

CHAPTER 5

OPERATING PROCEDURES

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5.01 OATHS. The oath of office shall be required and administered in accordance with the following:

1. **Qualify for Office.** Each elected or appointed officer shall qualify for office by taking the prescribed oath and by giving, when required, a bond. The oath shall be taken, and bond provided, after being certified as elected but not later than noon of the first day which is not a Sunday or a legal holiday in January of the first year of the term for which the officer was elected.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 63.1)

2. **Prescribed Oath.** The prescribed oath is: “I, (name), do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and that I will faithfully and impartially, to the best of my ability, discharge all duties of the office of (name of office) in Marion as now or hereafter required by law.”

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 63.10)

3. **Officers Empowered to Administer Oaths.** The following are empowered to administer oaths and to take affirmations in any matter pertaining to the business of their respective office:

- A. Mayor
- B. City Clerk
- C. Members of all boards, commissions or bodies created by law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 63A.2)

5.02 BONDS. Surety bonds are provided in accordance with the following:

1. **Required.** The Council shall provide by resolution for a surety bond or blanket position bond running to the City and covering the Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer and such other officers and employees as may be necessary and advisable.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 64.13)

2. **Bonds Approved.** Bonds shall be approved by the Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 64.19)

3. Bonds Filed. All bonds, after approval and proper record, shall be filed with the Clerk.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 64.23[6])

4. Record. The Clerk shall keep a book, to be known as the “Record of Official Bonds” in which shall be recorded the official bonds of all City officers, elective or appointive.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 64.24[3])

5.03 DUTIES: GENERAL. Each municipal officer shall exercise the powers and perform the duties prescribed by law and this Code of Ordinances, or as otherwise directed by the Council unless contrary to State law or City charter.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])

5.04 BOOKS AND RECORDS. All books and records required to be kept by law or ordinance shall be open to examination by the public upon request, unless some other provisions of law expressly limit such right or require such records to be kept confidential. Access to public records which are combined with data processing software shall be in accordance with policies and procedures established by the City.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 22.2 & 22.3A)

5.05 TRANSFER TO SUCCESSOR. Each officer shall transfer to his or her successor in office all books, papers, records, documents and property in the officer’s custody and appertaining to that office.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])

5.06 MEETINGS. All meetings of the Council, any board or commission, or any multi-membered body formally and directly created by any of the foregoing bodies shall be held in accordance with the following:

1. Notice of Meetings. Reasonable notice, as defined by State law, of the time, date and place of each meeting, and its tentative agenda shall be given.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.4)

2. Meetings Open. All meetings shall be held in open session unless closed sessions are held as expressly permitted by State law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.3)

3. Minutes. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings showing the date, time and place, the members present, and the action taken at each meeting. The minutes shall show the results of each vote taken and information sufficient to indicate the vote of each member present. The vote of each member present shall be made public at the open session. The minutes shall be public records open to public inspection.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.3)

4. Closed Session. A closed session may be held only by affirmative vote of either two-thirds of the body or all of the members present at the meeting and in accordance with Chapter 21 of the Code of Iowa.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.5)

5. Cameras and Recorders. The public may use cameras or recording devices at any open session.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.7)

6. Electronic Meetings. A meeting may be conducted by electronic means only in circumstances where such a meeting in person is impossible or impractical and then only in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 21 of the Code of Iowa.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 21.8)

5.07 CONFLICT OF INTEREST. A City officer or employee shall not have an interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or job of work or material or the profits thereof or services to be furnished or performed for the City, unless expressly permitted by law. A contract entered into in violation of this section is void. The provisions of this section do not apply to:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5)

1. Compensation of Officers. The payment of lawful compensation of a City officer or employee holding more than one City office or position, the holding of which is not incompatible with another public office or is not prohibited by law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[1])

2. Investment of Funds. The designation of a bank or trust company as a depository, paying agent, or for investment of funds.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[2])

3. City Treasurer. An employee of a bank or trust company, who serves as Treasurer of the City.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[3])

4. Stock Interests. Contracts in which a City officer or employee has an interest solely by reason of employment, or a stock interest of the kind described in subsection 8 of this section, or both, if the contract is for professional services not customarily awarded by competitive bid, if the remuneration of employment will not be directly affected as a result of the contract, and if the duties of employment do not directly involve the procurement or preparation of any part of the contract.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[5])

5. Newspaper. The designation of an official newspaper.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[6])

6. Existing Contracts. A contract in which a City officer or employee has an interest if the contract was made before the time the officer or employee was elected or appointed, but the contract may not be renewed.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[7])

7. Volunteers. Contracts with volunteer fire fighters or civil defense volunteers.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[8])

8. Corporations. A contract with a corporation in which a City officer or employee has an interest by reason of stock holdings when less than five percent (5%) of the outstanding stock of the corporation is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the officer or employee or the spouse or immediate family of such officer or employee.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[9])

9. Contracts. Contracts made by the City upon competitive bid in writing, publicly invited and opened.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[4])

10. Cumulative Purchases. Contracts not otherwise permitted by this section, for the purchase of goods or services which benefit a City officer or employee, if the purchases benefiting that officer or employee do not exceed a cumulative total purchase price of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500.00) in a fiscal year.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[10])

