



# MINUTES

## City Council Special Session

8:30 AM - Friday, January 27, 2023  
Fire Station No. 1, 100 Irish Drive

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The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in special session, on Friday, January 27, 2023, at 8:30 AM, at Fire Station No. 1, 100 Irish Drive, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Steve Jensen, Randy Strnad, Grant Harper, Sara Mentzer, Colette Atkins, and Will Brandt

ABSENT: Nicolas AbouAssaly

Mayor Pro Tem Harper presided over the meeting.

### REGULAR AGENDA

#### **Discussion Regarding the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Capital Improvement Program**

Council discussed the fiscal year 2024 budget and capital improvement program. City Manager Ryan Waller provided an overview of the budget preparation process and a brief review of property tax basics and cost drivers.

Mayor AbouAssaly arrived at 8:38 a.m. Mayor Pro Tem Harper relinquished the gavel to Mayor AbouAssaly. Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

Council continued discussion of the fiscal year 2024 budget with no action taken. Staff provided overviews of their department or division accomplishments during 2022 and the budgetary drivers for the fiscal year 2024 budget.

Mayor AbouAssaly declared a recess at 10:40 a.m.

Mayor AbouAssaly reconvened the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

Council continued discussion of the fiscal year 2024 budget with no action taken. Finance Director Lianne Cairy reviewed revenues, rollback impacts, levy impacts and changes to health insurance.

Mayor AbouAssaly declared a recess at 11:45 a.m.

Mayor AbouAssaly reconvened the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Council continued discussion of the fiscal year 2024 budget with no action taken. Staff covered the budgets for the Solid Waste, Urban Forest and Stormwater funds. Assistant Finance Director Brian McKenzie provided information regarding the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) including projects and funding. Finance Director Lianne Cairy provided an overview of other funds including replacement funds, hotel/motel and

funds that have limited or no activity.

City Manager Ryan Waller went through each of the items requiring more direction from council. Council discussed the recommended CIP, funded but non-recurring items, non-bargaining wage increases, transit, franchise fees, step compression issues in the police department and the addition of firefighters. Council was in support of moving forward with the police department and firefighter recommendations. Majority of Council was in support of postponing the change to transit. Majority of Council was in support of moving forward with the recommended non-bargaining wage increase. Council was in support of moving forward with the recommended Option A for the CIP. Majority of Council were in support of leaving franchise fees as is.

**ADJOURN**

Mayor AbouAssaly adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

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Nicolas AbouAssaly, Mayor

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Rachel Bolender, City Clerk

The undersigned City Clerk of Marion, Iowa certifies that the minutes shown immediately above were published in the Gazette on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

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Rachel Bolender, City Clerk