

**Meeting of the Marion City Council
June 19, 2017**

The Marion City Council met in regular session June 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Jared Byford presiding. Council members present were: Phyllis Sykes, Darrin Tabor, Donnie Arflack, Dwight Sherer, D'Anna Sallin, and Mike Byford. City employees in attendance were as follows: Adam Ledford, Melinda Gipson, Pam Enoch, Terri Hart, Ronald Howton, and Heath Martin. A public sign-in sheet is attached and made part of these minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kory Wheeler was present at the meeting concerning the City/County Park. She stated she had served on the park board for the past 15 years and would be resigning from the board after tonight's council meeting. Kory stated vice chairman, Chris Evans had already resigned from the board. She stated that the two had contributed countless hours and money from their own resources to keep the park running. She suggested that with all the park's issues, there needed to be maintenance personnel to maintain the park. Councilmember Darrin Tabor stated the city wasn't financially able to hire anyone. The city administrator said the responsibility of the park wasn't just a city issue. Both the city and county appoints three members to the unpaid board. After a lengthy discussion, it was suggested getting all organizations together for one meeting to discuss a plan for the park. List of appointments would be needed to see who was on the City/County Park Board.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Motion by Phyllis Sykes, second by D'Anna Sallin to approve the minutes of May 15, 2017 meeting and to approve same as submitted to council. All voted yes.

Motion by Donnie Arflack, second by Phyllis Sykes to approve the minutes of special called meeting on May 23, 2017 and to approve same as submitted to council. All voted yes.

The city administrator, Adam Ledford, gave the second reading of ordinance 17-06, entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 16-09-The City of Marion, Kentucky Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 07/01/16 through 06/30/2017. Motion by Dwight Sherer, second by Mike Byford to adopt said ordinance with the vote being as follows: Phyllis Sykes yes, Darrin Tabor yes, Donnie Arflack yes, Dwight Sherer yes, D'Anna Sallin yes, and Mike Byford yes. Motion carried.

A bad debt list was given to the council for approval to write-off debts. This is done as an accounting measure. The city will strive to collect debts if anyone wants to be placed back on service. Motion by Donnie Arflack, second by Mike Byford to write-off bad debts as listed. A copy of the bad debt list is attached and made part of these minutes. All voted yes.

The city administrator updated the council on the issue related to ATT and E911. Council had a memo in last month's packet saying that during the 3rd quarter of this fiscal year the billing for the City's T-line for E911 had changed from roughly \$400 monthly to over \$4,000 monthly. He stated the state contract was up, and he explained why this occurred and how it would be resolved.

The city administrator announced on July 13, at 5:00 p.m., the City would conduct a goal setting session. This event is designed to be the first step in developing a 5-year capital improvement plan. He stated the survey results would be used to do an initial SWAT analysis during the goal setting session. This data would then be discussed and incorporated into a final review by the council of a priority list for local action items. The priority list would then aid in developing a capital plan. He said the Marion Fire Department would be hosting the meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes complimented the City/County Park looking so nice when she was there helping with a fundraiser.

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes inquired about smoking at the park.

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes inquired about what happens to residents that don't keep yards mowed. Terri Hart, code enforcement officer, stated liens were placed on the property or they were cited.

Councilmember Phyllis Sykes said she had several compliments from people regarding the sewer project on West Carlisle Street.

Councilmember Darrin Tabor stated the county was going to have to step-up and help with City/County Park.

Councilmember Darrin Tabor asked if there was a separate account set aside for the fire station loan payment. It is put in a separate saving account named General Projects Account.

Councilmember Donnie Arflack still questioned the issues with Country Club Drive. The city administrator stated the council had tabled this ordinance at last month's council meeting. He stated it could take 18, 24, to 36 months to even transfer ownership. Officer Heath Martin suggested talking to Rogers Group Inc. and seeing what could be done. He stated they might be willing to help out.

Councilmember Dwight Sherer wanted to make sure the firework vendors in Marion had paid their permits.

Councilmember D'Anna Sallin wants something done about landlords who habitually rent properties that cause health and safety issues to tenants, as well as making the neighborhoods look bad. She cited different rental instances that were having these issues. She said she would like the council to change or create local laws to better challenge landlords and even mandate inspections of properties between tenants. Councilmember Darrin Tabor, who is also a real estate agent and owner of rental properties, said in most instances, the landlords hands are tied with problem renters who destroy homes. He stated different instances that he had with his renters, one being that he was escorted off his property by the city's chief of police. The city administrator stated a municipality's code enforcement is limited to what can be seen from outside the home. He stated the city does contract with a home inspector; this issue would open up several legal issues. He said the best place to start with this issue was by the city updating its comprehensive plan and adjusting its zoning map to restrict any new placement of manufactured housing units to mobile home parks.

Councilmember Mike Byford asked if all the houses were hooked up to new sewer line on West Carlisle Street. The city administrator stated yes they were hooked up.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

JARED BYFORD, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAM ENOCH, CITY CLERK