

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, April 25, 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
	David W. Rikard	City Treasurer
	Patty James	City Clerk

Others

Present:	Ed Cain	City Planning Consultant
	Jim Shempert	Water Superintendent
	Gordon Floyd	Streets and Sanitation
	Andy Rawls	Parks Superintendent
	Jerry Kelley	Building Inspector
	Gary Kelley	Police Chief
	Woody Wheelless	Fire Chief

I.

Councilman Jackson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hanks, to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2017, Council meeting. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

II.

Citizens' Concerns: None

III.

Planning Commission: Ed Cain reported that the Planning Commission met on April 4, 2017. An interim site plan was approved for an addition to Tackers Shake Shack. The Commission reviewed and approved site plans

for a Marriott Fairfield Inn & Suites motel on Parcel 20 of Angelo's Grove Subdivision, subject to approval of the Marion Fire Chief. Other items that were considered included approval with contingencies of a site plan for a body shop and auto sales lot at 3535 I-55 West Frontage Road (vacant lot north of Exxon convenience store which once was a Shell Super Stop). There is an agenda for the May 2, 2017 meeting.

Water and Sewer: Mayor Fogleman reported that the Water and Sewer Committee had met on April 24, 2017. Some items discussed were altering the cutoff policy and re-evaluating the re-connect fees, and the increasing problems of customers damaging the antennas on the new water meters. The committee also reviewed sewer bids for the three pump stations, Bayou Vista, Sartini, and Neely Station. The committee discussed the possibility of an extension force main from the Sartini Station to the sewer pond. Bond Engineering is going to develop a plan and get back with the committee. Additionally, a customer had a water leak that was repaired but hit the billing cycle for two months. The normal policy is to only grant relief for the first month, but the customer is requesting relief for the second month being that the leak was in the middle of two billing cycles. The Water and Sewer Committee is making a recommendation to the City Council to embrace this policy. On behalf of the Water and Sewer Committee, Mayor Fogleman made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wood, to grant relief for a second month to customers who have a water leak that hits two billing cycles and does not go through the city sewer system. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion. Whatever changes are made as far as cutoffs, re-connect fees, etc., a letter needs to be sent out to all customers communicating to them of the changes. There is a bill paying service provider names DOXO which was originally thought to be a scam is not, but the City of Marion does not have a contract with them.

Parks and Recreation: Andy Rawls reported that MYSA has begun league baseball and that High School ball is winding down.

Streets and Drainage: Councilman Hanks reported that the Medel Marconi railroad crossing is completed. Gordon Floyd advised that the City is pouring curbs on North Prairie.

Sanitation: Councilman Jackson advised that the Sanitation Committee needs to have a meeting. The meeting will be Monday, May 15, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Annex.

Building Inspector: Jerry Kelley reported 4 new house permits, 1 commercial permit, and 24 miscellaneous permits were issued for April. That brings year to date totals to 11 new house permits, 3 commercial permits, and 48 miscellaneous permits.

Fire and Police: Councilman O'Neal advised that the Fire and Police Committee needs to have a meeting. The meeting will be Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at the City Annex.

IV.

Old Business: Mayor Fogleman advised that the bond issue timing is crucial with a limited time to spend the money. A portion of the bonds may need to be sold now and the rest later. The City is looking at two projects, the Overpass project and the improvements to Military Road. Mayor Fogleman is letting the Council know that there may be additional interest on the bonds depending on how the process goes.

V.

New Business: There has been a request made to the City Council to approve Magruder Architects to design the eastside addition to the library. Councilman Wood made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to secure Magruder Architects as the architect for the library addition, and if that is acceptable to proceed. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Next under New Business was the affidavit to destroy old court records that meet the record retention schedule. Councilman Wood made a motion, seconded by Councilman O'Neal, to authorize the destroying of old court records that meet the record retention schedule. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Lastly, under capital expenditures, Councilman Wood made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spence, to approve the purchase of two Kubota tractors for \$47,000.00 and a sprayer for \$29,800.00. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

VI.

Resolutions and Ordinances: None

VII.

Financial Report: Treasurer Rikard reported that the financials have been previously distributed to the Council. Rikard reported that sales tax revenue collections for April are down by 2.5% for the City, and 5.2% for the County however, they are still up for the year-to-date period ending April for both the City and County portions compared to the budget. 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. Rikard then opened the floor for questions.

VIII.

Departmental Reports:

Ed Cain had nothing further to report.

Gordon Floyd had nothing further to report.

Jim Shempert had nothing further to report.

Andy Rawls had nothing further to report.

Chief Kelley had nothing further to report.

Jerry Kelley had nothing further to report.

Chief Wheelless reported that all tornado sirens are working. He also advised that dumping old tires has been a problem; every resident is allowed to drop off four tires a year at the County shop for free.

There being no further business to come before the Council and upon proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.