

MINUTES OF MARION CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

A regular meeting was held by City Council on April 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. over which Mayor Rodney Berry presided. Council members Bobby L. Davis, Michael Baker, Ronald Atkinson, Ralph Atkinson, Betsy Atkinson and Odessa Gregg were present. Also present were Mr. Alan Ammons, Mrs. Patricia Brown, Ms. Pam Jones, and Attorney Robert Lee.

Mayor Berry called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Gregg gave the opening prayer. Mr. Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Berry welcomed all guests. No press was present.

Councilwoman Betsy Atkinson made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting on March 12, 2013, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried.

Mayor Berry called the meeting to order and gave the opening prayer. Mr. Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Berry welcomed all guests and the press (Hometown TV).

On behalf of Marco Rural Water Company Board of Directors, Mr. Doug Hooks presented \$250 checks to each of the following: Recreation Department, Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad. Mayor Berry thanked Mr. Hooks for the generous donation and asked that he extend thanks to the Board of Directors.

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to go after the Renaissance Grant for \$25,000 with a 10% match from the City. Mr. Ammons commented the filing for that would be in August and done by CDBG. Councilman Bobby L Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilman Bobby L. Davis made a motion to allow *Relay for Life* to use Withlacoochee Park and CD Joyner for their event on May 3, 2013, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried.

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to approve a fireworks permit for the Foxtrot Festival, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson; motion carried.

Councilwoman Betsy Atkinson made a motion to allow Marion County to use Council Chambers for Civil Court on April 22, 23, 24. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bobby L. Davis and carried.

In lieu of recent requests to use the gazebo by the library for wedding ceremonies, Mr. Ammons' suggestion is to issue a permit at no charge so we will be aware of its use and also have a contact number in the event they fail to clean up the area after use (persons who use the area are made aware that cleaning up after the event is their responsibility and will also sign permit stating such) Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to allow use of the gazebo upon issuance of permit, seconded by Councilman Bobby L. Davis; motion carried.

Mr. Ammons requested a \$4,000 budget transfer within the Sanitation Department from salary (several employees are out) to tree removal, as there are several dangerous trees that need to be taken down. Councilman Ralph Atkinson made a motion to accept the transfer as requested, seconded by Councilman Bobby L. Davis; motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ammons reminded all that the City-County Clean-up is April 15th – 22nd and our participation is a requirement of the grant we received for the surveillance camera. The camera will be used in various locations and Dennis Brown has been trained. The check has been received and it is just a matter of us doing procurement.

Baseball/Softball Opening Day is Saturday, April 13, 2013 at the Green Street Complex. We have over 300 kids participating and everyone is invited to attend. Mayor Pro-tem Atkinson asked that everyone make an effort to attend Opening Day as it is a big deal for the kids.

Approximately 12 contractors (3 of those are local) were here last week for the pool pre-bid conference and the bids will be in by April 18th. Once bids have been certified and proven accurate by the architects, Mr. Ammons will bring the bids for Council's final approval.

Lt. Chris Smith of the Marion Police Department was named *March Employee of the Month* and presented with a gift certificate.

CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney Lee had nothing to report at this time.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor Berry commented that all departmental reports were in Council's packets for their review. Chuck Wiegert reminded that the Farmer's Market opens on April 13th, The Olde Towne Marion/HMRA's yard sale is May 4th and the Foxtrot Festival in May is now a 3-day event.

ACCOUNTABILITY OF CITY OFFICIALS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Councilman Michael Baker had no comment at this time.

Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson had no comment at this time.

Councilman Bobby Davis had no comment at this time.

Councilman Ralph Atkinson asked that on the agenda next month we request for a Resolution for Representative Jim Battle.

Councilwoman Betsy Atkinson expressed her thanks to all for working with her during her term on City Council.

Councilwoman Odessa Gregg had no comment at this time.

Mayor Rodney Berry thanked Betsy for her service and presented her with her Council nameplate.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Councilwoman Betsy Atkinson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried.

Mayor Rodney Berry

City Clerk Pam Jones

Taped April 9, 2013