

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FALLS
CITY OF MARLIN

On this the 10th day of October 2023, 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(Absent)
Cecil Sparks (@ 6:03 pm)
Timothy Lopez (absent)
John Armstrong
Monica Washington

STAFF

James Hommel, Interim City Manager/ Police Chief
Maryann Waddle, City Secretary
James Parker, City Attorney

1. Call to Order by Mayor Byrd @ 6:00pm.
2. Roll Call by Maryann Waddle, Councilmember Ponce called to let council know she was sick.
3. Certify Posting in accordance with State Law by Maryann Waddle.
4. Pledge by Mayor Byrd and Invocation by Pastor Wright.
5. Citizens Input.

None.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Sparks in at 6:03pm

6. Approval of the Council Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2023, September 18, 2023, and September 25, 2023, City Council Meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Levels-McDavid motioned to approve Council Meeting Minutes from the September 12, 2023, September 18, 2023, and September 25, 2023, City Council Meetings.

Councilmember Armstrong seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd

Nays: None

Absent : Councilmember Lopez , Councilmember Ponce

Regular Agenda.

7. UPDATES/STATUS: City Business Not needing immediate discussion or action from City Council (2-3 min):

City Manager –Updates (City Manager)

- Weekly staff meetings
- Worked on City Manager Applications
- Monitored City lake conditions
- Worked on closing out fiscal year budget
- Finish working on 2023-2023 budget.
- Worked on getting the boat grant in compliance.
- Information on new vehicle C.M.

Court - Update (Court Clerk Supervisor)

- ❖ GROSS COLLECTED- \$45,224.09
- ❖ STATE FEES- \$17,808.10
- ❖ KEPT BY CITY- \$27,415.99
- ❖ MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEARLY REPORTS ARE COMPLETE

Police – Update (Chief Hommel)

- Submitted NIBRS reports
 - James Crawford graduated police academy and started FTO 0926/2023
 - 22 Arrest 16 Suspicious Persons / Vehicle
 - Total Calls 638 including ACO calls
- Disturbances 22
Accidents 11
Citations 223
- Burglary 6
 - Shots fired 5
 - Accidents 11
 - Unwanted Person 11
 - Welfare concern 22
 - Assist another Agency
 - We took in 14 dogs and 15 cats.
 - 11 dogs went to rescues along with 14 cats
 - We had 1 dogs that were adopted out. We had 1 cat adopted out.
 - We had aprox 25 animal calls.
 - Code Enforcement has stopped 14 people working with-out permits. 2 garage sales with out permits.
 - We have towed 3 vehicles illegally parked.
 - We have 10 cases ready for court.

Fire Department – Update (Chief Parker)

- ▶ Responded to 59 emergency incidents during month of September & 684 total incidents since January 1, 2023.
- ▶ One (1) structure fire occurred on Chambers Street. The fire was quickly extinguished and property damage was minor. No injuries or life loss resulted.
- ▶ Two (2) small vegetation fires occurred within the city limits. Both were quickly contained and extinguished. Both fires combined resulted in a loss of less than one (1) acre.
- ▶ MFR assisted Marlin VFD with one (1) grass fire outside of the city limits on Hwy 7.

- ▶ Insurance Service Offices (ISO) field representative conducted quinquennial assessment of fire suppression, water system, and dispatching capabilities.
- ▶ Received updated First Responder Organization license from TX Dept. of State Health Services.
- ▶ Two (2) FF/EMTs completed web-based didactic portion of Driver/Operator-Pumper certification course. Skills testing & final exam to be held in Marlin at Station 1.
- ▶ Will be conducting fire/life safety presentations at various locations over the next two (2) months.
- ▶ Per U.S. Drought Monitor's Sept 28th update, eastern Falls County is now experiencing exceptional drought. This is the highest drought intensity level issued by Drought Monitor.
- ▶ Wildfire activity slightly diminished over the past month. Falls County remains under an Outdoor Burn Ban as of 10/02/2023.
- ▶ Cooler daytime and nighttime temperatures, along with increased rainfall potential, are forecasted over the next ten (10) days.

Finance Department / Water Department - Update (Finance Dir.)

Bank Balances as of 9/30/2023

- General \$ 1,872,904.69
- 5% Dedicated Water fund \$343,643.89
- Invoices from FY 2022-2023 are being closed out
- Spending for all departments have been suspended until FY 2023-2024 has been implemented and FY 2022-2023 closed out(emergencies are the exception)
- Council received (in the works) accounting policies, that will be given to the new City Manager to finish up.
- CPA is continuing to reconcile Incode bank records
- Water bills went out to consumers

Public Works –Update (Public Works Dir)

