

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, July 28, 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 June 23, 2020, Council meeting. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

II.

Johnnye Wisniewski of Parsons Transportation Group gave the Council an update on the Overpass Project. She informed the Council that all the plans have been submitted to ArDot, and ArDot has approved the plans 100 percent; this includes the right-of-way plans, the bridge plans, and the road plans.

III.

Committee Reports: The Planning Commission met on July 7, 2020. The Planning Commission approved a replat of a Lot 2, Section 18, River Trace Subdivision. The Planning Commission also approved a revised site, grading, and drainage plan for Cross Community Church, contingent on review and approval of the City's Consulting Engineer.

There is an agenda for the August 4, 2020, Planning Commission meeting.

Parks and Recreation: No Report.

Streets and Drainage: The Streets and Drainage Committee met on July 21, 2020, concerning the drainage problem on North George Circle. The Committee agreed the City will assist in resolving the issue. Gordon Floyd has assessed the problem and he recommends using some small equipment and to make a drainage swale that would take care of the water drainage.

Sanitation: This item will be covered under New Business.

Building Inspector: No Report.

Fire and Police: Councilman O'Neal reported that the Rescue Truck is scheduled to arrive next month. Per Mayor Fogleman, the insurance adjuster is awaiting the info from Chief Wheelless before replacing the tools lost in the accident earlier this spring.

IV.

Old Business: The overlay work being done on Block Street and Judge Smith is a City project, but ArDot is overseeing the project. The contractor doing the work is Crisp Contractors. There has been an issue with completing the project. The asphalt was not as thick as originally thought, therefore, too much milling was done in some places. There will need to be some repairs done in those places to proceed and complete the project. At this time, it is unclear when the contractor will be back to finish the work.

V.

New Business: Jack Bond of Bond Engineers displayed to the Council a map of a proposed subdivision to be called Hunter's Pointe Subdivision. The subdivision, being developed by Jamie Pugh will begin at the north end of Delta Acres Third Addition and extent north to the end of Bell Road. The subdivision will consist of 145 acres. Of the 213 lots, the majority will be R1 ½ acre lots and require a minimum 2200 heated square feet per residence. There will be 25 R2 Lots dimensioned 75 x 150 feet per lot and a minimum heated square footage of 1800 square feet per residence. Mayor Fogleman advised the Hunter's Pointe Subdivision may be considered for annexation by the Council at a later date.

Mayor Fogleman went over the solar energy proposal from Entergy. This was for informational purposes only with no decision being made at this

time. According to the solar energy proposal, there would be a yearly savings of \$65,000.00 to the City by investing in solar energy. To participate in the solar program would require a commitment of eighteen years. Mayor Fogleman advised he would set up a meeting with Entergy to go over the proposal if the Council was inclined to consider solar energy.

AT&T has made a request to update their antenna equipment on the Patriot water tank. Per Mayor Fogleman, Jerome Alford of Bond Engineers, advised that any painting or sand blasting of the water tank would cost an additional \$15,000.00 for paint contractors to work around the AT&T antenna equipment. Councilman Bigger made a motion, seconded by Councilman O'Neal, to approve the request from AT&T, and authorize Mayor Fogleman to sign the necessary paperwork. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Marion Lake Estates passed the infrastructure inspection. After the inspection, the contractor sent his crew back to the subdivision to press up the shoulders and ditch; in the process of doing this, they damaged the asphalt. After the damage, Gordon Floyd reported he withdrew initial approval of the street and the street cannot be accepted until corrected. The developer has made a request through Jack Bond, that the infrastructure be accepted and the two-year warranty not begin until the street is fixed to Gordon Floyd's satisfaction. Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to conditionally approve the infrastructure upon Gordon Floyd's acceptance of the repairs to the street. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jackson, to accept the quote for \$244,147.99, from River City Hydraulics for a Freightliner Automated Garbage Truck, with a buy back price of \$155,000.00 and a two year service agreement. The motion included a request that Mr. Rikard secure the most favorable financing terms he (Rikard) could find and that the necessary parties be authorized to sign the necessary paperwork to complete the acquisition of and financing of the new automated garbage truck. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

## VI.

Resolutions and Ordinances: Councilman O'Neal made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to approve the continuation of the personal and real property tax mileage rate of 5 mills for calendar year 2021. All Council

members present voted in favor of the motion. The Resolution was numbered 2020-05

VII.

Financial Report: Treasurer Rikard reported that the 2019 audited financials were distributed at the beginning of the Council meeting. He also reported that the June financials have been previously distributed to the Council. Rikard pointed out that sales tax revenue collections for June were better than budgeted by 0.5% for the City portion and 3.3% for the County portions. The July sales tax numbers came out Friday and the City portion is better than budget by 12.8% and the County portion is better than budget by 12.0%. Year-to-date collections through July are better than budget by 8.8% for the City portion and better by 9.6% for the County portion. Rikard pointed out that overall general fund revenue collections through June were better than budget by approximately \$182,000, but the property tax collections are worse than budget by approximately \$76,000. General fund expenditures were worse than budget by approximately \$164,000. Rikard then informed the Council that the two new knuckle boom trucks were financed by First National Bank of Eastern Arkansas at a 2% interest rate. Rikard then opened the floor for questions.

VIII.

Departmental Reports: No Reports.

Mayor Fogleman reported he has spoken to department heads and has advised them there will be no raises in July, 2020. He will meet with each department head and advise them of their budgeted allocation for raises, in the event raises can be given later this year.

There being no further business to come before the Council and upon proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk