



MINUTES

City Council Work Session

4:00 PM - Tuesday, April 20, 2021
City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in informal work session, Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 4:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Grant Harper, Colette Atkins, Steve Jensen, Nicolas AbouAssaly, Will Brandt, Rene Gadelha, and Randy Strnad

ABSENT: None

Based on COVID-19 guidance from Linn County Public Health and the State of Iowa to limit the size of groups gathering, this meeting was held electronically. The agenda and City's website provided instructions on how others could participate in the meeting.

Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

AGENDA

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

Mayor AbouAssaly relinquished the gavel to Mayor Pro Tem Atkins at 5:40 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Atkins presided over the meeting.

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Atkins relinquished the gavel to Mayor AbouAssaly at 5:42 p.m. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

OTHER DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION

FY 21 Strategic Plan Quarterly Update – Q3

Budget Manager Zach Wolfe provided quarterly update regarding the FY21 Strategic Plan. Wolfe went through each focus area and presented any updates completed as of March 2021. Council Member Jensen asked if the information that was shared is accessible by the public. Wolfe stated the reporting system is still being developed but could be accessible by the public if desired. Council Member Harper agreed it should be made available to the public.

Discussion Regarding Stump Removals in the Right of Way

City Arborist Mike Cimprich stated there are 1500 stumps remaining in the public right-of-way. Cimprich stated staff would like to release a request for proposals to remove the

stumps and restore grade and turf. Staff would like all stumps removed in less than two seasons. Interim Parks Director Seth Staashelm stated an item directing staff to proceed will be added to Thursday's agenda. Mayor AbouAssaly asked where funding would come from. Staashelm stated Urban Forest could be utilized to pay for it over time or could seek American Rescue Plan cash. Mayor AbouAssaly also asked if residents can remove a stump on their own. Cimprich stated they could but they would need to obtain a right-of-way permit at no cost. Mayor AbouAssaly asked how the sidewalk damaged by tree stumps will be handled. Staashelm stated that is a high priority and those will be evaluated differently. Staff will be meeting to see if that can be done internally or if those services will need to be contracted. Council Member Atkins confirmed that the anticipated total cost of this would be around \$350,000. Staashelm confirmed. Council Member Atkins asked more about how the American Rescue Plan cash would work. City Manager Lon Pluckhahn stated it would be a reallocation of funds from one project to another. Council Member Strnad asked for stipulations be added that the contractor is committed to this so it is completed in a timely fashion. Cimprich stated the two priorities for which contractor is chosen would be quality of work and timeline.

Update Regarding Armar Drive Condemnation Appeal

City Engineer Mike Barkalow provided history and current status of the condemnation proceedings related to the Armar Drive property.

ADJOURN

Mayor AbouAssaly adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Nicolas AbouAssaly, Mayor

Rachel Bolender, City Clerk

The undersigned City Clerk of Marion, Iowa certifies that the minutes shown immediately above were published in the Marion Times on the _____ day of _____, 20__.

Rachel Bolender, City Clerk