

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARION, ARKANSAS

The Council of the City of Marion, Arkansas, met in regular session Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Marion City Hall.

Present:	Frank A. Fogleman	Mayor
	Kelly O'Neal	Councilman (1-1)
	David Bigger	Councilman (1-2)
	Cliff Wood	Councilman (2-1)
	Jim Spence	Councilman (2-2)
	Bryan Jackson	Councilman (3-1)
	Don Hanks	Councilman (3-2)
	James Hale III	City Attorney
	Patty James	City Clerk
Others		
Present:	Ed Cain	City Planning Consultant
	Jim Shempert	Water Superintendent
	Gordon Floyd	Streets and Sanitation
	Jerry Kelley	Building Inspector
	Dennis Burns	Asst. Police Chief
	Woody Wheelless	Fire Chief
Absent:	Andy Rawls	Parks Superintendent
	Gary Kelley	Police Chief
	David W. Rikard	City Treasurer

I.

Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hanks, to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2017, Council meeting. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

II.

Citizens' Concerns: James Hudson of 152 Morningside Drive, addressed the Council again concerning his desire to install a pole and Sky Cop camera on his property. His desire was for a letter of approval from the City. The Council advised Mr. Hudson that he would not be violating any City

ordinance by putting a pole and Sky Cop camera on his personal property, and suggested that he would need to check to see if it violated any governances in his subdivision.

III.

Planning Commission: Ed Cain reported that the Planning Commission/ Board of Adjustment met on May 2, 2017. The Board of Adjustment granted a variance from the requirements of Article V, Section 4 of the Marion Zoning Ordinance, as amended by City Ordinance No. 226. The said variance pertains to, and is limited to, three tower signs in Angelo's Grove Subdivision and will allow (1) off-site advertisement on the tower signs, and (2) an increase in the allowable sign height from 65 feet to 120 feet. The variance was approved by a 5 to 2 roll-call vote of the Board of adjustment. The Planning Commission recommended to the Marion City Council for approval of an amendment to City Ordinance No. 309 that, under certain conditions, will allow off-site advertising on integrated sign structures visible from a designated scenic corridor. This motion passed by unanimous vote of the Commission. There is an agenda for the June 6th meeting.

Water and Sewer: Mayor Fogleman advised that the bids had come back for sewer pump station improvements for the Neely St., Sartin Road, and Bayou Vista Stations. During the 4/24/17, Water and Sewer Committee meeting, conversation developed concerning the possibility of building a different pump station and not upgrading some pumps as originally planned. Jack Bond advised that the City has 75 days to accept these bids. Meanwhile, he is going to investigate the cost of a new pump station at College Blvd and Highway 64 and get back with the Water and Sewer Committee with his findings.

Parks and Recreation: None

Streets and Drainage: Gordon Floyd reported that their asphalt roller is broken and his department is still renting one. His department is laying a lot of asphalt around the city. Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to amend this year's budget that provided for a sweeper and re-allocate the \$25,000.00 toward the purchase of a roller and authorize up to \$61,000.00 to purchase a new roller. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Sanitation: Councilman Jackson reported that the Sanitation Committee had met and discussed purchasing seven GPS units for the garbage trucks and mosquito trucks. Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by

Councilman Hanks, to authorize the purchase of the seven GPS units at \$75.00 per unit along with the \$25.00 per unit monthly fee. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Building Inspector: Jerry Kelley reported 1 new house permit, 0 commercial permits, and 17 miscellaneous permits were issued for May. That brings year to date totals to 12 new house permits, 3 commercial permits, and 65 miscellaneous permits.

Fire and Police: Councilman O'Neal reported the Fire and Police Committee had a meeting this past month to discuss the bond money. The committee also advertised for Statements of Qualifications of architectural services for consideration of a design build plan for the Police Department and the Fire Department. Qualification statements are due May 31, 2017.

IV.

Old Business: None

V.

New Business: None

VI.

Resolutions and Ordinances: Fogleman announced that a proposed amendment to Ordinance 309 has been tabled at the request of the party requesting consideration of the amendment. The proposed ordinance is being reworded by J.C. Hale, III, City Attorney, the requesting party and the requesting party's attorney. The proposed ordinance will likely be on the June Council Agenda.

VII.

Financial Report: Via memo message to the Council, Treasurer Rikard reported that the financials have been previously distributed to the Council. Rikard noted that the sales tax revenue collections for April are less than budget by 2.5% for the City and 5.2% for the County. The year-to-date sales tax collections are better than budget by 10.9% for the City portion and worse than budget by 0.9% for the County portion. The May sales tax numbers have not yet been released. Year-to-date general revenues are better than budgeted revenues by approximately \$109,000 and year-to-date general expenditures are worse than budget by approximately \$120,000.

VIII.

Departmental Reports:

Ed Cain had nothing further to report.

Gordon Floyd had nothing further to report.

Jim Shempert had nothing further to report.

Jerry Kelley had nothing further to report.

Dennis Burns, Asst. Police Chief had nothing further to report.

Chief Wheelless reported that he would like an ordinance passed requiring fire department access to the back of structures for fire rescue at the commercial development known as Angelo's Grove Subdivision.

There being no further business to come before the Council and upon proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk

