

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF FALLS  
CITY OF MARLIN

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On this the 19th day of March 2024, the City Council of the City of Marlin, Texas convened in a REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING at 6:00pm, the same being open to the public and having been posted as prescribed in Local Government Code, Section 551.041 with the following members present to wit:

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Susan Byrd  
Mayor Pro Tem Debra Levels-McDavid  
Sonia Ponce  
Monica Washington  
Cecil Sparks  
John Armstrong

STAFF

Keith Whitfield , City Manager  
Maryann Waddle, City Secretary  
James Parker, City Attorney

1. Call to Order by Mayor Byrd at 6:04pm.
2. Roll Call by Maryann Waddle.
3. Certify Posting in accordance with State Law by Maryann Waddle.
4. Pledge by Mayor Byrd and Invocation by Councilmember Ponce
5. City Manager Update  
City manager provided an update on active projects.
6. Discussion and or take action on an effective date for the City Manager's Resignation and to appoint an interim City Manager.  
Councilmember Armstrong motioned that the effective date OF Friday for the 22<sup>nd</sup> for the City Manager's resignation.  
Councilmember Washington seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Ponce, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid.  
Nays: none  
Abstain: Mayor Byrd.
7. Discuss, consider and or approve a policy and procedures for the city of marlin animal control facilities.  
The council was presented with a draft of policy and procedures for animal control. They will review and make recommendations.  
CJ Westmoreland addressed the council on the item, he gave suggestions to the council for people being allowed in to the facilities.  
Archie spoke on getting medical attention for animal being put in the policy.  
No action.
8. Discussion and or take action to hire/appoint a firm or person to conduct an independent investigation of the matters and incidents related to the City's animal control center.  
Archie and Valerie Manna spoke on their concerns with is item. Lleis spoke about the investigation. Dorthy Sander spoke on this item.  
Councilmember Armstrong motioned that we appoint City Attorney Parker to continue this process in selecting and outside litigation to do the investigation for the lock down shelter.  
Councilmember Sparks seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ellen Metts addressed the council on the investigation.  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Ponce, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd.  
Nays: none
9. Consider and or approve Falls County Hazard Mitigation Plan  
Councilmember Armstrong motioned to approve Falls County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Councilmember Ponce seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Ponce,  
Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd.  
Nays: none

10. Discuss/act renegotiation to extend length of time from 3 to 5 years for land lease contract with Mr. Willim Walker for the 25 acres behind Hillcrest Cemetery.  
Item was tabled.
11. Discuss/act on agreement with UAI (Underwater Acoustics International LLC) to allow City to pay out old invoice (\$65,000) for performing services on the dams.  
No Action.
12. Discuss/act on agreement with McLennan training trailer to be parked on property located at 306 Monroe St., Marlin, Texas.  
Councilmember Sparks motion to sign the agreement to let the trailer park at the animal shelter.  
Councilmember Armstrong second the motion.  
Motion was amended to read for two weeks.  
It was amended to state ten days.  
The motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Washington  
Nays: Councilmember Ponce, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid.  
Abstains: Mayor Byrd.  
Kyle Simmions addressed the council on the ground at the area.
13. Consider and or take action on appointing Morris Watson to the Malin Parks Commission.  
Mayor Byrd motioned to approve Morris Watson to the Parks Board.  
Councilmember Ponce seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Ponce, Mayor Byrd  
Nays: Armstrong  
Abstain: Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid.
14. Consider and or approve proposal from Roar Over Texas Inc. for annual fireworks Show.  
Councilmember Armstrong motioned to approve proposal from Roar Over Texas Inc. for annual fireworks show.  
Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Ponce,  
Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid.  
Nays: none
15. Discussion and or take action on Texas Commission on Rual Arts concert agreement.  
Councilmember Ponce motioned we approve the contract be amended to note that the county will be paying the artist directly.  
Councilmember Washington seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:  
Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Ponce,  
Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd.  
Nays: none  
Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid asked that the Parks Commission be talked to about the event.
16. a. Convene into executive session pursuant to Tex. Gov't. Code 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to deliberate over the matters related to the animal control facility and the duties and discipline of the chief of Police.

The council convened into closed session at 7:43pm

The council reconvene into open session at 7:59pm

Councilmember Sparks did not return.

b. Reconvene into public session and discuss and take action as appropriate in the City Council's discretion regarding the animal control facility and the duties and discipline of the chief of Police.

Dorothy Sanders addressed the council on the animal shelter.

Frances Fisher addressed the council on the animal shelter.

Artese Lang addressed the council on animals.

CJ Westmoreland addressed the council on animals.

Dorene Burlew addressed the council on the animal shelter.

Frances Fisher addressed the council on the animal shelter.

Roy Martinez addressed the council on dog's rights.

Terry Westmoreland addressed the council on stray animals.

Sam Bosneck addressed the council on animal shelter.

Item was tabled.

17. Citizens Comments

Councilmember Armstrong left at 8:21pm.


Sam Bosneck addressed the council on the arts festival.

18. Adjourn.

Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid made motion to adjourn, Councilmember Washington seconded the motion, all in favor said "Aye" meeting ended at 8:22pm

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 9<sup>TH</sup> OF April 2024.



  
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Susan Byrd, Mayor

  
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Maryann Waddle, City Secretary