

MINUTES
MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020; 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady	Councilman Michael Baker
Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt	Councilman Joseph Frazier
Councilman Ralph Atkinson	Councilwoman Tassie Lewis
Councilman Ronald Atkinson	

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator	Tony Flowers, Chief of Police
Ainsley Sanders, City Clerk	James Brogdon, City Attorney
Patricia Brown, Treasurer	
Cliff Wilbanks, Recreation Director	

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – MAYOR ASHLEY BRADY

Mayor Ashley Brady called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed all guest.

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Denley Caughman led the Opening Prayer, and Mr. Alan Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. WELCOME CITIZENS, GUEST AND PRESS –MAYOR ASHLEY BRADY

Mayor Ashley Brady welcomed citizens, guests and the press. Mayor Ashley Brady encouraged the guest watching on TV to come out to Council Meeting as well.

4. **APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020 & JANUARY 29, 2020**

A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Frazier, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker, to approve minutes from January 14, 2020.

A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Frazier, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker, to approve minutes from January 29, 2020. The motion carries unanimously.

5. **JANUARY EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – MAYOR ASHLEY BRADY**

Mayor Ashley Brady stated that it was his honor to recognize Mr. William Sanders of the City Hall and Marion Fire Department was named ***January Employee of the Month***. Mr. William Sanders has an infectious smile, and always smiling and he does a fantastic job and we appreciate everything you've done.

6. **SET DATE FOR CITY PARTY**

Mayor Ashley Brady stated that at the City Party ids when we recognize all of our employees for all the hard work that they have done and with service pins, and that is a great event and the employees are looking forward to that event. Mayor stated that the tentative date is usually every third Tuesday of every March. If it meets the Councils approval we would like to have it March 17, 2020 at Wood Haven as we have done for the last couple of years. ***A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt, seconded by Councilman Joseph Frazier to approve the date of the City Party for March 17, 2020.*** The motion carried.

7. **PROCLAMATION OF GIRL SCOUT WEEK MARCH 8-14, 2020**

Mayor stated that we have a packed house with all these fantastic Girl Scout Troop and the Girl Scout leaders it is so great for you all to come out and see how your local government works and being involved in your local company.

Mayor also mentioned that he was a Boy Scout leader for a number of years as well, and stated that he knows what all they are going through and it's great. Mayor stated that if they would come down that we have a proclamation for Girl Scout week. Mayor presented the Girl Scout Troop with proclamation for Girl Scout week proclaiming March 8 through 14, 2020. Mayor Brady thanks the Girl Scouts for coming and let them know he appreciates their hard work.

8. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY AS ORAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mayor presented Reverend Hemingway with the proclamation recognizing February as Oral Health Awareness month. Mayor thanks Reverend Hemingway for making everyone aware of the importance of Oral Health.

9. RESOLUTION PROCLAMING FEBRUARY AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF MARION

Mayor Brady also present the proclamation recognizing February as Black History Month in the City of Marion. Mayor mentioned that he knows that Reverend Hemingway has been involved with the NAACP and the Community. Mayor wants Reverend Hemingway to know that he appreciates everything that he does, and anything we can do to help to let us know.

10. REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL – TOURISM REPORT

Mr. Denley Caughman reported that he thanks Mayor and Council for reworking the City website. He stated that Marion is the only municipality in the region that that offers a guiding tour and we have been getting more tours as a result of the rework of the website. As a direct result of the website a group came from Wilmington on the eighth of November to tour Marion. Mr. Caughman stated that usually a tour last from ten to two thirty or three with lunch included. Mr.

Denley stated that the lunch is in town. He also stated that lunch has been in Mullins but the last couple has been in Marion. January was a big group from the Beach area. Mr. Denley stated that they always leave and want to come back. He also stated that he try to always give them a comeback pill. Mr. Denley summarized the groups coming and groups that have been.

11. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Update CTC Projects

Administrator Alan Ammons stated that as we know we have been working on the Ashley Ave. project for a couple of months now. He stated that we have a fence to put back up and plant some grass.

- Miscellaneous

Mr. Ammons stated that the other thing is the Green Bulb on our LED lighting is about 95% and we are still working on our punch list. He stated that they have had some change in contractor's that were working with them, but the new crew is back working just have a few things here and there so hopefully in thirty days they will be complete.

12. CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney didn't have anything at the time.

13. DISTRICT AND CITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Mayor Ashley Brady: Mayor stated that just to bring everyone up to date on the AWS. He stated that as of Friday night they were current with their pickups, and the day of the Council they were working on the Tuesday routes. They might be a half of a day behind. Mayor mentioned that the other night we had a tremendous rain storm, about four inches of rain, crews have been working diligently on some projects, and some of the projects that we had completed, and some of the

drains needed attention but they were working on those drains. Mayor mentioned that we have a list of drains that had some standing water, before and after the storm, and so we have been working those streets. He stated that prior to the storm we were working on South Pine Street and Irick Drive and some of those areas, and Ladies and Gentlemen you would not believe some of the pictures that they would send me. We were finding metal catch basins two to three inches under the dirt. The only way we found them was running that new truck and its working great. Mayor stated that the employee that is running the truck said it's like hunting Easter eggs because we don't know where they are at. He also said that while finding the grates we are making a map so the future generation will know where these catch basins are at. Mayor mentioned that grass is starting to be cut, and we are in the process of edging sidewalks.

Councilman Michael Baker: Do not have anything at the time.

Council Joseph Frazier: Do not have anything at the time.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson: Do not have anything at the time.

Councilman Ralph Atkinson: Do not have anything at the time.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis: Councilwoman stated that the Girl Scouts were so cute. Leadership starts at a very young age and it's important to expose them. Councilwoman wants Pastor Denley to know she was actually in the Hospital during that tour, but she is looking forward to the next one. Councilwoman Tassie stated that "to Reverend Hemingway and his staff she says thank you for the outstanding job, and thank everyone for everything they do.

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt: Mayor Pro Tem Emerson stated that he hopes everyone is enjoying these last couple of days of good weather and if you haven't got outside to enjoy it you'd better because he stated he thinks that it's going to

rain again. He also stated that to get out and get some fresh air it will help your life.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Frazier to go into Executive Session to discuss Legal Advice/Sanitation Services, matter with Rose Hill Cemetery. The motion carries.

15. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session by Councilman Michael Baker, seconded by Councilman Ralph Atkinson.

A motion was made by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Joseph Frazier to allow Mayor and Administrator to issue a RFP for the yard maintenance at the Rose Hill Cemetery maybe for a three year term with assistance of Attorney to come up with a contract that will be brought back to the Council for approval to maintain that cemetery. The motion carried.

16. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, ***A motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Joseph Frazier, seconded by Councilman Ralph Atkinson.*** The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Ashley Brady

City Clerk Ainsley Sanders

Taped: February 11, 2020