

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MARCELINE CITY COUNCIL
August 24, 2017

The Marceline City Council met in special session on August 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Jeri Holt presiding. Council members present were: Tyson Brammer, Sallie Buck, Natalie Wellman, and Liz Cupp. Staff attending: City Manager Richard Hoon and City Clerk Lindsay Krumpelman. Also in attendance was: Police Chief Robert Donelson (after Executive Session).

Mayor Jeri Holt led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Councilman Brammer inquired as to why we are adjourning to executive session and inviting employees back when the Council had decided previously they would not do that anymore. There was discussion on the topic. The Council elected not to include guests at this point. At 7:09 pm Councilwoman Wellman moved to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 Paragraph (3) Personnel. Councilwoman Cupp seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion unanimously: Councilwoman Wellman – aye, Councilwoman Cupp – aye, Councilman Brammer – aye, Mayor Holt – aye, and Councilwoman Buck – aye.

At 7:32 pm Council returned back to Open Session.

Council Concerns: Mayor Holt opened the topic by stating he has been talking with City Attorney Jeff Elson concerning some things. Mayor Holt stated that out of respect for City Manager Hoon and his time with his family, if a small issue comes up after hours, wait until the next day to bring it to City Manager Hoon's attention. If it is something needing immediate attention, contact City Manager Hoon. He went on to state when a member of the public comes to you with an issue send them to City Manager Hoon to handle the issue. Mayor Holt reported that City employee morale is bad at the moment and they are upset with members of the Council. Councilwoman Cupp inquired who. Mayor Holt pointed, indicating Councilwoman Wellman and Councilwoman Cupp, and stated the employees were upset with him too at times. City Manager Hoon stated there has been an increasing level of disparaging remarks and discussion of current and past employees, administrations, and policies and those things gets back to the City employees. He stated he would appreciate the City Council being cheerleaders concerning the City and stay out of City business. Councilwoman Cupp inquired if he was referencing the financials, which Mayor Holt clarified it was referring to personnel issues. There was discussion on the topic. Police Chief Donelson stated the calling of a special meeting tonight was uncalled for and provided the Council with two written complaints concerning two Council members from himself, and Officer Doke. After reading the complaints, Councilwoman Wellman stated that she has told Police Chief Donelson that she is not out for his job. She also refuted the statement in the complaint that she had a radar app on her phone. There was discussion on the complaints provided. Councilwoman Cupp stated one of the statements in the Police Chief's complaint came from Jim Woolfolk and was inaccurate. City Manager Hoon stated he gets a lot of people who visit him informing of disparaging remarks they say were made by Councilwoman's Cupp and that she actually mentioned to him that the Police Chief should be fired along with a few other employees. Mayor Holt stated the biggest concerns being brought to him concerning the Council is that Councilwoman Cupp wants to cut wages, Councilwoman Wellman has issues with the police department, and that the complaint against him concerns the budget. Councilwoman Buck stated she believes the Council should present a unified front and feels the City is positively moving forward. Mayor Holt stated there will be a meeting on the City's current financial status when we get closer to budget before the first meeting. Councilwoman Cupp voiced her concerns on the status of City fund balances and that the City cannot keep spending money as it has the last few years. City Manager Richard Hoon recommended Council prepare a code of conduct for themselves and that when a new contract is made with him, they can expect a request for a non-interference clause. He reminded the Council his six month review is due next month. Councilwoman Buck inquired where they stand concerning the complaints. City Manager Hoon stated there is no mechanism in place on how to handle complaints against Council members. Council requested City Manager Hoon does research on a Council Code of Conduct. Police Chief Donelson provided a copy of the

Missouri Revised Statute 77.340 concerning removal of officer with consent of council. Councilwoman Cupp stated she was open to all options. Councilwoman Wellman stated everyone has an opinion and everyone has a complaint whether it's against Council members or departments such as the police department. City Manager Hoon stated by nature, Police Departments are either loved or hated. Councilman Brammer stated police will get flak no matter what they do and stated the Police Chief has done a fine job and has proven him wrong and he hopes morale gets better. There was discussion on the topic by those present. Mayor Holt inquired if there were any more questions. Councilwoman Cupp requested her reservations to MML be canceled and they can have her resignation as she is not going to sit through this or listen to it any longer and that she has had it. Councilwoman Wellman and Councilman Brammer expressed they do not think she should resign. Councilwoman Cupp responded she does not see things functioning or moving forward. The Council talked about the topic. Councilwoman Buck inquired about a social media post made by another Council member about what is believed to being a Sonic Boom. Councilwoman Wellman explained, with City Manager Hoon stating he had checked to ensure there were no City equipment failures. Councilwoman Wellman inquired if there were any more complaints concerning excessive water. City Manager Hoon responded none and the individual would not let him inspect anything.

With no further business, Councilman Brammer moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Wellman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Recorded by City Clerk Lindsay Krumpelman
Approved on September 19, 2017 by Marceline City Council.