

**CITY OF MAROA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY AUGUST 1, 2022  
MAROA CITY HALL**

**ROLL CALL:** Was taken by Clerk Parrott at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Brown, Grider, Riley, West, Greutman, Alderwoman Bogle, Clerk Parrott, Administrator Agee, Treasurer Bohlmann, Attorney Wise and Mayor Wilkey were all present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was led by Mayor Wilkey.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:** Tim Laskowski would like to take the time to thank the council and Mike and his team for the time and work that they did on the property that was discussed at the meeting last month. He stated it makes the whole street look so much better. He stated he also put a bid on 107 E. Main Street. Him and his wife are wanting to start a business here as well.

Toni Stoutenburgh asked if the door on the side could be unlocked for the meetings. Mayor stated yes, we can do that. He did not realize that it was still locked.

Patrick Sullivan stated the Championship game had to be called because of unsportsmanlike conduct. So, Patrick stated there will be some rules for next year. But he stated there were great times by all. Patrick stated a few days ago his wife got charged by a dog and his dog ran away. He stated they learned a valuable lesson about how close this community is when Blake stopped on his way to work and then when Patrick and his wife are trampling through a corn field and Chief comes along with his comfort dog and people are just coming up to us random and wanting to help us anyway, they can. At the end of the day the dog came back to our house and was ok.

Pastor Cunningham stated that at the property behind the church that they did start coming and doing work, but it has stopped again. Alderman West stated that he had called them, and he has turned it over to the police and they have had a long discussion with them. The people that have the property gave their word to the chief that they are going to clean it up. Chief stated they did come to the property the day he called them and came back on Saturday and did some work. Chief stated the guy he spoke with was Tony and he understands, and he stated he will get it taken care of.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **GFL Discussion-** Mayor stated there were some opinions voiced through social media that we wanted to get out and at least those were taken care of last month. Mayor stated we are prepared to vote next month. Council agreed yes. Ted stated he will just need to change the date on the ordinance that he already had drafted up. Mike did state with them going down to once a week that yes it would be ok with them continuing going down the alleys.
- **214 N. Maple-** Lindsey stated she sent her a letter. Lindsey asked Mike if he was keeping track of the work that they have done for fines. But there is still work that needs to be done. Lindsey asked Crystal if she has numbers that she can possibly use to call to reach out to her.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Variance-423 E. Kennedy-** Mayor Wilkey stated he would speak for the zoning board since no one was present and he was present for the meeting Thursday night. Gentleman by the name of Mendenall was requesting to build a garage on a lot that he purchased and filled out the proper paperwork and put it in the Decatur Tribune and no one was there that night to dispute. The zoning board did go through the petition and had a few questions but nothing major. They approved it and with your blessing I would request that we allow the variance for 423 E. Kennedy for the garage.

Alderman West made a motion to approve the Petition for Variance at 423 E. Kennedy and Alderwoman second the motion. All was in favor to approve the Petition for Variance at 423 E. Kennedy and was passed.

- Façade Grant-Ryder's American Grille-** They have filled out the proper paperwork for the grant and requesting the matching funds from us for there sign. Owner of the building Reed Sullivan signed off on it. They have a bill in hand for \$3,963.74 and the City's portion would be \$1,981.87. They have met all requirements.

Alderman West made a motion to approve the Façade Grant for \$1,981.87 for Ryder's American Grille and Alderman Grider second the motion. All was in favor to approve the Façade Grant for \$1,981.87 for Ryder's American Grille and was passed.
- Halloween Date-** At City Hall on Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. till Candy is gone and Monday October 31<sup>st</sup> for the residential handout from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m.
- IML Conference & MCI Institute & Academy-** Clerk Parrott wanted to give a heads up to the council that this year that she would like to go to the MCI Institute & Academy instead of the IML Conference since it is just for the Clerks. At the IML there is not as much for the clerks there. That the MCI is a weeklong training, and it is in October from the 9<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> but does not know the cost yet but will know next meeting.

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief Siemsen stated he has gotten out and around to meet a lot of people in the community and he brought Lucy the Therapy dog tonight to introduce her to everyone as well.

Chief stated they are really working on some ordinance violations and getting active with them. He has notice while meeting with people and at the last meeting how important it is to the people in the community, so they have been out tackling these.

He stated there was two resignations, the former Chief and Officer Gilbert. Then two hires which were himself and Officer Heatherton. Officer Heatherton went to the SRO class last week. He did a walk through with the superintendent of the school and the new section and talked about safety. Chief stated there are a lot of new standards right now for police and how they interact with schools. Chief was pretty impressed with the schools and stated that just need to implement a few plans and he is very confident the school is very safe.

Sgt. Koonce stated they did get some information on the digit ticket and they will be updating them on that when they get more information.

Alderman West stated that on the police report there was a spot that mentioned about tires needing replaced and West stated he told them to get them ordered and they will be put on in the morning.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Lindsey just stated if there is any push back on the ordinance violations to let her know and to stay on top of them.

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Matt correspondent to Ted and he stated that it sounded like the council wanted to go back to the original layout of Wood Street and add on most recent Main Street option. The number was about \$15,000 and Ted stated we have already paid half of that. Matt stated the application is due at the end of September and will get that going with everyone's approval. Street lighting is part of it as well.

