

MINUTES
MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady

Councilman Fred Gause

Councilman Ronald Atkinson

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt

Councilman Michael Baker

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis

Councilman Donny Gerald

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator

Tony Flowers, Police Chief

Patricia Brown, City Treasurer

Lakesha Shannon, City Clerk

James Brogdon, City Attorney

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashley Brady.

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brady led the prayer and pledge of allegiance.

3. WELCOME CITIZENS, GUESTS & PRESS

Mayor Brady welcomed all citizens and guest.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

➤ Regular City Council Meeting – April 9, 2024

A motion was made by Councilman Michael Baker, seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson to approve the minutes of April 9, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

5. APRIL EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mayor Brady named Corporal Gabriel Warren and Sgt. Jacolgan Mack as the April Employees of the Month. Police Chief Tony Flowers recognized and presented an award to these officers for their recent heroic lifesaving actions. On April 24, 2024 Sgt. Mack saved the life of an infant that was choking. The infant was present with his family to help celebrate in this presentation. On April 9, 2024 Cpl. Warren saved the life of a teenager that was threatening the life of himself and others with a knife. In addition, Cpl. Warren saved the life of a victim who was hurt during a domestic violence situation. Mayor Brady and council expressed their appreciation to these officers on a job well done.

6. PRESENTATIONS

➤ **Tree City USA**

The City of Marion was presented with its 32nd Annual Tree City USA Award and banner from the National Arbor Day Foundation. She noted that City Administrator Alan Ammons has played a major role in helping the city to maintain this recognition over the years.

7. 1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 24-01 AN ORDINANCE TO SET MILLAGE FOR RAISING FUNDS TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF MARION FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 24-01 An Ordinance to Set Millage for Raising Funds to Adopt the Budget for the City of Marion Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 24-02 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE HOSPITALITY REVENUES FOR THE CITY OF MARION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tassie Lewis and seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 24-02 An Ordinance to Appropriate Hospitality Revenues for the City of Marion for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. The motion passed unanimously.

9. **1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 24-03 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND ESTABLISH STORMWATER UTILITY REVENUES FOR THE CITY OF MARION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tassie Lewis and seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 24-03 An Ordinance to Appropriate and Establish Stormwater Utility Revenues for the City of Marion for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. The motion passed unanimously.

10. **1ST READING OF ORDINANCE 24-04 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE ARP FUNDS FOR THE CITY OF MARION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR**

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt to approve 1st Reading on Ordinance 24-04 An Ordinance to Appropriate ARP Funds for the City of Marion for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **BIDS ON CONCESSION STAND & RESTROOMS AT GREEN STREET SPORTS COMPLEX**

Mayor Brady stated that 3 bids were received for the concession stands and restroom project at the Green Street Sports Complex. *A motion was made by Councilman Donny Gerald, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to approve*

the low bid of \$108,600 from Eagle Construction. The motion passed unanimously.

12. SET DATE FOR BUDGET WORKSHOP

13. REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

➤ **Nikki Samuel – Security Street Cameras**

Ms. Nikki Samuels was present to address council regarding the safety of citizens in Marion. She stated that her mom's home on James Court has been hit by gunshots on multiple occasions. She asked security cameras can be installed in the area, and if something can be done to reimburse homeowners for out of pocket expenses for repairs to their home due to the random gunshots. She also asked if a police substation can be placed in the area.

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Alan Ammons stated that lights are currently being installed at Green Street Park, city hall renovations are continuing, and the Smoke Detector Blitz will be held on April 27.

15. CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney James Brogdon had no update.

16. DISTRICT AND CITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Mayor Ashley Brady

Mayor Brady provided an overview of the schedule for the upcoming Foxtrot Festival which will be held on May 24-25. The public works department will be installing the decorative street signs on South Main St. There have been 77 violation letters sent out due to overgrown grass. The Azalea Garden has purchased a new pump for the fountain on Bobby Gerald Parkway which will be installed by the public works department.

Councilman Michael Baker:

Councilman Baker had no update.

Councilman Fred Gause:

Councilman Gause thanked Ms. Samuels for her comments regarding safety in the community. He stated that ongoing conversations are taking place countywide to address this issue.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson:

Councilman Atkinson had no comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt

Mayor Pro Tem Hunt expressed his concerns and understanding regarding the gun violence and safety issues in the community.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis:

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis expressed her concerns regarding stray animals in the city that could pose danger. She also asked that citizens be vigilant in reporting any unusual activity in their neighborhoods in an effort to help law enforcement.

Councilman Donny Gerald:

Councilman Gerald had no comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt:

Mayor Pro Tem Hunt thanked everyone for coming, and encouraged them to get outside and exercise.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Ronald Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Fred Gause to go into executive session to discuss a Personnel Matter, and a

Contractual Matter regarding the Recreation Department. The motion passed unanimously.

18. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION


A motion was made by Councilman Michael Baker, and seconded by Councilman Fred Gause to return to regular session. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor Brady stated that there was no action taken during executive session.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business. ***A motion was made by Councilman Michael Baker, and seconded by Councilman Donny Gerald to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.***



Mayor Ashley Brady



Lakesha Y. Shannon, City Clerk