

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 1, 2021

The Mayor and Council of the City of Marion met on Monday, March 1, 2021 in its regularly scheduled council session. The council meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Council's Chambers of the Marion City Hall located at 123 E. Jefferson St. and via Zoom. Public comments were presented. Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton called the meeting to order. On roll call the following members were present: Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton, Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1), Councilman Tommy L. Kennie (D2), Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3), Councilman Willie Jackson (Pro-Tem-D4), and Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5). City Clerk-Treasurer Laura W. Hinton served as recorder of the minutes. Attorney Anika Sanders-Jackson from the Law Office of Chestnut, Sanders, and Sanders, L.L.C., appeared via Zoom, along with local citizens, and other members of the public.

A quorum being present, Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton declared the meeting open for the transaction of business.

The invocation was provided by the Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited in concert.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to accept the February 1, 2021 minutes of the Marion City Council. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to approve the presented MOU between the City and Marion Military Institute as it pertains to the institute's use of the City's firing range. Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to accept the reappointment of Mrs. Viola Daniels to the Cahaba Mental Health Board. Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to accept the Avenu Insight Sales and Use Tax Collections Agreement. Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton requested an executive session as authorized by [AL Code § 36-25A-7 \(2016\)](#) for the purposes of general reputation/good name and character and to discuss pending ligations with the attorney.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to accept the Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton's request as outlined by the code for the purposes of general reputation/good name and character and to discuss legal matters for the requested time. Councilman Willie Jackson (D4)

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seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested by the Presiding Officer noting the following: Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1), yes, Councilman Tommy Kennie (D2) yes, Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) yes, Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) yes, Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) yes, and Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter cited that no actions were taken in executive session.

Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) moved to reconvene from executive session. Councilman Willie Jackson (D2) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) moved to approve the mobile home parking of Mrs. Rose Thompson at 206 Davis St. Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) moved to approve the Ministry Building and Youth Center location request of Mrs. Joanna Evans on Hwy. 14. Councilman Tommie Kennie (D2) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to table the cemetery location request of Mrs. Joanna Evans on Hwy.5 until further information is gathered. Councilman Willie Jackson (D5) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) moved to slag and tar/rehabilitate the lower part of Lincoln Street for safe travel for citizens in that area with a budget of \$6800 and later review a full repair of the road when funding allows. Councilman Tommie Kennie (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to accept the bid submitted by Clyde Green of Green Land Clearing \$28, 725.00 for West Cornelius St. rehabilitation. Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) moved to amend the agenda to add the monthly expenditures. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Clerk-Treasurer presented the monthly revenue and expenditures to the governing body. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to pay the monthly expenditures. Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to amend the agenda to the IPL Omnicart Garbage Can quote to the agenda to review purchasing. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to accept the IPL proposal and purchase 150 95 Master Carts at \$8,250.00 with the presented specifications and a lead time of 4-6 weeks production. Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to allow Interim Chief Essex to attend the presented conference on February 15-18, 2021. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nominations for the position of Chief of Police took place and the Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton presented the names and requested motions/separate decisions on each candidate presented. The following was noted: Candidate 1 Claude Hamilton. No motion was made for Claude Hamilton.

Candidate 2 Damian Steele. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to appoint Damian Steele as Chief of Police for the City of Marion. Councilman Tommie Kennie (D2) seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested by the Presiding Officer noting the following for Candidate 2 Damian Steele for Chief of Police: Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1), yes, Councilman Tommy Kennie (D2) yes, Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) no, Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) no, Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) yes, and Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton yes. The motion carried with a 4-2 vote for Candidate 2 Damian Steele.

Candidate 3 Patrick Essex was presented. Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to retain Patrick Essex as Chief of Police. Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested by the Presiding Officer noting the following for Candidate 3 Patrick Essex for Chief of Police: Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1), no, Councilman Tommy Kennie (D2) no, Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) yes, Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) yes, Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) no, and Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton no. The vote was recorded as 4 nays and 2 yes for Candidate 3 Patrick Essex resulting in Candidate 2 Damian Steele being appointed by a majority of the governing body as the new Chief of Police.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to approve a salary of \$42,000.00 for the position Chief of Police. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton declared the next regularly scheduled council meeting will be Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. With no further business to come before the council, it was properly moved by Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) and seconded Councilman Willie Jackson (D4) that the session be adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk-Treasurer