

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MARCELINE CITY COUNCIL
October 5, 2017

The Marceline City Council met in special session on October 5, 2017 at 6:00 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, City Clerk Lindsay Krumpelman, Street Superintendent Ed Ewigman, Electric Superintendent Dean Gauthier, Water Wastewater Superintendent Roger Sullivan, Police Chief Bob Donelson, and Pool Manager Carol Logue. Also in attendance were: Bob Harbour, Joyce Robinson, and Linda Linebaugh.

Mayor Jeri Holt led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Insurance Rates: City Manager Hoon reported that at the last meeting the Council requested this item be added to the agenda to give Jason Weydert time to negotiate with United Health Care on the renewal rate. City Manager Hoon reported that Jason Weydert has informed him that United Health Care declined to improve the renewal rate, so Jason Weydert recommends the Council accept the Healthy Consumer 3000 plan from Lifestyle Show Me Benefits. After a brief discussion, Councilman Brammer moved to accept the Healthy Consumer 3000 plan from Lifestyle Show Me Benefits for the City's FY17-18 Health Insurance. Councilwoman Wellman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial / Electric Discussion: The City Clerk opened discussion by providing a history of the City's financial/budgetary history, noting that the General, Water, Sewer, Electric, and Cemetery Funds at some point since 2003 were budgeted and/or operated at a negative. She noted changes in capital expenditures/expenses over the same period and highlighted significant financial changes/challenges for the City since 2003 such as the Recession, fund transfers/Right Of Way & Easements, and Prairie State.

Bob Harbour, Electric Consultant for the City of Marceline, gave a presentation on the Electric and his assumptions for the future of electric rates. He recommended the electric rates stay the same, as he is predicting the wholesale cost and capacity costs to increase by the end of our current contract in 2020. Councilwoman Cupp spoke on wanting to lower the electric rates. The Council and Bob Harbour discussed the topic of lowering the electric rates and the effect it could have on the citizens, City and the level of services provided.

City Manager Hoon spoke on the level of services currently expected by the citizens and the current state of the City's financial situation/proposed budget. He spoke on his current plan to find cost savings, such as changing phone companies which may cut the City's phone bills in half, trying new chemicals at the water treatment plant, which they have seen a cost saving with one this year, and possibly eliminating municipal court. More requirements are being put on the municipal court and Marceline is the only municipal court in Linn County, as the other communities have already dissolved their courts in favor the County handling them. Councilman Brammer inquired if it would affect the current court clerk's employment with City, City Manager Hoon responded no, as that is just a small part of her overall duties with the City. City Manager Hoon laid out his plan to move the City forward by having 5 year capital improvement plans, trying for more grants which are always a bonus, never a guarantee, and working with local organizations such as IDA and Downtown Marceline to increase the City's Economic Development.

Budget Work Session: City Manager Hoon opened up the Budget Work Session by stating there is a 2% cap on salaries and that staff is working on a salary wage scale. He provided more detail on dissolving the municipal court in favor of the County taking it over, discussing the pros and cons of the prospect. City Manager Hoon went over the budgeted funds for the IDA and Downtown Marceline as well as the budget number used for the AMI project.

City Council went through the draft budget by department. The Council discussed changes to the budget as they looked at each department, electing to remove the municipal court costs from the budget among other changes. During the discussion, City Manager Hoon reported they have a bid for \$9,991.00 which is within his approval limit for lights around the trail which will be paid for by the funds not utilized in the Electric for the AMI for the FY 16-17. Council provided consensus on moving forward. During the discussion on the budget, City Manager Hoon reported there is an issue with the Library Roof and he can provide more information on the bids received at the next budget work session.

Council discussed the need of a second budget work session. They provided a consensus to hold a second work session on the budget with a closed session for contracts first on October 12th at 4:30 pm.

Councilwoman Wellman moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Recorded by City Clerk Lindsay Krumpelman
Approved on October 17, 2017 by Marceline City Council.