

MARIONVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
Marionville Conference Room, 101 S Central  
Thursday, May 12, 2022

Mayor Blankenship called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. On roll call the following Aldermen were present: Murlin Bettinger, Doris Rapp, Donna White, Gina Herndon and Melissa Freeman. Absent was Joanne Lawrence.

Following roll call, Mayor Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Doris Rapp opened the meeting with prayer.

**Approve Order of Agenda:** Alderman Rapp made the motion to approve the order of the agenda as presented. Alderman Herndon seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5- White, Freeman, Herndon, Bettinger, Rapp

**Approve minutes of the Regular Session on April 14, 2022:** Alderman Freeman made the motion to approve the minutes April 14, 2022 as presented. Alderman Herndon seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 3- Freeman, Rapp, Herndon  
ABSTAIN: 2- White, Bettinger (absent)

**Approve payment of Bills, Adjustments, Bank Recs and Cash Reports:** Alderman Freeman made the motion to approve payment of Bills, Adjustments, Bank Recs and Cash Reports as presented. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5- Rapp, Herndon, Bettinger, Freeman, White

**Citizens Comments/Official Guests & Visitors**  
(none)

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Police Dept.--Captain Bliss stated Radiophone added more power on the repeater at the water tower and they will be reprogramming the radios, so there should be better service. The truck we ordered is still on order; however, the Dodge Charger should be equipped and ready in a few days. Violent crimes are down eighty percent and Marionville is fully staffed.

Sewer Dept. -- Mayor Blankenship reported the lift station flooded again with that heavy rain, however all motors eventually fired up. Toth is looking at lifting the pumps as high as they can go. He also has someone looking at replacing the doors to help keep the water out. The well at the plant stopped working, but has been fixed.

Street Dept. — Ty Snider submitted a written report. The question was asked, who cleans out stopped up culverts? It was stated in the past, the city has cleaned culverts.

ACO Dept. – Karyn Marsh submitted a written report. There were 80 calls, but a lot were over the phone. She has not been driving the van much, that's why there were no fuel tickets.

Fire Dept.—Chief Bowling submitted a written report.

Cemetery – Alderman Rapp stated they may need some dirt delivered to the cemetery. Several graves had settled and they are going to be checking on some complaints that were received.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Oath of Office-Donna White:* Donna White took the oath of office, for Alderman, Ward II, from City Clerk, Debbie Bateman.

*Open Mower Bid:* Mayor Blankenship stated another bid came in for the public works mower that was on the agenda last month and he wanted to see what the board wished to do. The bid was for six hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00) from Seth Forester. Alderman Rapp made the motion to accept the bid from Seth Forester. Alderman White seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows: AYES: 5- Bettinger, Rapp, Freeman, White, Herndon

*ARPA Premium Pay for fire fighters:* Alderman Freeman indicated she has tried to educate herself on this matter and after much deliberation, she feels we need to postpone this and get legal advice before proceeding to make sure we are allowed to use these funds for this. We had BKD look into this further because they were getting officer pay through payroll. When the officers originally asked to get officer pay through payroll instead of accounts payable, she contacted the MML for advice and they indicated it didn't matter what line item it came from but to know why you're paying them. That was a misunderstanding since you can't pay volunteer firefighters if you are a municipal volunteer fire department. But not knowing everything, the board at that time was fine moving the officer pay to payroll. The misunderstanding was we were moving them from a 1099 to a W2. There are certain liabilities provided under a W2. She called BKD to verify their numbers and found out the communication to BKD was also misunderstood and once BKD realized the officers were included in the volunteer fire department, she indicated you can't pay the volunteer fire fighters except for a 1099. If BKD had understood more clearly, she would not have made those recommendations, because she assumed they were employees. So we mistakenly made them employees. The hours turned in were hours for going on calls and training which would fall under the volunteer fire fighters.

