis Sykes and Council member Donnie Arlack stated they weren't against the funding of the two food programs, but they felt the city had to get their priorities in order. The cost of providing health insurance is one of the reasons for the need of cuts and new revenue. Family health plan contribution will be cut to 25 percent for city workers hired after December 31, 2018. That is down from the current 75 percent, but 100 percent of employee health benefits will still be paid for current and new public workers. The retirement is also going up 12 percent, that's an increase of more than \$29,000 in payments to the state's public employee pension system that has been forced by state legislature. Council member Darrin Tabor stated, every year the council passes the budget with no way to have new revenue coming in. He stated if the council attended to the fact that the city needed more money, then the city wouldn't have this issue. Council member Darrin Tabor proposed legalizing the sale of alcohol to increase the licensing and tax revenue, and help fund the police department. Council member Darrin Tabor suggested residents along Airport Road, as well as the Airport itself, be annexed into the City. He stated the sewer system on the road wasn't paying for itself. After a lengthy discussion on adopting the annual budget a vote was taken as follows: Phyllis Sykes no, Darrin Tabor yes, Donnie Arlack no, Dwight Sherer yes, D'Anna Sallin yes, and Mike Byford yes. Motion carried.

The city attorney gave the second reading of ordinance 18-06, entitled, "An ordinance of the City of Marion, Kentucky amending chapter 74, schedule VII of the code ordinances, by adding Section C temporary permits for commercial traffic on routes restricted under subsection B". Motion by Donnie Arlack, second by Phyllis Sykes to adopt said ordinance. After a brief discussion, Council member Donnie Arlack made a motion to amend the permit fee from \$250 to \$1500, second by Dwight Sherer with vote being as follows: Phyllis Sykes Yes, Darrin Tabor no, Donnie Arlack yes, Dwight Sherer yes, D'Anna Sallin no, and Mike Byford no. Mayor Jared Byford had to break the tie vote to pass the permit by voting yes. Motion carried.

Council member Mike Byford introduced ordinance 18-07 entitled, "An Ordinance of the City of Marion, Kentucky amending chapter 50, Water and Sewer System, section 50.02, rates and charges. Motion by council member Darrin Tabor to change section 1 E-6 to a \$65.00 increase with all five council members voting yes and council member Mike Byford wasn't present at the time for vote.

A letter from Wes Hunt was provided to the council in their packets regarding the Park Board requesting use of city property to install and operate an 18-hole Frisbee golf course. The city administrator, Adam Ledford, stated since the Victory Gardens already use the property, the board wanted the council support before making this request. Motion by Donnie Arlack, second by Mike Byford to allow this project. All voted yes. A copy of said letter is attached and made part of these minutes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council member Donnie Arlack inquired about when a map would be ready regarding repairing the fire hydrants. Utility Director, Brian Thomas, stated it would be around late June or July when the city does flushing.

Council member D'Anna Sallin inquired about the bridge repair at the park. The city administrator said he would ask Wes Hunt about it.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more items to come before the council, meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

JARED BYFORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK