

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MARCELINE CITY COUNCIL
December 10, 2025

The Marceline City Council met in regular session on December 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the City of Marceline Public Safety Building (Fire Barn), 123 E Santa Fe, Marceline, MO 64658, Mayor Shelly Milford presiding. Council members present were Sallie Buck, Gary Carlson, Clarence Gibson, and Jacob Clay. Staff attending: City Attorney Robert Cowherd, City Manager Jesse Wallis, City Clerk/Assistant City Manager (ACM) Lindsay Krumpelman, Water Superintendent Mikeal Thompson, Electric Superintendent Charlie Harrington, Water Plant Operator Brad Engelhard, Street Superintendent Adam Lichtenberg, Wastewater Superintendent Justin Griffin, and Police Chief John Wright. Others present: Cynthia Anderson, Richard Switzer, Dennis Hurlbut, Doretta Harrison, Dave Tavres, Andrew Walsh, John A Gibson, John Siecinski, Michael Olinger, Erin Hand, Stoney Joiner, Don Schmitt, Mary Ann Schmitt, and Carol Klingsmith.

Mayor Shelly Milford led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING – UTILITY RATE INCREASES (Water, Electric, and Wastewater): Mayor Milford opened the Public Hearing on utility rate increases for water, electric and wastewater. She stated the proposed increases are as follows: five percent (5%) for water and wastewater rates and an increase of \$15.00 to the base electric rate. Dennis Hurlbut stated he understands the need for increases and stated vacant houses and improved lots need to be taxed at a higher rate to increase the tax revenue and make up for the lack of utilities.

Michael Olinger asked for clarification on the \$15.00 rate increase for electric. Mayor Milford responded that the current residential electric base rate is \$12.88 and that rate is going up \$15.00 to \$27.88. She stated they have received a recommendation from MPUA to increase the rate by \$20.00. Mary Ann Schmitt inquired if the \$15.00 is applied to the businesses as well. Mayor Milford responded the \$15.00 base rate increase is for electric is for all electric classes, but it is only on the base rate and not an increase on the per kwh rate. Andrew Walsh inquired what has been done to improve the system. City Manager stated wildlife guards have been purchased. Electric Superintendent reported that a majority of our outages are caused by wildlife and the guards will help with that. He stated the City is utilizing FastForward to identify hot spots in the electric system such as transformers, so the city can fix those problems. Mayor Milford informed those present that the City's electricity is supplied to the City via Ameren transmission lines and when Ameren has an issue it causes an issue on the City's system that is out of our control. Councilwoman Buck stated the City Council gets a monthly report on outages, and the City is taking steps to mitigate those as much as possible. Andrew Walsh stated he is okay with paying a little more as long as the system improves.

Michael Olinger stated that the \$15.00 increase is to the base rate only and not a per kwh rate. He stated he's heard people say it was for the kwh rate. Mary Ann Schmitt stated the issue causing misinformation is lack of communication. Justin Griffin stated the City Council has a monthly meeting every month. Mayor Milford stated the City utilizes the newspaper, radio, email, their website, and Facebook. She inquired about what else the City could do. Mary Ann stated something could be sent in the mail. Mayor Milford stated they will evaluate that suggestion. Cynthia Anderson suggested adding a note to the utility bills where it said Happy Thanksgiving last month.

Carol Klingsmith inquired if the City has looked at alternative energy. City Manager Wallis responded in his experience alternative energy may be okay for a section such as an individual business but would not be cost effective for the city as whole. Michael Olinger inquired about the two (2) diesel units being decommissioned required the City to now pay capacity. Electric Superintendent stated those generators were becoming dangerous to operate and their age makes it extremely difficult to find parts for them. He

stated it takes 45 to 60 minutes to prep those generators. City Manager Wallis stated the City still has two (2) CAT generators in operation. There were no further comments. Mayor Milford closed the public hearing at 5:51 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Buck moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Clay seconded the motion. The motion carried. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman provided a financial summary report. Councilwoman Buck moved to approve the financials as presented. Councilman Gibson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL, OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

City Clerk Update: City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman inquired if the Council would support her if she decided to apply for a position on the Missouri City Clerk and Finance Officers Association Executive Board. The Council stated they would support her if that was what she decided. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated Candidate Election Filing opened on Tuesday, December 9th and will close on Tuesday, December 30th. She stated John A. Gibson is the sole filer to date and filers will need to submit their Form 5120 online. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated she submitted the filer list for personal financial disclosures to the Missouri Ethics Commission based on the City's ordinance. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated she hopes to focus on record retention in the upcoming weeks.

City Manager Update: City Manager Wallis stated Peanut Night was rescheduled to December 6th this year due to the weather event that occurred on November 29th. He thanked the Electric Department and Street Departments for their efforts to make the event a success. City Manager Wallis stated the lighted tree provided to the City in memory of Jamie Marie Shoemaker Saale by her family is a very nice addition to the Christmas Light display in Ripley Park. City Manager Wallis concluded stating Judah Monroe passed his POST exam, is graduating from the academy this week and will begin work with the Police Department on December 15, 2025.

Council Update: Councilman Carlson inquired about the Friends of the Pool Committee. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman went over the criteria formula and the results for November and the amount of donations that will be utilized to cover the loss in November. Mayor Milford stated the Friends of the Pool fundraise, plan events and volunteer at the pool for which the Council is very grateful. Councilwoman Buck stated she is happy with the attendance at the meeting. Mayor Milford read a card from Jamie Saale's family. She stated she has a card for the new officer joining the Police Department for anyone to sign if they wish. Mayor Milford stated the new officer will bring the Police Department to full staff. She thanked the Electric Department for installing the Christmas Lights in Ripley Park and the Street Department for their clean-up efforts during the snow event.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION:

Dennis Hurlbut stated he came to Marceline 20 years ago and the City has come a long way. He congratulated the City Manager and the Council stating all the departments have improved greatly.

Michael Olinger stated while he was handing out elf dollars on Peanut Night, he met people from Tennessee who stated they want to move to Marceline. He stated our town is really vibrant and the number of families who have moved here really love what we are doing, but there is more to do. He concluded stating Marceline is a great community.

Brad Engelhard stated that when the City is making plans it needs to think about where the water is coming from and where the wastewater is going.

Dave Tavres stated people can post their local events to visitmarceline.com so there is one place for people to look for events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2025 Utility Rate Adjustment (Water, Electric, Wastewater): Mayor Milford introduced the topic stating the increases will be five percent (5%) for both water and wastewater and an increase to the electric base rate by fifteen dollars (\$15.00). City Manager Wallis stated the Resolution will set all the fees in a Master Fee Schedule instead of listed in the ordinances as recommended by the City Attorney.

Water Rates – Bill No. 25-12-006: Councilwoman Buck moved that Bill No. 25-12-006 repealing Section 705.010 of Article 1 of Chapter 705 of the Municipal Code of the City of Marceline relating to water rates and adopting a new Section 705.010 in lieu thereof be read twice by title only. Councilman Gibson seconded the motion. The motion carried. City Clerk/ACM Krumpelman read Bill No. 25-12-006 twice by title only. Councilwoman Buck moved that Bill No. 25-12-006 be passed. Councilman Gibson seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion to pass Bill No. 25-12-006: Councilwoman Buck – aye, Councilman Gibson – aye, Mayor Milford – aye, Councilman Carlson – aye, and Councilman Clay – aye. This Bill is assigned Ordinance Number 25-12.06.

Electric Rate – Bill No. 25-12-007: Councilman Gibson moved that Bill No. 25-12-007 repealing and replacing Appendix A to Title VII, Chapter 700 relating to electric service rates; providing for an effective date be read twice by title only. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The motion carried. City Clerk/ACM Krumpelman read Bill No. 25-12-007 twice by title only. Councilman Gibson moved that Bill No. 25-12-007 be passed. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion to pass Bill No. 25-12-007: Councilman Gibson – aye, Councilwoman Buck – aye, Councilman Carlson – aye, Councilman Clay – aye, and Mayor Milford – aye. This Bill is assigned Ordinance Number 25-12.07.

