September 7, 2017

The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in regular session, Thursday, September 7, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall with Mayor AbouAssaly presiding and the following council members present: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, and Pazour. Absent: Nicholson.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council observed a moment of silence.

Deputy Police Chief Doug Slagle made a presentation regarding the retirement of K9 Lingo that is handled by Corporal Jason Schamberger. Officer Schamberger was hired in 2004 and promoted to Corporal in 2016. Lingo has been with Officer Schamberger since 2008. Corporal Schamberger and Lingo competed nationwide in K9 Olympics and has won many awards. Deputy Chief Slagle stated that Lingo has been a valuable asset to the department. He noted that Corporal Schamberger will be taking on additional duties with the department to further his career. Lingo will be transferred to the Schamberger family. Corporal Schamberger thanked former Police Chief Harry Daugherty and Sergeant Phil Fort that selected him to be a K9 handler and also selected Lingo. He also thanked Chief McHale, former Captain DeLaMater, former Lt. Etzel, Deputy Chief Slagle, Lt. Merta, Lt. Nott, the patrol officers and sergeants that have called on Lingo for help, Corporal Kjormoe, and Officer Cirkl.

Council Member Nicholson arrived at 5:36 p.m.

Corporal Schamberger thanked the citizens of Marion and the surrounding communities for attending the many K9 demonstrations. Corporal Schamberger also thanked his wife and son for helping care for Lingo at their home. He also thanked Lingo for his loyalty of service and protection. Mayor AbouAssaly thanked the Police Department for keeping the City safe. He wished Lingo well in his retirement with the Schamberger family. Mayor AbouAssaly presented a picture of Corporal Schamberger with Lingo to Corporal Schamberger. Deputy Chief Slagle noted that the Police Department will get a new dog in October. Officer Adam Herrig was chosen to be the next handler.

Mayor AbouAssaly read a proclamation for Five Seasons Stand Down. Mayor AbouAssaly presented the proclamation to Ann Hearn, Joe Stutler, and Lynda Waddington. The 12th Annual Five Seasons Veterans Stand Down Day is Friday, September 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Stadium in Cedar Rapids.

Mayor AbouAssaly read a proclamation for Constitution Week. Mayor AbouAssaly presented the proclamation to Nancy Grindle. Constitution Week is September 17th through September 23rd.

Citizen’s presentations, comments, and/or petitions: None.

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Council Member Pazour requested that Resolution No. 26306, approving the purchase of three (3) Toyota AWD RAV4 LE vehicles from Cedar Rapids Toyota at a cost not to exceed $69,100.00 including trade in of two existing Pontiac Vibe inspection cars, be removed from the consent calendar for separate consideration.

Moved by Spinks, seconded by Draper to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows:

Motion to approve minutes of the August 15, 17, and 29, 2017 City Council meetings.

Motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of $1,753,356.50.

Motion to approve the following liquor license applications:

* 1. New application for a Special Class C Liquor License with additional privileges for Carryout Wine and Sunday Sales for Whistling Hop, Inc., dba The Famous Mockingbird (1064 7th Avenue). Effective 09/01/2017.
  2. New application for a Class E Liquor License with additional privileges for Carryout Native Wine, Carryout Wine, Carryout Beer, and Sunday Sales for Petroleum Services Company, LLC, dba Hawkeye Convenience Stores (2500 7th Avenue). Effective 09/01/2017. (Switching from Class C Beer Permit).

Resolution No. 26301 taking additional action to enter into a Refunding Loan Agreement, setting the date for the sale of the Refunding Bonds, Series 2017B and authorizing the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith.

Resolution No. 26302 approving payment to Independent Public Advisors, LLC in the amount of $17,839.58 for services relating to the issuance of Series 2017A Bonds.

Motion to receive and file certified list for Communications Operator.

Motion to receive and file correspondence from the Pheasant Trail 4th Home Owners Association regarding maintenance of waterway.

Resolution No. 26303 approving the purchase of roadway signs from Iowa Prison Industries in the amount of $21,500.00.

Motion to receive and file a correspondence requesting to purchase used Marion Police Departments’ K9 kennel, insert and accessories in the amount of $1,500.00 (John R. McGee, Oskaloosa Police Department).

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Resolution No. 26304 approving the sale of the used Marion Police Departments’ K9 kennel, insert and accessories to the Oskaloosa Police Department in the amount of $1,500.00.

