



# MINUTES

## City Council Work Session

4:00 PM - Tuesday, October 17, 2023  
City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

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The City Council of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met in informal work session, Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 4:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Grant Harper, Steve Jensen, Nicolas AbouAssaly, Will Brandt, Randy Strnad, and Gage Miskimen

ABSENT: Sara Mentzer

Mayor AbouAssaly presided over the meeting.

### PROCLAMATIONS/OATHS

#### **Proclamation - Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October 2023)**

Mayor AbouAssaly read the proclamation referenced above.

### PRESENTATIONS

#### **Overview of 2024 Legislative Session**

Dustin Miller with Nyemaster Goode PC provided an overview of the upcoming legislative session.

Councilmember Mentzer arrived at 4:06 p.m.

Miller with Nyemaster Goode PC shared information about items that impact local government, general business, labor and employment, taxes and the budget. Councilmember Jensen asked questions about the state government taking more control away from communities. Miller stated he anticipates there will be more similar action during the next session and he is working with City Manager Ryan Waller and others to try and get ahead of that issue.

### OTHER DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION

#### **Discussion and direction regarding the Hotel/Motel Grant Program**

Finance Director Lianne Cairy provided an overview on changes to be made during the upcoming budget process that relate to the Hotel/Motel Grant Program.

#### **Budget Discussion: Capital Improvement Program FY25-29**

Deputy Finance Director Brian McKenzie provided an overview of the recommended projects to be included in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). A list of four projects

was also provided that Council could choose to include. McKenzie stated another discussion will be held at the November 7, 2023 City Council meeting. Councilmember Jensen asked for a list of fiscal year 2023 projects and their current status. City Manager Ryan Waller stated staff are looking to standardize that process and the plan is to provide regular updates to Council.

### **UPCOMING AGENDA REVIEW**

City Council review of the October 19, 2023 agenda - Council discussed the agenda items for Thursday night's meeting with no action taken.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to adjourn to closed session regarding litigation as permitted under Section 21.5(1)(c) of the Code of Iowa. (Three separate items)

Moved by Harper, seconded by Jensen, to adjourn to closed session as stated above. Assistant City Attorney Amy Reasner stated that she has reviewed the subject matter to be discussed and found it to be an appropriate topic for closed session. A roll call vote was taken.

Approved unanimously

Mayor AbouAssaly left the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Moved by Jensen, seconded by Strnad, to reconvene to regular session.

Approved unanimously

### **ADJOURN**

Mayor Pro Tem Harper adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
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