11. Franchise Agreements. Franchise agreements between the City and a utility and contracts entered into by the City for the provision of essential City utility services.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 362.5[12])

5.08 RESIGNATIONS. An elected officer who wishes to resign may do so by submitting a resignation in writing to the Clerk so that it shall be properly recorded and considered. A person who resigns from an elective office is not eligible for appointment to the same office during the time for which the person was elected, if during that time the compensation of the office has been increased.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[9])

5.09 REMOVAL OF APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES. Except as otherwise provided by State or City law, all persons appointed to City office or employment may be removed by the officer or body making the appointment, but every such removal shall be by written order. The order shall give the reasons, be filed in the office of the Clerk, and a copy shall be sent by certified mail to the person removed, who, upon request filed with the Clerk within thirty (30) days after the date of mailing the copy, shall be granted a public hearing before the Council on all issues connected with the removal. The hearing shall be held within thirty (30) days after the date the request is filed, unless the person removed requests a later date.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.15)

5.10 VACANCIES. A vacancy in an elective City office during a term of office shall be filled, at the Council's option, by one of the two following procedures:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13 [2])

1. Appointment. By appointment following public notice by the remaining members of the Council within forty (40) days after the vacancy occurs, except that if the remaining members do not constitute a quorum of the full membership, or if a petition is filed requesting an election, the Council shall call a special election as provided by law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13 [2a])

2. Election. By a special election held to fill the office for the remaining balance of the unexpired term as provided by law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13 [2b])

5.11 GIFTS. Except as otherwise provided in Chapter 68B of the Code of Iowa, a public official, public employee or candidate, or that person's immediate family member, shall not, directly or indirectly, accept or receive any gift or series of gifts from a "restricted donor" as defined in Chapter 68B and a restricted donor shall not, directly or indirectly, individually or jointly with one or more other restricted donors, offer or make a gift or a series of gifts to a public official, public employee or candidate.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 68B.22)

5.12 MILEAGE. Employees of the City who are required to use their personal automobiles in their work with the City, excluding coming to or going from work, shall receive a mileage allowance equal to that allowed by the Internal Revenue Service without such allowance being treated as income. Claims shall be submitted on forms provided by the Finance Director. Employees who are required to regularly use a personal automobile in their work for the City may also be allowed, in lieu of the above mileage allowance, a car allowance as approved by the Council.

5.13 PLACE OF RESIDENCE. The City Manager, department heads, police officers, firefighters and other critical employees, shall not reside outside the City limits unless the place of residence is within a radius of 10 miles measured from the residence to the employee's department headquarters or is within 30 minutes driving time as per an approved on-line mapping service such as but not limited to Google Maps or Mapquest, as determined by the department head. All Paid-On-Call (volunteer) firefighters must reside in the city limits or within the Marion Township. This section does not require an employee to move and does not constitute grounds for termination if the employee does not reside within the limits established by this section at the time this section becomes effective, except that, should any such employee change his or her residence after the effective date of this section, the employee's new residence must comply with this provision within one year of hiring or within six months of the completion of his or her period of probationary employment, if any, whichever event occurs last. Employees may seek prior approval to obtain a residence beyond the limits set forth in this section. Approvals may be granted with the unanimous agreement of the Mayor,

City Manager and affected department head, provided the proposed residence will nevertheless, be within a reasonable response time to the employee's department due to the peculiarities of the particular circumstances. The word "reside" and words "place of residence" as used in this section mean that dwelling or a place where an employee actually lives and from which the employee will normally depart to travel to his or her place of employment within the City. A home, dwelling or apartment owned or rented by an employee but not actually occupied by an employee during his or her customary hours of sleep shall not be considered to be the employee' s place of residence. Individual city departments that have departmental rules and regulations may adopt a rule or regulation governing residence requirements for its critical employees that is more stringent than this section.

(Ord. 16-06 – Aug. 16 Supp.)

5.14 CITY ELECTIONS. All candidates for elective municipal office shall be nominated under the provisions of Chapter 45 of the Code of Iowa. The candidate with the most votes shall be the winner of the election and there shall not be a primary election nor shall there be a runoff election.

(Ord. 05-10 – Nov. 05 Supp.)

5.15 EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS. The City Council may approve, by resolution, employment agreements with the City Manager, department heads and professional employees that contain such provisions as the Council deems appropriate including provisions that deviate from employment at will even though the ordinance creating the position in question creates the same as an employment at will position.

(Ord. 07-03 – Aug. 07 Supp.)

5.16 SUDAS. The City of Marion hereby adopts the 2015 edition of the Statewide Urban Design and Specifications Program, as Marion's design specifications and manual. These specifications and manual may be known as and cited as "SUDAS". SUDAS as adopted herein replaces the Metropolitan Area Engineering Design Standards and the Cedar Rapids Metropolitan Standards and Specifications previously in effect in Marion. Subsequent updated editions of SUDAS will be adopted by the Marion City Council by resolution.

(Ord. 15-24 – Feb. 16 Supp.)