Resolution No. 26305 approving payment to Utility One Source regarding the 2017 Terex Forestry Bucket Truck purchase in the amount of $137,527.00.

Motion to approve Project Calendar regarding Engineering Department payments as follows:

* 1. Resolution No. 26307 approving Partial Payment No. 8 to Rathje Construction Company, Inc. regarding the 2016 Winslow Road Reconstruction Project in the amount of $196,619.60.
  2. Resolution No. 26308 approving Partial Payment No. 2 to Eastern Iowa Excavating and Concrete, LLC regarding the 2017 Sidewalk Assessment Project in the amount of $29,846.60.
  3. Resolution No. 26309 approving Partial Payment No. 1 to Rathje Construction Company, Inc. regarding the 2017 Armar Drive Extension Project in the amount of $83,657.37.
  4. Resolution No. 26310 approving Partial Payment No. 1 to Rathje Construction Company, Inc. regarding the 2017 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Project in the amount of $54,414.16.
  5. Resolution No. 26311 approving Partial Payment No. 1 to Municipal Pipe Tool Co., LLC. regarding the 2017 Sanitary Sewer Sliplining Project in the amount of $176,293.35.
  6. Resolution No. 26312 approving Partial Payment No. 15 to Ricklefs Excavating, LTD regarding the Central Corridor Complete Streets and Capacity Improvements, Roundabout at 7th Avenue and 7th Street, STP-A-4775(627)--86-57 in the amount of $984.23.
  7. Resolution No. 26313 approving Partial Payment No. 7 to City of Cedar Rapids, regarding the Indian Creek Trunk Sewer Replacement Project – Segment 2 in the amount of $64,879.76.
  8. Resolution No. 26314 approving Partial Payment No. 7 to Veenstra & Kimm, Inc., regarding the Indian Creek Trunk Sewer Replacement Project – Segment 7 in the amount of $4,580.00.

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Motion to approve Project Calendar regarding Temporary Construction Easements associated with the 2017 Lucore Road Reconstruction Project as follows:

* 1. Resolution No. 26315 approving Temporary Construction Easement with Hunters Ridge Development Co, LLC, easterly 15 feet of Lot 3 of Hunters Ridge Eighth Addition, regarding the 2017 Lucore Road Reconstruction Project.
  2. Resolution No. 26316 approving Temporary Construction Easement with Hunters Ridge Development Co, LLC, easterly 15 feet of Outlot D of Hunters Ridge First Addition, regarding the 2017 Lucore Road Reconstruction Project.

Resolution No. 26317 setting a public hearing for September 21, 2017, regarding establishing access fee related to the 2015 Winslow Road Realignment Project.

Resolution No. 26318 setting a public hearing for September 21, 2017, regarding establishing access fee related to Tower Terrace Road – Phase V (10th St to Indian Creek Road).

Resolution No. 26319 accepting the 2017 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Project.

Motion to receive, file, and refer to TAC, correspondence regarding the addition of stop signs and crosswalks at the intersection of Alburnett Road and Echo Hill Road (Brenda Boots).

Motion to receive, file, and refer to TAC, correspondence regarding the speed limit on Antler Court (Edward Ohl, Association President, Antler Court Association).

Motion to receive, file, and refer to TAC, correspondence regarding wayfinding signs to be placed in the right-of-way for the Marion Church of Christ (Chad Cranfield, Minister, Marion Church of Christ).

Motion to approve Project Calendar regarding Planning and Development Department payment as follows:

* 1. Resolution No. 26320 approving Payment No. 23 to Universal Field Services, Inc. for services related to right-of-way acquisitions for the Central Corridor Improvement Project, 13th Street to 31st Street, in the amount of $5,667.03.

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Motion to receive and file the following item to the Planning and Zoning Commission:

* 1. Final Plat for Valley View Farm 3rd Addition for property located west of East Post Road and south of Highway 100 (Potter Land Company L.C.).

Resolution No. 26321 approving Plat of Survey No. 2179 for property located east of Elderton Drive and north of Foxborough Drive (Fritz Development).

Resolution No. 26322 approving a 28E Agreement between Linn County and the cities of Cedar Rapids and Marion to provide local funding for the Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2019 – 2024.

Resolution No. 26323 approving an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation related to the design and construction of the Indian Creek Trail.

