

**Meeting of the Marion City Council**  
**Monday, February 16, 2026, at 5:00 PM**

The Marion City Council met in regular session on February 16, 2026, at 5:00 PM with Mayor Browning presiding. Council Members present were as follows: Randy Dunn, Wanda Olson, Taylor Davis, Dwight Sherer, Bobby Belt and Cutter Singleton. City Employees present were as follows: Chief Bobby West, Ray O'Neal, Adam Ledford, Layten Croft, Cortny Cosby, Anna Baker, Greg Tabor, Jeff Black, Barbara Browning, Tanya Byers and Legal Service Officer Bart Frazer.

Mayor Browning announced the passing of Bonita Hatfield and spoke about her dedication to the city.

**Public Comments**

Cynthia Pendley advised her yard needed to be fixed from previous meter installation done by the contractors. Adam Ledford advised he was told the crew would be back in the spring to finish up the project and advised Cynthia to leave her name and number for a more precise time, when that becomes available.

Mindy Withrow expressed concerns regarding Ordinance #92 and her outside display at Marion & Company. Mayor Browning advised that the ordinance was generally for homeowners and junked vehicles. Wanda Olson stated she had several questions about the ordinance as well. Adam stated with the new year the city plans to ramp up enforcement, educate the public and possibly make modifications in the process. Nathan Ratley asked if there would be a process in place to warn the owner. Mayor Browning advised there would be due process. Ric Carder requested the definitions of nuisance. Bart Frazer provided a printout to Ric.

**General Government**

A motion was made by Wanda Olson, seconded by Randy Dunn to approve the minutes from the regular meeting December 15, 2025. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

The following appointments were confirmed by Mayor Browning:

- Chief Bobby West, Ray O'Neal and Donnie Arflack to the 911 Board
- Chris Evans, Shawn Holeman and Misty Porter to the City/ County Park Board
- Jim Johnson, Paul Gillies and Dan Rubino to the City/ County Airport Commission
- Ray Agent to the Marion Planning and Zoning Commission
- Mike Harris to the Marion Code Enforcement Board

A Motion was made by Bobby Belt, seconded by Taylor Davis to approve the appointments above. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

Adam Ledford began a discussion on the 10-year strategic plan and stated he will be improving standards. Adam Ledford explained that the city was knocked on audits and grant applications because of failure to have plans in place, adding that the last plan was created in 2017, and should have been every 5 years.

Adam Ledford began a discussion on 5-year strategic plans, and stated that was the absolute standard to have. Adam Ledford explained a generic 5-year plan. Cutter stated that on his recent trip to Frankfort they were very adamant about a 5-year strategic plan.

Adam Ledford began a subcommittee proposal, explaining that it was a way for the council to be more involved. Adam Ledford used Wanda Olson as an example, she is the Marion Code Enforcement Board liaison.

Adam Ledford went over the proposed budget schedule that was included in the packet, also available for the public online.

Adam Ledford discussed the visit from Ben Cook, our representative of KLC. Adam Ledford stated during Ben's visit he presented information that would have been provided to the previous city administrator, none of which had been completed. Adam explained several actions he has taken to help save on insurance premiums such as creating a safety committee requiring employees to watch safe driving videos. Adam also gave a shout out to Anna Baker for submitting her first draft of the employee manual rewrite, this will eventually come before the council. Mayor Browning also gave a shout out to Anna Baker for doing a great job.

Bart Frazer provided the first reading of ORDINANCE NO 26-02, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, AMENDING CHAPTER 35: PERSONNEL POLICIES TO AMEND THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY TO ADD CYBERSECURITY. Adam explained this was a national standard to ensure staff can actively respond to a cybersecurity threat, a partial copy was provided intentionally, the full copy is confidential but can be made available to council by requesting a meeting to view the document. Cutter asked if the process had been tested. Adam responded

yes, two hours after it was established and added that it was a very minor threat and no information was breached. Mayor Browning also confirmed no customer information was breached.

Tanya Byers briefly discussed Ordinance #92 and then began her update; she mentioned that she was in touch with Cooper's Towing. Tanya Byers stated she was working with Bart Frazer on a Memorandum of Agreement. Tanya Byers advised the process would consist of a notice, then citation including stickers for windshields and made it clear that citizens would have plenty of time to remedy the situation. Wanda Olson asked if the Ordinance would be tweaked. Cutter Singleton asked when this can be put into place. Adam Ledford advised the process could take up to two months. Mayor Browning advised this was regarding junked vehicles that have become a fixture in several yards, making it unfair to neighbors.