Wastewater Rate – Bill No. 25-12-008: Councilman Gibson moved that Bill No. 25-12-008 repealing Section 715.040 or Article 1 of Chapter 715 of the Municipal Code of the City of Marceline relating to user charges for Wastewater to the City's treatment works and adopting a new Section 715.040 in lieu thereof be read twice by title only. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The motion carried. City Clerk/ACM Krumpelman read Bill No. 25-12-008 twice by title only. Councilman Gibson moved that Bill No. 25-12-008 be passed. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion to pass Bill No. 25-12-008: Councilman Gibson – aye, Councilwoman Buck – aye, Councilman Clay – aye, Mayor Milford – aye, and Councilman Carlson – aye. This Bill is assigned Ordinance Number 25-12.08.

Master Fee Schedule – Resolution No. 25-03: Councilman Gibson moved to approve Resolution #25-03 establishing a Master Fee Schedule. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote: Councilman Gibson – aye, Councilwoman Buck – aye, Councilman Clay – aye, Councilman Carlson – aye, and Mayor Milford – aye.

AMI Project Financing Proposals: City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated she reached out to the local banks about financing the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project through a lease purchase project. She stated she received one proposal back from Regional Missouri Bank. City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated after discussing the vendor financing option and the proposed rates from Regional Missouri Bank with the City's financial advisor, staff is recommending the Council select one of the lease-purchase financing options from Regional Missouri Bank. Mayor Milford explained the AMI project to those present. The Council discussed the proposals. City Manager Wallis recommended the Council select the 10-year lease purchase option at four and one-half percent (4.5%). Councilman Carlson moved the City move forward with the 10-year lease purchase finance option with Regional Missouri Bank. Councilman Clay seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

East Ballfield Projects No. 1 and No. 2 Bids: City Clerk / ACM Krumpelman stated that the two projects were bid out separately as there are not many vendors who do both types of work. She stated staff is recommending the Council approve the low bidder for each project. Street Superintendent Adam Lichtenberg confirmed that statement stating that East Ballfield Project No. 1 is for the Outfield Perimeter Chain Link Fence, and he is recommending the lowest bidder of Fence Pro, LLC in the amount of \$21,693.00. He stated he is also recommending the lowest bidder, Patriot Athletic Equipment for East Ballfield Project No. 2 for the In-Line Suspended Cable Backstop with Netting in the amount of \$33,400.00. He stated he would like to include the additional option of the padded rails for Project #2 as well for an additional amount of \$4,650.00. Mayor Milford stated the budget for the project is \$55,000.00 - \$35,000.00 from the General Fund and \$20,000.00 donated from the Recreation and Park Board. Street Superintendent Lichtenberg stated he believes the Recreation and Park Board may be open to donating the funds for the optional padded rails. He stated city staff will tear out the old fence work and do the dirt work to improve the drainage of the East ballfield. The Council discussed the topic. Councilwoman Buck moved to accept the \$21,693.00 proposal from Fence Pro, LLC for the East Ballfield Project No. 1 and to accept the proposal from Patriot Athletic Equipment for East Ballfield Project No. 2 in the amount of \$33,400.00 and to accept the proposal for the optional padded rails in the amount of \$4,650.00 contingent on funding being secured for the additional option. Councilman Clay seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Fingerprinting / Background-Check Services Fee Discussion: City Manager Wallis opened the discussion about the Police Department possibly charging fees for finger printing / background – check services. Police Chief Wright says that all the employees at Nature’s Grace are required to be fingerprinted and would like the police department to provide the service. He stated the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) fee is \$43.50. He stated he would like to charge a fee to recapture the MSHP fee and the labor for fingerprinting. The Council discussed the topic including whether it would create a hardship on the department to offer the service, the convenience it would give to those locally needing the service, and possible fee. Councilman Carlson recommended the fee be set at \$60.00 to cover the MSHP fee and labor costs. Council provided a consensus to bring the fee back for consideration via ordinance or resolution.

At 6:41pm, Councilman Clay moved to adjourn to Executive session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 Paragraph (2) Real Estate and Paragraph (12) Contractual. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The following roll call vote carried the motion: Councilman Clay – aye, Councilwoman Buck – aye, Mayor Milford – aye, Councilman Gibson – aye, and Councilman Carlson – aye.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Mayor Milford requested the item of a time limit on public participation be added to the February agenda.

With no further business, Councilman Clay moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Buck seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Recorded by City Clerk / ACM Lindsay Krumpelman
Approved by Marceline City Council on January 14, 2026