Resolution No. 26324 approving relocation expenses for property located at 1405 7th Avenue in the amount of $35,750.

Resolution No. 26325 directing publication of notice of a hearing on September 21, 2017 regarding a proposed donation of a portion of public property located at 2941 5th Avenue, Marion, Iowa.

Motion to receive and file an application for tax increment financing (TIF) assistance from Marion Process Solutions.

Motion to receive and file an application for tax increment financing (TIF) assistance from SB Coastal, LLC.

Resolution No. 26326 approving an amendment to Public Access Easement Agreement at 777 10th Street.

Resolution No. 26327 authorizing Deferred Compensation Agreement (Samuel Halsor).

Motion to receive and file revised Employment Section 1.08 of the Personnel Policy regarding Nepotism.

Motion to receive and file new job description (Accounting Associate).

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Resolution No. 26328 amending the 04/01/2017 non-bargaining pay schedule to eliminate Financial Clerk and add Accounting Associate pay range ($44,764 minimum to $65,829 hard cap).

Motion to adjust the term end date for Mike Dooley, Local Option Sales Tax Oversight Committee, by extending his term by one year for a new term end date of 12/31/18.

Motion to approve the following Hold Harmless/Noise Waiver Agreements:

* 1. Concert, Uptown Artway Stage, October 7, 2017, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Artisan’s Sanctuary, 1070 7th Avenue.
  2. Wedding, Lowe Park Amphitheater, August 4, 2018, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Michelle Felour, 411 Stonehaven Lane NE, Cedar Rapids).
  3. Be Inspired/Dimoda Boutique Grand Opening, September 9, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Jill Deklotz and Tammy Cannavo, 720 11th Street).
  4. Art Trivia, Uptown Artway, September 12, 2017, 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (Karen Hoyt, 2335 South 22nd Street).

All in favor of motion to approve the consent calendar, motion carried.

Resolution No. 26306 approving the purchase of three (3) Toyota AWD RAV4 LE vehicles from Cedar Rapids Toyota at a cost not to exceed $69,100.00 including trade in of two existing Pontiac Vibe inspection cars was read by Spinks. Moved by Spinks, seconded by Nicholson to approve Res. No. 26306. Council Member Pazour asked if the vehicle in the City Hall parking lot could also be traded in. City Engineer Dan Whitlow stated that the old police car will be auctioned. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor AbouAssaly relinquished the gavel to Mayor pro tem Spinks at 5:50 p.m. Mayor pro tem Spinks presided over the meeting.

Moved by Brandt, seconded by Etzel to approve Consent Calendar with Mayor AbouAssaly abstention from voting and discussion regarding the following items:

Resolution No. 26330 accepting Central Corridor Project (26th Street to 31st Street – Stage I) and Central Corridor Improvements Project (13th to 31st Street – Stage 2; Phase II).

Motion to receive and file the following item to the Planning and Zoning Commission:

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* 1. Request for a Conditional Use permit for the locating of IMON Hub Station for property located at 220 Boyson Road (Imon Communications).

Resolution No. 26331 approving Plat of Survey No. 2188 for property located north of Echo Hill Road and east of Alburnett Road (Backen/Butchi).

**Resolution No. 26332 approving a request by GLD for Town Place Suites,** a four (4) story extended Marriott branded hotel, to approve the IDO **(Interim Development Ordinance)** Improvement Review for property located south of 7th Avenue between the roundabout and 31st Street.

Council Member Pazour requested a staff report on the Central Corridor Project. City Engineer Dan Whitlow and Planning and Development Director Tom Treharne presented the staff report. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Abstention: AbouAssaly. Motion carried.

Mayor pro tem Spinks relinquished the gavel back to Mayor AbouAssaly at 5:54 p.m. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

Mayor AbouAssaly opened a public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of a FY 2017-2018 budget amendment. Finance Director Wes Nelson presented the staff report. No other comments, written or verbal, were received. Mayor AbouAssaly declared the public hearing closed.

Resolution No. 26333 approving the FY 2017-2018 budget amendment was read by Nicholson. Moved by Nicholson, seconded by Brandt to approve Res. No. 26333. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor AbouAssaly opened a public hearing regarding the 2017 Pedestrian Beacon Project. City Engineer Dan Whitlow presented the staff report. Rene Gadelha, 797 Oak Park Circle, asked about the speed limit near the schools and crossing guards. City Engineer Whitlow responded to the questions. Mike Pedersen, 3460 27th Avenue, spoke in favor of the pedestrian beacons. He suggested that the City do some public education on the beacons. No other comments, written or verbal, were received. Mayor AbouAssaly declared the public hearing closed.