WATER DEPARTMENT

- ▶ TURN ON 20
- ▶ TURN OFF 10
- ▶ REREAD 13
- ▶ CHANGE METER HEAD 1
- ▶ WATER LEAKS 10
- ▶ SEWER BACK UPS 7

STREET DEPARTMENT

- ▶ ROAD WORK BLADED BENARD AVE., MARTIN ST., SODERS ST., LITTLEST., FANNIN ST., WASHINGTON ST., SAN ANTONIO ST., HARRISON ST.,
- ▶ PATCH HOLES BENNET ST., BENARD AVE., SHADY ST., COLEMAN ST., COMMERCE ST., SHRED KENNEDY ST., SHRED AIRPORT, WATER LEAKS ON MARYLAND ST., SEWER BACK AT 508 RICKLEMAN, WALMART, REPLACE MANHOLE RISER ON LIVEOAK ST., PLOT GRAVE AT HILLCREST (F-2-5), (K 26, K 27)

LAWN CARE

- ▶ MOW TOWERS , PAVILLIONS, TENNIS COURT,

Water Plant-Update (Water Plant Supervisor)

Water Treatment Plant

2 of our employees are finished with the Basic Water course and approved by TCEQ to take their D license test.

We will probably form a study group to help pass the exam soon.

Prestige Worldwide was at the plant to repair the valve that was leaking on one of the backwash pumps.

The job was incomplete, however last week they were here to finish the job.

Backwash Pump 2 has been picked up by Jergensen Pumps

There have been no complaints this month concerning the manganese issue we've been dealing with.

We are still waiting for the approval of the new CT Study with TCEQ for our Manganese control project

37.2 MG of Water was treated this month. Average of 1.24 MGD

We pumped 45 MG from the Brazos River in September

Clarifier 2 is now officially under construction. So far, they have gutted it out and sandblasted the inside.

They should start painting next week.

Koch investigated the membranes and their quality control said there is enough glycerin in the filters to

keep them from drying up. They are still investigating the filter that had 18 pins in it.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

All normal operations were preformed this month with no issues

We've met with Larry Fischer and some of his contacts to discuss alternative solutions instead of pumping out the ponds. There will be some testing and quotes in the coming months.

There are also discussions of the cost of building a new plant which might make more sense cost.

Everything is just in the discussion phase and no numbers have been drawn up.

8. Update to the City Council on Audit proceedings.

Council was updated that the auditor has pushed the date back to March 2024 and that other auditors were sought. Discussion was had on current status of reconciliation and the process that has taken place.

9. Consider and or approve selecting an audit firm for the City annual audit.

Mayor Pro-Tem Motioned to select auditor DCA Donald Allmen CPA PC pending contract approval and negotiation with City Attorney

Councilmember Armstrong seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd

Nays: Councilmember Washington

Absent : Councilmember Lopez , Councilmember Ponce

10. Discussion and or take action on City Manager position and to approve compensation for the City Manager.

Discussion was held, no action was taken. The council will meet back Monday at 6:30pm.

11. Discussion and or take action on approving the purchase, lease, acquisition, or allocation of a City vehicle for the City Manager's use.

Councilmember sparks motioned to table items 11 & 12 until Monday at 6:30pm.

Councilmember Armstrong seconded the motion and the motion carried as follow:

Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd

Nays: None

Absent : Councilmember Lopez , Councilmember Ponce

12. Discussion of abandoned and old houses in the City of Marlin.

Discussion was held, no action taken, item will be brought back in November.

Gill Gregory for MRB gave an update on ongoing projects.

13. Discussion and or take action on police department vehicle including the trade and purchase of patrol vehicle.

Councilmember Armstrong motion to act on trading in patrol cars for a three year term lease for \$248,005

Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid seconded the motion and the motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Councilmember Sparks, Councilmember Washington, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd

Nays: None

Absent : Councilmember Lopez , Councilmember Ponce

14. Discuss the need for the appointment of an associate, alternate, or temporary municipal court judge and consider the approval and adoption of a resolution appointing an associate, alternate, or temporary municipal court judge.

Discussion was held., no action was taken.

15. Update on TWDB, CWSRF, & DWSRF Projects from the MRB Group.

Update on projects was given .

16. Discuss and consider forensic auditing services and the acceptance of a proposal to retain and hire a qualified person or firm to provide forensic auditing services for the City.

No action was taken.

17. Discuss and take action to approve a City Council resolution to create, and appoint members to serve, on a Charter Committee for the purpose of recommending and proposing future amendments to the City Charter.

Councilmember Washington left the meeting at 7:40pm.

Ayes: Councilmember Armstrong, Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid, Mayor Byrd

Nays: Councilmember Sparks

Absent : Councilmember Lopez , Councilmember Ponce, Councilmember Washington.

18. Consider and or take action to approve a City Council resolution nominating candidates to the Falls County appraisal District.

Item will be brought back at the next meeting to provide names. No action.

19. Discussion of the City establishing and implementing business licensing/registration fees and discussion of future consideration of ordinances to adopt business licensing/registration fees.

No action .

20. Mayor's Update.

Mayor Byrd provided an update.

19. Future Agenda items.

20 . Adjourn.

Mayor Pro-Tem Levels-McDavid made motion to adjourn, all in favor said "Aye" meeting ended at 8:07pm

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS THE 14TH DAY OF November 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Byrd", is written over a horizontal line.

Susan Byrd, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Maryann Waddle", is written over a horizontal line.

Maryann Waddle, City Secretary