

MINUTES
CITY OF MARENGO
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Marengo Council Chambers
December 10, 2025

Call to Order by Mayor Rabe at 6:00 p.m. on December 10, 2025. Council Officials Present: Jenni Olson, John Hinshaw, Bill Kreis, Karen Wayson-Kisling, Travis Schlabach. Absent: None. Quorum declared by Rabe.

Staff and Press Present: Admin./Clerk Karla Marck; Deputy Clerk Alli Gerard; Police Chief Ben Gray; Public Works Director Lonnie Altenhofen; Financial Manager Ellen O'Rourke, Attorney Gage Kensler, Library Director Jackie Jordan, Managing Editor Winona Whitaker, Hometown Media.

Members of the Public Present: Shawn Huedepohl; William Geoghagan, Jenn Geoghagan

Pledge of Allegiance led by Rabe.

Approval of Agenda – December 10, 2025

Motion by Olson to approve. Second by Hinshaw. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes from November 12, 2025, Special Session FY27 Budget Meeting. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2025, City Council Meeting. Claims, checks and direct withdrawals totaling \$240,548.08. Motion by Olson to approve. Second by Wayson-Kisling. Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Statement of Resident Comments Policy, Mayor Adam Rabe.

Presentation: Councilperson Kreis, Thank you for 32 Consecutive Years of Service

Swearing In: Travis Schlabach, City of Marengo Mayor

Swearing In: William Geoghagan, City Council At-Large

Swearing In: John Hinshaw, City Council At-Large

Swearing In: Shawn Huedepohl, City Council At-Large

Resident Comments: No comments.

New Business

- a) **Consideration: Recommendation for Hiring of City Clerk/Administrator and Approval of Salary.** Motion to approve hiring Ellen O'Rourke with the same salary as the current Clerk/Administrator by Schlabach. Second by Olson. Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- b) **Consideration: City Staff Vacancies – Job Descriptions, Search Processes & Timelines.** Motion to approve of allowing Ellen to proceed with search by Olson. Second by Wayson-Kisling. Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- c) **Consideration: Next Steps for Disposal of 699 Marengo Avenue Property.** Council will vote on conditions at the next meeting. No action taken.
- d) **Resolution #26-43: Approving Pay Application #4 for Contract #1 – Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements.** Motion to approve by Olson. Second by Schlabach. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- e) **Resolution #26-44: Approving Pay Application #2 for Contract #2 – Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Force Main.** Motion to approve by Olson. Second by Hinshaw. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- f) **Consideration: Development of First Responder Service Organization.** EMS is considering starting a First Responder Team for occasions when the ambulance is already on a call. No action taken.
- g) **Resolution #26-45: Acceptance of Bid for Miller & Franklyn Intersection Improvements Project.** Brian Miller Excavating was the only bid received. Motion to approve Brian Miller Excavating bid by Schlabach. Second by Hinshaw. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Old Business

- a) **Consideration: FY27 General Fund Budget Proposal.** Council requests department heads take another look at their budgets. No action.

Update Public Safety – Chief Ben Gray

For November 2025, Chief Gray reported 23 incidents, 2 arrests, 11 citations, 25 warnings, 11 parking tickets with a total of 67 outstanding parking tickets, 6 medical calls, 229 calls for service. There were 2 snow emergencies with 8 citations issued and multiple warnings with the first snowfall and 9 citations and multiply warnings with the second snowfall. Chief Gray participated in the monthly MHL meeting, conducted applicant interviews, and attended the SIAC meeting.

Attorney/ Financial Manager/Administrator Reports. Financial Manager O'Rourke reported the new Payroll and UB software will be going live on January 5, 2026.

Mayor/Council/Committee Reports. The new committee assignments will be coming.

- a) **Consideration: Motion to enter into CLOSED Session Pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(c) to discuss strategy with Counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation.** Motion by Olson to open the closed session at 6:55 p.m. Seconded by Wayson-Kisling. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Olson to return to open session at 7:34 p.m. Seconded by Wayson-Kisling. Roll Call

Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Consideration: Motion on Actions to be Taken from Closed Session. Motion to approve proceeding per closed session discussion by Olson. Second by Wayson-Kisling. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Schlabach. Nays: Hinshaw. Motion Carried.

Adjournment

Motion by Kreis. Second by Olson to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Vote. Ayes: Olson, Wayson-Kisling, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

City of Marengo Claims-12.10.25

Fund Name	Fund	
General Fund	001	\$15,482.10
General Fund Capital Expenditures	002	\$13,087.61
Road Use Tax Fund	110	\$2,806.74
Debt Service Interest	200	\$100,525.63
Wastewater Treatment Plant	328	\$24,672.60
4" Main Project	344	\$42,494.60
Franklin & Lucas Street	346	\$7,460.00
Water Fund	600	\$2,614.04
Sewer Fund	610	\$42.15
Total:		\$209,185.47

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
Payroll	\$30,022.61	12.5.25
Payroll		
EFT Payments		
Grinnell State Bank	\$84.83	NSF Fee/Nov 2025 Bank Fees
UMB Financial	\$100,525.63	Nov 2025-2023B GO Bond
EFT TOTAL:	100,610.46	
Amazon Capital Business	\$952.74	Passes/Bulbs-Pool/Christmas
Astra Security	\$5,050.95	NW Entry Cameras
Big G Foods	\$34.19	November 2025 Supplies-PW
Brian Miller Excavating	\$40,337.60	4" Main Project
BSN Sports	\$426.09	Whistles/Needles/Scorekeeper-MRC
Cameron's Repair, LLC	\$4,992.06	Unit #4 Maintenance-FD
Carquest of Marengo	\$545.17	November 2025 Supplies-PW
Casey's General Store	\$483.34	November 2025 Fuel-PD
Core & Main	\$2,157.00	4" Main Project
Creative Product Source, Inc	\$1,027.75	Cups/Calendars-PD
Eurofins Environment Testing	\$627.84	Weekly Wastewater-PW
Hawkins, Inc	\$1,830.11	Water Plant Chemicals-PW
Iowa County Recorder	\$68.00	Recording Fees-Cemetery
Iowa County Treasurer	\$1,340.00	605 Court Ave Taxes
Iowa One Call	\$81.00	One Calls-PW
Karl Chevrolet	\$459.74	Graphics-PD
Kollmorgen, Schlue, & Zahradnik, PC	\$1,760.00	Legal
Marco Technologies	\$54.45	November 2025 Crowdstrike
Marengo Farm & Home, Inc	\$1,160.02	November 2025 Supplies-PW/Park
Masters Telecom	\$17.65	Voicemail-PD
Mayberry Electric, Inc	\$660.80	Bulbs-Street Lights-PW
S&S Plumbing, Heating, & Air	\$804.57	Tanker Pump-FD
Standard Pest Control	\$45.00	Bug Spraying-FD/PD/CH
Stratton Bencotter (Whitey's)	\$302.00	November 2025 Fuel-PW

Swift True Value Home Center	\$336.67	November 2025 Supplies-PW/FD/Park
Tiffany Shine	\$45.99	Dribble Goggles-MRC
Tyler Technologies	\$8,036.66	Software Upgrade
USA Communications	\$27.34	Internet/Phones
Van Wall Equipment	\$14.73	JD Tractor Gasket & Cap-PW
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc	\$32,760.60	Engineering
Visa	\$535.54	Nov/Dec 2025 Charges-PD/CH
WMPF Group	\$297.09	Publications
CHECKS TOTAL:	107,272.69	
Amazon Capital Business	\$1,261.19	Children's Library/Books
Biblionix	\$990.00	Apollo Automation Annual Subscription
Demco	\$52.18	Spine Labels
Marco Technologies	\$35.70	October 2025 Email
Quill	\$96.27	Thermal Paper/Copy Paper
TruGreen	\$120.00	Ice Melt
US Cellular	\$86.98	Hotspots
LIBRARY TOTAL:	2,642.32	
GRAND TOTAL:	240,548.08	

Claims Total - Payroll & EFT's \$109,915.01

Adam Rabe, Mayor

Attest: Karla Marek, City Administrator