Resolution No. 26334 accepting bids and awarding contract to Midwest Concrete, Inc. regarding the 2017 Pedestrian Beacon Project in the amount of $138,984.20 was read by Pazour. Moved by Pazour, seconded by Draper to approve Res. No. 26334. Comments were heard from Council Member Spinks, Council Member Etzel, and City Engineer Dan Whitlow regarding the project. All in favor, motion carried.

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Mayor AbouAssaly left the meeting at 6:04 p.m. Mayor pro tem Spinks presided over the meeting.

Resolution No. 26329 approving concurrence with developer agreement associated with the 2017 Central Corridor Improvements Project – Phase 3 [13th Street to 19th Street] in the amount of $2,125,078.55 was read by Draper. Moved by Draper, seconded by Etzel to approve Res. No. 26329. Comments were heard by Council Member Pazour regarding the cost of the project. City Engineer Dan Whitlow presented the staff report. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 26335 approving The Commons at English Glen Phase II Preliminary Site Development Plan for property located north of 29th Avenue and west of 44th Street (Robson Homes, Inc.) was read by Etzel. Moved by Etzel, seconded by Draper to approve Res. No. 26335. Comments were heard from Council Member Pazour and Council Member Spinks regarding the possible effect of the Rockwell Collins/United Technologies merger on development in the area. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 26336 approving The Commons at English Glen Phase II Preliminary Plat for property located north of 29th Avenue and west of 44th Street (Robson Homes, Inc.) was read by Brandt. Moved by Brandt, seconded by Etzel to approve Res. No. 26336. David Cowguill, 4255 REC Drive, spoke opposing the development. Planning and Development Director Tom Treharne and City Engineer Dan Whitlow presented the staff report. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor AbouAssaly returned to the meeting at 6:19 p.m. and presided over the meeting.

Mayor AbouAssaly opened a public hearing regarding a request to vacate and sell the alley adjacent to 890 7th Avenue more specifically known as that portion of alley in Block 11, Original Town of Marion, Linn County, Iowa lying adjacent to and north of Lot 7 and Lot 8 of said Block 11 and lying adjacent to and south of Lot 1 and Lot 2 of said Block 11 (JLenz, LLC). Council Member Pazour requested a staff report. Planning and Development Director Tom Treharne presented the staff report. No other comments, written or verbal, were received. Mayor AbouAssaly declared the public hearing closed.

Resolution No. 26337 approving the vacation of the alley adjacent to 890 7th Avenue more specifically known as that portion of alley in Block 11, Original Town of Marion, Linn County, Iowa lying adjacent to and north of Lot 7 and Lot 8 of said Block 11 and lying adjacent to and south of Lot 1 and Lot 2 of said Block 11 (JLenz, LLC) was read by Brandt. Moved by Brandt, seconded by Etzel to approve Res. No. 26337. Comments were heard from Council Member Pazour, Council Member Spinks, and Planning and Development Director Tom Treharne. All in favor, motion carried.

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Resolution No. 26338 approving the sale of the alley adjacent to 890 7th Avenue more specifically known as that portion of alley in Block 11, Original Town of Marion, Linn County, Iowa lying adjacent to and north of Lot 7 and Lot 8 of said Block 11 and lying adjacent to and south of Lot 1 and Lot 2 of said Block 11 (JLenz, LLC) was read by Pazour. Moved by Pazour, seconded by Draper to approve Res. No. 26338. All in favor, motion carried.

**Ordinance No. 17-18 amending Ordinance No. 13-14 of the Marion Code of Ordinances removing the limitation on hours of operation for property generally described as being located south of Tower Terrace Road, west of 3rd Street, east of Irish Drive and north and west of ESCO Company was read by Nicholson for second consideration. Moved by Nicholson, seconded by Etzel to approve the second reading of Ord. No. 17-18. Planning and Development Director Tom Treharne presented the staff report. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, AbouAssaly, and Nicholson. Nays: Brandt and Pazour. Motion carried.**

Bryan Kubik and Stephanie Neighbor Kubik, 419 Green Valley Terrace SE, Cedar Rapids, stated that they are owners of SB Coastal, LLC. Mr. and Mrs. Kubik made a presentation regarding an application for tax increment financing (TIF) assistance for the renovation, repair, and restoration of the property located at 871 10th Street. Mr. Kubik noted that the building was built in 1870 and it is one of the oldest remaining buildings in Marion. Council asked questions regarding the plans for the property. Mr. Kubik responded to the Council’s questions.