Adam Ledford began a slideshow review of the city financial status through mid-fiscal year 2025-2026 and provided a handout. The review focused on minor and serious corrective actions necessary to resolve important matters. Adam Ledford noted a projected loss in sewer utility revenues to operating & maintenance expenses between \$290,000 and \$310,000. Adam Ledford advised he pulled the minutes and the loss was directly related to an error made by former administration and added keeping a monthly budget would have caught the error much sooner. Mayor Browning advised it was discovered that the \$19,000,000 Wastewater Treatment Plant was without insurance from the time the city took possession in 2023 until 2025 when lightning struck the building, the lack of insurance was due to errors made by former administration. Mayor Browning advised the Marion Police Department also had a close call with their fleet insurance due to errors made by former administration but was corrected before a lapse in coverage occurred. Mayor Browning advised they were correcting several errors in last year's budget.

Bart Frazer provided the first reading of ORDINANCE NO 26-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #25-09 ADOPTING THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 07/01/2025 THROUGH 06/30/2026 BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT. Bart Frazier stated copies were available on the podium.

Bart Frazer provided a reading of RESOLUTION NO. 25-07 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR WATER. Bart Frazer stated the price is set by the Public Service Commission. A motion was made by Taylor Davis, seconded by Dwight Sherer to approve RESOLUTION NO. 25-07 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARION, KENTUCKY, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CRITTENDEN-LIVINGSTON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR WATER. Roll Call: Randy Dunn, yes; Wanda Olson, yes; Taylor Davis, yes; Dwight Sherer, yes; Bobby Belt, yes; Cutter Singleton, yes. All present members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cutter Singleton, seconded by Randy Dunn for the council to enter a closed session at 6:20 PM. A motion was made by Bobby Belt, seconded by Dwight Sherer to exit the closed session at 6:40 PM. All present members voted yes. Motion Carried. No action was announced at this time.

Adam Ledford recognized Greg Tabor and Jeff Black for their dedication to two different issues.

Mayor Browning praised the water department for holding our own during the snow event. Mayor Browning also recognized Adam Ledford for making sure the crews were warm and fed while working during the snow event.

Adam Ledford recognized Darlene Abell for bringing the maintenance crew handmade hats to keep them warm during the snow removal. Adam Ledford also recognized the maintenance team for their dedication to the snow removal.

Mayor Browning stated the inmates were very valuable but not permitted to do work on private property such as clearing sidewalks.

### **Other Business**

Wanda Olson asked who takes care of the fans at the Farmers Market. Adam Ledford advised Michelle Edwards from Tourism. Wanda Olson asked about the water leak on W Bellville in front of Gilbert's Funeral Home. Adam Ledford advised the leak would be repaired on Wednesday. Wanda Olson asked if the new owners of the home on Chapel Hill would be allowed to keep horses. Tanya Byers advised it was not zoned agricultural; they may not keep horses. Wanda Olson asked about replacing the fire hydrants that were previously mentioned. Mayor Browning advised we were waiting until the lines were replaced and added there were 6 or 7 that were not operating.

Mayor Browning advised it was pothole season, and asked Greg Tabor if he has what he needed for the season. Greg Tabor stated he will have to order more supplies. Mayor Browning asked that the community notify City Hall with related complaints. Mayor Browning mentioned the decorative lamps in front of Farmers Bank and explained how hard it has been to find a replacement due to being discontinued. Mayor Browning advised the veteran banners were handed over to the VFW, to be displayed. Mayor Browning announced that Monday is Marion's 182<sup>nd</sup> birthday and invited the public to come celebrate with a cake donated by Sue Ledford. Mayor Browning also announced that Marion will celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday this June with a big event including a parade.

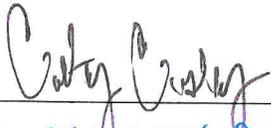
Cutter Singleton also mentioned the leak on W Bellville in front of Gilbert's Funeral Home and one on W Central Ave. Cutter Singleton mentioned the work that needs to be done in Kathy Arflack's yard. Cutter Singleton bragged on the new fire truck being used for five runs just since it was purchased, and the new decals. Dwight Sherer stated Gary Cruce purchased the decals.

Adam Ledford recognized Cutter Singleton for his help removing snow.

Wanda Olson mentioned a leak at Creekside Apartments to Greg Tabor.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion was made by Wanda Olson, seconded by Randy Dunn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Attest: City Clerk, Cortny Cosby



Mayor, D'Anna Browning