Alderman Freeman stated she has looked at the statutes and tried to find loopholes and understand everything, but still has questions. She didn't want to make things difficult; she likes all the firefighters, but as an alderman, she wants to do what is right. That's why she would like to get a legal opinion in writing and to not put the state of our volunteer fire department at risk. Alderman Freeman made the motion to postpone this and seek legal advice from our attorney. Alderman White seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Herndon, White, Rapp, Freeman, Bettinger

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Resolution 02-2022R A resolution of the City of Marionville, Missouri adopting the Lawrence County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan:* Alderman Rapp made the motion to accept Resolution 02-2022R as presented. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows: AYES: 5- White, Bettinger, Herndon, Rapp, Freeman

*Culvert at Central and Hwy. 60 (North of Railroad):* The culvert and road, on the east side of Central at the railroad crossing, has deteriorated and the drop off is getting worse. The City contacted both MODOT and the Railroad and we were told this is our issue. We called for bids and received one from Chris Vaught Construction: Three thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$3,900.00) for new culverts and rock. Alderman Bettinger made the motion to accept the quote from Chris Vaught Construction. Alderman White seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5-Bettinger, Freeman, Rapp, White, Herndon

*Street Cuts:* Mayor Blankenship stated currently our fees for street cuts are fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a half cut and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for a full cut. The person making the street cut is responsible for repairing and maintaining it if damage or sinking occurs within one (1) year. It is hard to get contractors who are out of town to repair them in a timely manner or come back to maintain it within that year. Mayor Blankenship suggested leaving the ordinance as is for utility companies; however, he suggested raising the fees for non-utility street cuts to four hundred dollars (\$400.00) for a half cut and eight hundred dollars (\$800.00) for a full cut plus they (the permittee) fill the cut with clean rock then Public Works will repair the street cut and maintain it. This would be up to a four (4) foot width. The Board was in agreement to change the fees and maintenance requirements for non-utilities making street cuts. An ordinance will be drafted.

*Possible 4-way stop at Euclid and Lyon:* Public Works has fixed the stop sign there several times. It seems to be an easy place to speed and it's close to the school. It was suggested to look into a lighted stop sign. It was also suggested coordinating with the school to eliminate the problem on O'Dell when dropping off students. No motion was made on this issue.

*P & Z recommendation - Lot split for John Boyd (lots 3/5 Grenier First Addition) South of Hwy 60:* Planning and Zoning made the recommendation to split parcel 201002000002003005, lots 3/5 Grenier First Addition, as presented. Alderman White made the motion to accept Planning and Zoning's recommendation approving the lot split as presented. Alderman Herndon seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5- Rapp, White, Herndon, Bettinger, Freeman

*Renew Health Insurance:* The health insurance renews in June. There was no increase to the current plan. Alderman Rapp made the motion to renew the current health care plan. Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5- White, Freeman, Bettinger, Herndon, Rapp

*Street Department Pay Scale:* Mayor Blankenship stated the pay scale at this time for Street Supervisor is a minimum of fourteen dollars and seventy seven cents (\$14.77) per hour and a maximum of eighteen dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$18.99) per hour. The street laborer is a minimum of eleven dollars and sixty-one cents (\$11.61) per hour with a maximum of fourteen dollars and seventy seven cents (\$14.77) per hour. We can't compete with these hourly rates. Alderman Freeman made the motion to increase minimum and maximum pay scale for the fulltime Street Laborer and the Street Supervisor by three dollars and thirty-nine cents (\$3.39). Alderman Bettinger seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:  
AYES: 5- Herndon, White, Rapp, Freeman, Bettinger

Alderman Freeman made the motion to increase the current Street Supervisor's hourly rate to eighteen dollars and sixteen cents (\$18.16) to match the new minimum on the pay scale beginning with the next pay week which starts on Saturday. Alderman Rapp seconded. Motion passed on roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5- Bettinger, Rapp, White, Herndon, Freeman

**ALDERMEN COMMENTS**

*Melissa Freeman:* Stated if this happens to be her last meeting she has appreciated being elected to Alderman Ward II.

*Doris Rapp:* Would like to suggest spending the ARPA funds to improve the sewer system, especially to work on the I & I.

*Murlin Bettinger:* Wanted to tell the Fire Department Thank You and he appreciates all they do. Plus a shout out to the Police Department for cleaning the streets up. He can tell a difference.

**MAYOR COMMENTS**

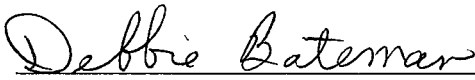
The Special Election for Ward II will be on May 24. The House on Washington will be cleaned up next week.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Rapp made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Alderman Bettinger. All voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

  
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Dale Blankenship, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Debbie Bateman, City Clerk