Moved by Draper, seconded by Nicholson to direct staff to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SB Coastal, LLC, regarding tax increment financing (TIF) incentives. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn presented the staff report. Council discussed the project. All in favor, motion carried.

Moved by Etzel, seconded by Brandt to direct staff to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Marion Process Solutions regarding tax increment financing (TIF) incentives. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution No. 26339 approving a Well Being Service Agreement between the City of Marion and the Cedar Rapids Metro YMCA was read by Spinks. Moved by Spinks, seconded by Draper to approve Res. No. 26339. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution No. 26340 approving an agreement with WebsEdge/ICMAtv in the amount of $22,500.00 was read by Brandt. Moved by Brandt, seconded by Nicholson to approve Res. No. 26340. Council discussed the agreement. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn responded to Council’s questions. All in favor except Pazour, motion carried.

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Ordinance No. 17-23 relating to Public Consumption or Intoxication was read by Nicholson for initial consideration. Moved by Nicholson, seconded by Pazour to approve the first reading of Ord. No. 17-23. All in favor, motion carried.

Ordinance No. 17-21 relating to Parades, Marches, and First Amendment Assemblies was read by Pazour for second consideration. Moved by Pazour, seconded by Brandt to approve the second reading of Ord. No. 17-21. Council Member Pazour asked if any comments have been received since the first reading. City Attorney Ryan Tang stated that he has not received any further comments from the ACLU. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution No. 26341 cancelling two city council meetings in 2018 due to conflicts with holidays (January 2 and November 22, 2018) was read by Draper. Moved by Draper, seconded by Etzel to approve Res. No. 26341. Council discussed the meeting schedule. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor AbouAssaly left the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Mayor pro tem Spinks presided over the meeting.

Mayor pro tem Spinks recommended the following appointments:

* 1. Bonnie Roth, 2701 3rd Avenue, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.
  2. Mike Goldberg, 3173 Silver Oak Trail, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.
  3. Craig Rairdin, 1000 Creekbend Court, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.
  4. Tim Schaffer, 1775 Maple Crest Drive, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.
  5. John Bender, 5630 Woodbridge Crest, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.
  6. Ray Brown, 4120 Creekview Drive, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.

Moved by Brandt, seconded by Etzel to concur with Mayor pro tem Spinks recommendations. Council Member Pazour requested that each appointment be voted on separately. Mayor pro tem Spinks provided information regarding each candidate for the Airport Committee. Council Member Draper inquired about the terms. Mayor pro tem Spinks stated that the terms will be staggered and the Committee will determine the members terms.

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1. Bonnie Roth, 2701 3rd Avenue, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.
2. Mike Goldberg, 3173 Silver Oak Trail, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.
3. Craig Rairdin, 1000 Creekbend Court, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.
4. Tim Schaffer, 1775 Maple Crest Drive, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.
5. John Bender, 5630 Woodbridge Crest, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.
6. Ray Brown, 4120 Creekview Drive, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX. Vote: Yeas: Draper, Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor pro tem Spinks recommended the following appointment:

1. Nathan Caraway, 2220 Hindman Road, Marion Municipal Airport Committee, term expires 12-31-XX.

Moved by Etzel, seconded by Nicholson to concur with Mayor pro tem Spink’s recommendation. Mayor pro tem Spinks’ explained why he was recommending Mr. Caraway for the Airport Committee. Council Member Pazour stated that the Code requires that the Committee member be a resident of the City. Mike Tope, 170 26th Street Court, read the committee member qualifications from Chapter 177.02 of the Marion Code. Nathan Caraway, 2270 Hindman Road, addressed the City Council regarding his appointment. Moved by Draper, seconded by Brandt to table the appointment of Nathan Caraway to the Marion Municipal Airport Committee. Council discussed the appointment. Vote on motion to table: Yeas: Draper and Nicholson. Nays: Etzel, Spinks, Brandt, and Pazour. Motion to table failed. Vote on appointment of Nathan Caraway to the Marion Municipal Airport Committee: Yeas: Draper and Spinks. Nays: Etzel, Brandt, Nicholson, and Pazour. Motion failed.

