

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MARCELINE CITY COUNCIL
October 03, 2024

The Marceline City Council met in special session on October 03, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of Marceline City Hall, Mayor Sallie Buck presiding. Council members present were Brian Baker, Shelly Milford, and Gary Carlson (5:33 pm). Councilman Josh Shoemaker was absent. Staff attending: City Manager Jesse Wallis, City Clerk/Assistant City Manager (ACM) Lindsay Krumpelman, Street Superintendent Adam Lichtenberg, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Mikeal Thompson, Police Chief John Wright, Fire Chief Brian Chrisman, and Chief Wastewater Plant Operator Justin Griffin. Others Present: Dave Tavres, Carter Wallis, Bill Mitchell, Reporter Robin Fry, Richard Switzer, IDA Ex. Director, Lindsey Ewigman, Downtown Marceline Ex. Director, Amanda Johnson, Recreation and Parks Board President, and Downtown Marceline Board members: Michael Olinger, Mary Beth Switzer, and Chris Ankeney.

Mayor Buck led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

FY 24-25 Budget Work Session: Mayor Buck opened the budget work session by inviting representatives from IDA, Downtown Marceline and the Recreation and Parks Board to speak on their requests. Downtown Marceline President Michael Olinger introduced their new Executive Director Lindsey Ewigman. He went over Downtown Marceline's request with the Council. IDA Executive Director Richard Switzer spoke to the Council about their request and their use of the funds. Councilwoman Milford inquired if their only income comes from the City of Marceline. IDA Executive Director Switzer responded yes, the majority does, and that they are receiving repayment of a loan from CoffeeTree Group. Recreation and Parks Board President Amanda Johnson spoke on the three (3) requests including (1) netting for the backstop of the East field, (2) balls for their proposed new city league and dugout shades, and (3) \$10,000.00 towards the ParksWork playground project with the commitment to do the demolition and site prep for the project. The Council discussed the Recreation and Park Board requests. During the conversation, Recreation and Park Board President informed the Council the centerfield dugout project was sent back to the original requester, letting them know they needed to have the funding in place before coming back with their request for consideration. A 10-minute recess was taken at 5:24 pm.

At 5:33 pm, Mayor Buck began the discussion on the proposed COLA, Max Merit, FLSA exempt salary threshold increases along with the potential minimum wage increase for certain part-time employees in the event Proposition A passes in November. City Manager Wallis and City Clerk/ACM Krumpelman went over the reasoning behind the proposed increases with the Council. The Council discussed the topic. Councilman Baker commented the infrastructure needs cannot happen without our qualified personnel. Mayor Buck opened the discussion on the Capital Improvement projects. City Manager Wallis stated several necessary projects had to be cut due to lack of funding. He highlighted that due to the deficiency capacity costs the Electric Fund is facing a considerable deficit. City Manager Wallis went over the overall picture of the City budget with the Council and explained he is recommending a 5% rate increase in the Water and Wastewater funds and a 13% rate increase in the Electric Fund.

City Manager Wallis went through the utility funds with the Council showing what capital improvement projects had to be cut, which were kept utilizing reserve funds and the two projects that were kept but would incur debt service, which were Auto Meter Infrastructure (AMI) and Pine Mobile lift station. The Council and city staff discussed the utility funds' proposed budgets. City Manager went through the General Fund with the Council. He stated the three (3) new tornado sirens and a specialized washer and dryer for the Fire Department's bunker gear were earmarked to be purchased utilizing the funds received from the Public Safety sales tax. The Council discussed the requests from received from Downtown Marceline, IDA and Recreation and Parks Board. City Manager Wallis reported he received a proposal from the pool management company, but it would add approximately over \$104,000.00 to the pool's budget. City Clerk/ACM Krumpelman reported the proposed budget currently allocates the \$80,000.00 in pool donations to be utilized along with \$39,500.00 in pool sales tax reserves to offset some of the pool expenditures and to make necessary repairs and purchase equipment for the pool.

City Manager Wallis, city staff and the Council discussed the proposed utility rate increases. City Manager Wallis stated utility rate studies for all the utilities will still need to be completed to determine where they should be for the utilities to operate and make the necessary upgrades to keep them operating. He pointed out a public hearing will need to be held for a wastewater rate increase. The Council discussed the topic further.

At 7:43 pm, Councilman Baker moved to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 Paragraph (3) Personnel and Paragraph (12) Contractual. Councilwoman Milford seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion: Councilman Baker – aye, Councilwoman Milford – aye, Councilman Carlson – aye, and Mayor Buck – aye.

With no further business, Councilwoman Milford moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: Councilwoman Milford – aye, Councilman Baker – aye, Councilman Carlson – aye, and Mayor Buck – aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Recorded by City Clerk Lindsay Krumpelman.
Approved by Marceline City Council on October 9, 2024