

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
Monday, August 18, 2025, at 5:00PM**

The Marion City Council met in regular session on August 18, 2025, with Mayor Browning presiding. The council members present were Randy Dunn, Wanda Olson, Taylor Davis, Dwight Sherer, Bobby Belt and Nikki Meeks. City Employees present were Legal Service Officer Bart Frazer, City Administrator Diane Ford-Benningfield, City Treasurer Layten Croft, Police Chief West, Ray O'Neal, Jeff Black, Greg Tabor, Fire Chief Red Howton, and Code Enforcement Officer Tanya Scholtz-Byers.

General Government

Mayor Browning led a discussion on Lake George, Old City Lake and the on-going water crisis. She advised that Lead Water Operator, Jeff Black, had concerns with the water level of Lake George and the rapid evaporation of the lake. She advised that no one should be surprised by this, that the city has been having these issues during the drought months for decades. She expressed that she understood why everyone was frustrated and reiterated that this was a big deal for everyone, but it is a problem that cannot be solved overnight. Mayor advised that this will not be the last summer we face these issues with our current water crisis. She advised that the city has contacted Reveal Underground to secure their professional services to check the city for water leaks. Mayor Browning then addressed the issue at the Marion-Crittenden County Park where a frost-free hydrant had been leaking. She and Greg Tabor advised that someone keeps breaking the lock and stealing it. Mayor Browning then advised that the Crittenden-Livingston Water District had ever so graciously started selling Marion around 45,000 gallons of water each day. She advised that CLWD cannot at this time provide the city with more than that amount of water because they have leaks in their distribution system themselves. Mayor Browning advised that she declared a Local State of Emergency with part of that DOE being a Conservation Order. She advised that she has requested from the Kentucky Emergency Management bottled water for distribution to the Marion Water customers. Councilperson Taylor Davis asked if the Crittenden County Elementary School was on CLWD water service. Mayor Browning advised yes.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wanda Olson, seconded by Councilperson Randy Dunn to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on July 21, 2025. All council members voted yes; motion carried.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, read the summary for Ordinance #25-12 entitled, **"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 25-10 THE PAY PLAN FOR CLASSIFIED CITY EMPLOYEES AND NON-ELECTED OFFICIALS AND SETTING COMPENSATION FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, AND ADOPTING THE PAY PLAN FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS FOR THE SAME FISCAL YEAR"**. A motion was made by Councilperson Dwight Sherer, seconded by Councilperson Randy Dunn with no discussion on this matter. The ordinance was then called for a vote as follows:

Meeks – abstain	Davis - yes
Belt – yes	Olson - yes
Sherer – yes	Dunn – yes

It appearing the five Councilmembers voted for the adoption of this ordinance, and zero voted against with one abstaining, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, read the summary for Ordinance #25-13 entitled, **"AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO STREET-LEGAL SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES"**. A motion was made by Councilperson Dwight Sherer, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Belt. City Administrator, Diane Ford-Benningfield, advised that the ordinance that was included in the council's packet was an updated ordinance that included the adjustments they requested at the first reading. Councilperson Dwight Sherer asked Chief West if there would be any problems with the noise. Councilperson Sherer questioned if the restrictions were on the weekends as well. With the answer being no. Councilperson Davis asked where the Fiscal Court stood on this subject, Mr. Frazer advised that it was on their agenda for the first reading this week with restrictions on US 60 and US 641. A motion was made by Dwight Sherer to restrict Country Club Drive, Industrial Drive, Autumn Lane, West Gum Street, West Bellville Street and North and South Main Streets during the hours of 7:30am-9:30am and 3:00pm-4:30pm, every day of the week. Councilperson Nikki Meeks seconded the motion with the vote as follows:

Dunn – yes	Sherer - yes
Olson – yes	Belt - yes
Davis – yes	Meeks – yes

All members voting yes, that motion was passed unanimously. The council then voted on Ordinance 25-13 as amended with the vote as follows:

Meeks – yes	Davis - no
Belt – yes	Olson - yes
Sherer – yes	Dunn – yes

It appearing that five council members voted for the adoption of this ordinance, and one voted against with zero abstaining, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, read the summary for Ordinance #25-14 entitled, **"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING §71.65 GOLF CART REGULATIONS"**. A motion was made by Councilperson Taylor Davis, seconded by Councilperson Wanda Olson with no discussion and a vote as follows:

Dunn – yes	Sherer - yes
Olson – yes	Belt - yes
Davis – yes	Meeks – yes

It appearing that six council members voted for the adoption of this ordinance, and zero voted against, with zero abstaining, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, read Resolution 25-06 entitled, **"A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARION, FOR FILING OF A FUNDING APPLICATION AND APPOINTING APPROPRIATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AND SUCCESSORS-IN-TITLE AS OFFICIAL PROGRAM PROJECT"**. A motion was made by Councilperson Bobby Belt, seconded by Wanda Olson. All council members voted yes, unanimously.

Mayor Browning then recommended to the council that Charlie Day with First United Bank serve as her appointment to the Crittenden County Chamber replacing Kayla Maxfield's vacated seat. A motion was made by Councilperson Olson to approve the mayor's appointment, seconded by Councilperson Dunn. All councilmembers voted yes; motion carried.

Code Enforcement Officer, Tanya Scholtz then gave her monthly update to the council. She advised there are currently fifty-nine open cases with code enforcement issues with ten of those being new. She has resolved forty-seven cases and currently has eleven citations out. She advised at her last Code Enforcement Meeting the board mentioned wanting to increase fine costs.

Other Business

Councilmember Randy Dunn requested an update on blacktopping. Diane Ford-Benningfield advised Rogers Group said they would hopefully begin their work in mid-September.

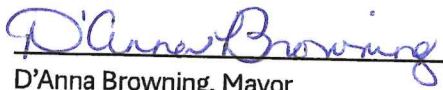
Councilmember Wanda Olson advised she had mostly code enforcement questions that were answered by Tanya earlier this date.

Councilmember Bobby Belt advised the intersection at Gum and Main is a much bigger concern than he originally thought. Mayor Browning advised that she is hopeful when the state opens Country Club Drive and Industrial Drive to semi traffic that they will also move the stopper marks forward for more visibility at Gum and Main.

Mayor Browning advised that the county brush pile could be reopened but the state would require a fence and for it to be manned during operating hours. She advised the maintenance crew worked hard with the residents of Hickory Hills to address their flooding issues. She publicly thanked Maintenance Supervisor, Greg Tabor, for his hard work.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Dunn to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:41PM.


D'Anna Browning, Mayor


ATTEST: Layten Croft, Asst. City Clerk,
City Treasurer