Mayor AbouAssaly returned to the meeting at 7:24 p.m. and presided over the meeting.

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Council Discussion Time:

Council Member Pazour inquired about the permit parking on 8th Avenue and 11th Street. She stated that she wanted it changed before the Swamp Fox Festival. Assistant to the City Manager Amanda Kaufman stated that City Attorney Kara Bullerman is working with the property owner and anticipates that it will be ready for the next Council agenda. Ms. Kaufman noted that the parking restrictions are just Monday through Friday so it would not affect parking for the Swamp Fox Festival on Saturday.

Council Member Pazour asked for a report on the debt of the City. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated that he would look up the requested information for Council Member Pazour.

Council Member Pazour asked for information on the TIF incentives for the Dairy Queen. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated that they were approved by the Council for urban revitalization so they will be receiving an incentive. Mr. Pluckhahn explained that they are amending the urban renewal plan on a quarterly basis. Assistant to the City Manager Amanda Kaufman stated that she spoke with the applicant yesterday and explained the process to them.

Council Member Pazour asked for clarification on Ord. No. 17-10 that sets compensation for the City Council. She asked if their compensation could be decreased since it is based on the consumer price index. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated that it was not the intent to have the compensation be decreased. Council Member Pazour asked if the pay for performance for staff would be tied to the index also.

City Manager Lon Pluckhahn responded to Council Member Pazour’s question regarding the City debt. He stated that the balance as of 06/30/2016 was $52 million. In the current fiscal year, the City will be bonding for additional dollars. Mr. Pluckhahn stated that the City pays off approximately $5 million per year. He stated that he will provide the Council with an updated worksheet.

Council Member Pazour stated that it was mentioned that the Marion Square Mall tenants could possibly be moved to the commercial space in the proposed parking garage. She explained that she visited with some of the tenants and they were not aware of that possibility.

Council Member Brandt asked if the construction trailer parked at the intersection of 8th Avenue and 11th Street has received permission to park there. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated that there is a hold harmless agreement allowing them to park there.

Council Member Brandt noted that Habitat for Humanity has chosen to build a home in Marion. He stated that it will be at 3rd Avenue and 22nd Street. He noted that it is good for the community to have Habitat for Humanity help with a home.

Council Member Spinks asked about the hotel projects and the mixed use facility. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated the development agreement provides for an annual appropriation. He noted that only the annual appropriation counts against the City’s debt limit. Mayor AbouAssaly stated that the City Manager had indicated that his goal is to decrease the debt level in the future. City Manager Pluckhahn responded that he will

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update the debt worksheet and provide it to the City Council. Mr. Pluckhahn noted that they were originally anticipating that the debt level will be decreased to approximately $34 million to $37 million by FY 24-25. City Manager Pluckhahn explained that many of the streets installed during the growth in the 1950s are now needing to be replaced. He noted that those improvements are paid through bonding. He explained that the road use tax money provides for ongoing operational expenses. Mr. Pluckhahn also noted that the cost to replace roads has increased over 110% in the past 10 years. Mr. Pluckhahn explained that the citizens have repeatedly indicated in the citizen survey that street improvements are a top priority.

Council Member Draper provided the history of the Marion Fire Department. He noted that in 1872 Marion had a bucket brigade. He explained that in 1874 the department purchased a horse drawn engine and a hook and ladder in Chicago at a cost of $1,800 for both pieces of equipment. Council Member Draper noted that they did not have the money for a horse so they had to pull the equipment by hand. Council Member Draper also reviewed each of the major fires in Marion that have occurred since 1874.

Mayor AbouAssaly noted that there were ribbon cuttings for the Marion Independent School District tennis court joint project with the City and for Longfellow Elementary. In addition, there was a groundbreaking for Legacy Manufacturing’s 200,000 square foot expansion. Mayor AbouAssaly noted that there will be ribbon cuttings for Awaken Vitality Holistic Healing and Di Moda/Be Inspired in the Uptown area this weekend. Mayor AbouAssaly explained that there are many great things happening in Marion.

Mayor AbouAssaly adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

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Nicolas AbouAssaly, Mayor

Attest:

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Beth J. Little, Assistant City Clerk