Alderman Grider made a motion to proceed with the ITEP application and Alderman West second the motion. All was in favor to proceed with the ITEP application and was passed.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Ted stated that there were three parcels that were farm ground and got them taken care of and have to get the addresses changed. The Sam.gov validation is actually in compliance, and he got that Friday evening, and he has been fighting with since last September to get it taken care of but now has everything in compliance. Is working with ICQ now which is internal controls questionnaire which is about our accounting and is working with our auditors on it to get it as accurate as possible. The auditors are also here right now going through something to get a few things squared away before they start the fiscal year audit. Been working with

Rise for the City locations for where we want broadband. The only one that may have to go with wireless is the sewer plant. Just because they don't know how far they are going to go down Oak Street.

On the remodel we should be getting the carpet any day now. Ted expects it should be done this week or next. Trim work needs done and little painting and then starting in here. Next month may have to have the council meeting in the gym possibly.

Last thing he had mayor sign one and the city attorney signed one. Been working with the TIF reports that he does annually and once done he will bring back to the council in the next month or two.

Alderman Riley stated that he has had some complaints on the Rise guys leaving some equipment out and West stated that they have been leaving garbage out. Ted stated that if there are complaints to let him know and that he will take care of it. The only thing he had seen was a couple of shovels left out but no garbage.

**ZONING/PUBLIC WORKS:** Mike stated the bumps on Wood Street will be grinded down on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor asked if they had any idea on when the Rise project would be done. Mike stated probably around December. They have had trouble getting some things. Mayor asked if they have constant communication with him and Mike stated yes and the new guy that took over, he is on it.

Mike stated after going through the street sweeper and he got an opportunity to go through it he does not think he is going to purchase it. Mike stated he is going to rent it for the projects and then give it back to him. He's never going to be able to use it has much as needs to be and number two it's old enough it's got a few quirks it's probably not going to be economical. So, Mike thinks he is better off renting it for a little bit and then giving it back and instead of buying a street sweeper buying an ATV to go up and down the sidewalks in the wintertime and will have other uses for it as well.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Angie stated the date has been set for October 15<sup>th</sup> for the Harvest Festival. We have lined up a band and going to be working with some of the local businesses to do some fall decorating to do a contest and the winner will get three months of advertising on the billboard out on 51. Angie is going to contact the pumpkin patches to see about donating some pumpkins for the kids to decorate and do a prize. Lots of stuff still in the works. Going to be looking for the vendors and getting things together. Rhonda teamed up with Coziahr this past Saturday for the Warrior Run and she did another fund raiser for the Memorial so we can add to it for landscaping and before Coziahr donation Rhonda raised \$1,277.86 for the Veterans Memorial.

Clerk Parrott stated that the American Legion donated \$100.00 to the Veterans Memorial.

West asked Crystal to set up a Park Committee meeting for August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. as well as a Police Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m.

West stated that he has taken Chief Siemsen places to introduce to other people in his profession that we will be possibly working a long with at some point. So, he took him to meet the Maroa Fire Chief, DeWitt County Sherriff, the Clinton Police Chief, and the jail at the Clinton Police Station, the Macon County Sheriff and toured the Macon County jail. They went to the Macon County training center and met with the Macon County dispatch and signed some papers. Met the coroner and the State's attorney. Been on a couple radio shows and been at Smokey's and TLC for coffee for meet and greets.

The Young Park he has been reached out by Richard and his brother about purchasing more equipment for the park for us. West stated he would like to discuss in the park meeting about maybe a basketball court, slide and monkey bar. West stated the park is coming together very nice.

Alderman Grider stated last month he mentioned a little about the ambulance issue. The bids were submitted to the City of Decatur. From those four bids it seems they don't want to cover the county. So, there is active talk

with DeWitt EMS to come down and provide coverage for us and there is a meeting tomorrow to discuss that. Mayor asked if Grider will be involved in that, and he stated not that Chief Peasley will be involved in that meeting.

**APPROVE MINTUES:**

- **June 6, 2022, Open Session-** Alderwoman Bogle made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022, Open Session Minutes and Alderman West second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the June 6, 2022, Open Session Minutes was passed.
- **June 6, 2022, Closed Session-** Alderman West made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022, Closed Session Minutes and Alderwoman Bogle second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the June 6, 2022, Closed Session Minutes was passed.
- **June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Open Session-** Alderwoman Bogle made a motion to approve the June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Open Session Minutes and Alderman West second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Open Session Minutes was passed.
- **June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Closed Session-** Alderman West made a motion to approve the June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Closed Session Minutes and Alderman Greutman second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the June 22, 2022, Special Meeting Closed Session Minutes was passed.
- **July 11, 2022, Open Session-** Alderman West made a motion to approve the July 11, 2022, Open Session Minutes and Alderwoman Bogle second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the July 11, 2022, Open Session Minutes was passed.
- **July 11, 2022, Closed Session-** Alderwoman Bogle made a motion to approve the July 6, 2022, Closed Session Minutes and Alderman West second the motion. All was in favor and the motion to approve the July 11, 2022, Closed Session Minutes was passed.

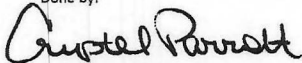
**APPROVE BILLS:** Alderwoman Bogle made a motion to approve the bills for the month and Alderman Grider second the motion. All was in favor to approve the bills for the month and was passed.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Alderman Grider made a motion to go into closed session at 7:24 pm and Alderwoman Bogle second the motion. All was in favor to go into closed session at 7:24 pm and was passed.

**ROLL CALL:** Was taken by Clerk Parrott at 8:06 p.m. Alderman Brown, Grider, Riley, West, Greutman, Alderwoman Bogle, Clerk Parrott, Administrator Agee, Attorney Wise and Mayor Wilkey were all present. Treasurer Bohlmann was absent.

**ADJOURN:** Alderman Grider made a motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. and Alderman Riley second the motion. All was in favor to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. and was passed.

Done by:

  
Crystal Parrott, City Clerk