

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, June 23, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at Marion City Hall.

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)
Sherry Holliman	Councilwoman (3-2)
James C. Hale III	City Attorney
David W. Rikard	City Treasurer
Patty James	City Clerk

I.

Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Holliman, to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2020, Council meeting. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

II.

Citizens' Concerns: Tom Greene of 182 N. George Circle, and Ms. Hammett addressed the Council considering a drainage problem in their back yards. Mr. Greene advised that residents on North George Circle and Boston Cove (13 residents) are experiencing backyard drainage issues after it rains. Mr. Greene presented the Council with a petition from the residents of these properties affected by the issue, requesting that the City fix the problem. Mayor Fogleman advised that he and Gordon Floyd have inspected the area. The area is private property and not in the City's capacity to handle the problem. Councilman Wood advised that the Council needs to contact the developer and engineer to see if the plans were followed and see what a possible solution may be.

fIII.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission met on June 2, 2020. The Planning Commission members first convened as the Marion Board of Adjustment and granted a front yard setback variance of 16 feet 10 inches for the proposed gymnasium on the Herbert Carter Global Communities campus of the Marion School District.

At the conclusion of the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Commission members convened as the Marion Planning Commission and approved a revised final plat for The Reserve Subdivision. Revisions to the final plat approved by the Planning Commission on September 3, 2019, consisted of adding a utility easement for the purpose of looping a water main that will serve a cove, adding a drainage easement for the purpose of providing local drainage, and providing an easement for centralized mailboxes. Information from current FEMA Flood Insurance mapping was also noted on the revised final plat. There were no revisions to the final plat approved on September 3, 2019, regarding number of lots, size of lots or street layout.

The Planning Commission approved site plan and grading/drainage plan for Cross Community Church as well as reviewed centralized mailbox locations for Fifth Addition Marion Lake Estates and Sixth Addition Rustling Oaks Subdivision.

There is no agenda for the July 7, 2020, Planning Commission meeting.

Water and Sewer: No Report.

Parks and Recreation: No Report.

Streets and Drainage: No Report.

Sanitation: There will no trash pickup on Friday, July 3, 2020, due to the Independence Day Holiday.

Building Inspector: There were 4 new home permits, 1 commercial permit and 33 miscellaneous permits issued for the month of June. That brings year-to-date totals to 23 new home permits, 4 commercial permits and 180 miscellaneous permits.

Fire and Police: Councilman O'Neal reported that the Police Department had two employees retire at the end of May. Also, there will be an Executive Session tonight to discuss a first-responder employee.

IV.

Old Business: Crisp Contractors is the contractor chosen by ArDot, to install the overlay work on Block Street and Judge Smith Drive. There is no known start date as of this meeting.

Angelo's Grove replat is proceeding, the plats have been signed and Mr. Farrell has picked them up. It is unknown at this time as to whether or not Mr. Farrell has recorded the plats.

The deed transferring the title to the gym on Military Road to the City has been completed and signed by the Marion School District and was recorded on June 8, 2020. John Fogleman has been elected as the President of the Sultana Historical Preservation Society. He is going to prepare a draft agreement to present to the Council addressing what each party's responsibility will be for the Sultana Museum.

The Connie Hale property paperwork is proceeding.

Councilman Jackson made a request to have the Overpass Project put on the agenda as an ongoing item. The services for right of way acquisition project have been scored and approved. Utilities Services scored the highest.

V.

New Business: Councilman Bigger made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to accept the plans and offers from ArDot for the Military Road properties. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

VI.

Resolutions and Ordinances: None

VII.

Financial Report: Treasurer Rikard reported that the May financials have been previously distributed to the Council. Rikard pointed out that sales tax revenue collections for June have not yet been published. Year-to-date

collections through May are better than budget by 9.8% for the City portion and better by 10.5% for the County portion. Rikard warned that since sales tax receipts for the City lag actual sales, we are likely to see a decline in the future months due to the impacts of closures related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Rikard further pointed out that overall general fund revenue collections through May were better than budget by approximately \$98,000, but the property tax collections are worse than budget by approximately \$54,000. General fund expenditures were better than budget by approximately \$12,000. Rikard then opened the floor for questions.

VIII.

Departmental Reports: No Report.

Councilman Wood made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to suspend the meeting at 8:14 p.m. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

At 8:49 p.m. following the Executive Committee meeting, Councilman Bigger made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to reconvene the Council meeting. Following discussion, Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Bigger, to approve a promotion and raise for the employee that was the subject of the Executive Session. On a voice vote, 5 yeas and 1 nay were recorded. The motion passed.

As there was no other business to come before the Council and upon proper motion, by Councilman O'Neal, and seconded by Councilman Jackson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk