

Meeting of the Marion City Council

Monday, September 18, 2024, at 5:00PM

The Marion City Council met in regular session on September 18, 2024, with Mayor Browning presiding. The council members present were Wanda Olson, Taylor Davis, Dwight Sherer, Bobby Belt, Michael Byford. Absent was Randy Dunn. City employees present were Diane Ford-Benningfield, Bart Frazer, Layten Croft, Cortny Cosby, Chief West, Greg Tabor and Jeff Black. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

General Government

Athena Hayes, Crittenden County Jailor approached the Mayor and Council with a community outreach program for local non-profit businesses. Athena explained inmates would be going above and beyond standard maintenance practice by cleaning up main street, painting, etc. Inmates will be accompanied by a Deputy, will not be using any heavy equipment and cannot enter private property. Athena invited the city to participate in this program, if accepted the city will be required to provide materials such as paint brushes, paint, pressure washer etc. Mayor Browning stated this would be warmly welcomed and could possibly tie into the Marion Kind project.

Motion by Councilwoman Wanda, seconded Bobby Belt to approve the minutes from regular meeting August 19, 2024. All present council members voted yes; motion carried.

Motion by councilman Dwight Sherer, seconded by Taylor Davis to approve the minutes from September 5, 2024. All present council members voted yes; motion carried.

Legal Service Officer, Bart Frazer, then gave a summary of the second reading of Ordinance #24-05 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 150 OF THE MARION CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADOPT THE 2021 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND AMEND OTHER PROVISIONS TO CONFORM WITH THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES". Dwight Sherer expressed section 302.8 may be too intrusive on homeowners. He advised not many residents have the area to store vehicles, and several participate in the derby. Bobby Belt suggested amending section 302.8 to just before the exception. Motion by Dwight Sherer to amend Ordinance 24-05, seconded by Michael Byford. All present council members voted yes; motion carried. A motion was then made by Mike Byford to adopt the ordinance as amended with Bobby Belt seconding his motion. All present members voted yes; motion carried.

Mr. Tim Thomas with Clearview Consulting then approached the council and gave him a brief update on Lake George. Mr. Thomas advised there was a minor interruption due to the rain but felt confident that the following day they would be able to continue business. Mr. Thomas mentioned what he said would be a minor issue, a property line was not properly marked. He advised the property owner has been very cooperative, and willing to work with the city during this time. Mr. Thomas advised that the city should have some type of easement recorded. Councilman Dwight Sherer asked if the Old City Lake was full, with all the rain we have recently had. Mr. Thomas responded that the water level at Lake George is about a foot lower than the breach point at this time. Water Plant supervisor, Jeff Black, advised the water was around two inches below the Old City Lake spillway and at this time has not had to use the pump to transfer water from Lake George.

Other Business

Mayor Browning asked about the status of the new Wastewater Plant. Greg Tabor responded that it was up and running as expected and that the contractors were still working to complete their "punch list".

Councilman Mike Byford advised he had a report of high grass at Adam St and Old Morganfield Rd.

Mayor Browning advised that a letter needed to be sent to the owner of the Royal Inn to have them mow their lawn within seven (7) days.

Councilman Bobby Belt wanted to thank City Maintenance for limb clean up because of storm damage.

Mayor Browning advised the burn ban is still in effect.

Councilman Dwight Sherer requested to know if we ever sent anyone to Briarwood Dr. to evaluate the deteriorating road. Diane follows with an update explaining all parties must assess the situation before proceeding.

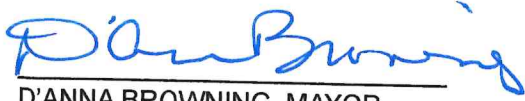
Bart Frazer mentioned Crittenden Livingston Water Districts new contract with Clearview Consulting, which would eliminate the current contract with CCEDC and Clearview consulting. CLWD is requesting the City of Marion pay half of the costs of the monthly submitted invoices. Mike Byford received clarification on the payment of these invoices, Bart Frazer advised the city up to this point has paid 100% of the costs. A motion was made by Mike Byford to reimburse CLWD one half of the monthly invoice submitted by Clearview Consulting. Second, by Wanda Olson. All present council members voted yes; motion carried.

Mayor Browning mentioned that the leaf collection is currently being discussed and we are dividing the city into quadrants.

Mayor Browning advised that she closes City Hall on October 31, 2024 at 3:00pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM.


D'ANNA BROWNING, MAYOR
CLERK


ATTEST: LAYTEN CROFT, ASST.CITY