

MINUTES
CITY OF MARENGO
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Marengo Council Chambers
February 25, 2026

Call to Order by Mayor Schlabach at 6:00 p.m. on February 25, 2026. Council Officials Present: Shawn Huedepohl, Karen Wayson-Kisling, Will Geoghagan. Absent: Jenni Olson, John Hinshaw. Quorum declared by Schlabach.

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

Members of the Public Present: Jesse Belez, Jerry McKusker.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Schlabach.

Approval of Agenda – February 25, 2026

Motion by Wayson-Kisling to approve. Second by Geoghagan. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2026, City Council Meeting. January 2026 Revenues Totaling \$315,110.47. January 2026 Major Operating Departments Finance Reports. January 2026 Finance Expenditures & Revenue Report. IPAIT Report. Fireworks Application. Motion by Wayson-Kisling to approve. Second by Geoghagan. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Resident Comments: No comments.

Old Business

- a) **Public Hearing: Proposing to Dispose of Real Property, Parcel #730405010, Locally Known as 699 Marengo Avenue.** Open the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. No bids. No public comments. Public Hearing closed at 6:10 p.m. Council discussed conditions for sale of property. No action taken.
- b) **Resolution #26-65: Set Public Hearing for FY27 Proposed Property Tax Levy.** Public Hearing set for March 25, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- c) **Resolution #26-70: Approving Ben Gray FY27 Employment Contract.** Three percent raise with a 1-year contract. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Huedepohl. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.

New Business

- a) **Public Hearing and Third Reading ORD #549: Amendment to Chapter 69 – Parking Regulations; Section 69.08 No Parking Zones.** Opened the Public Hearing at 6:12 p.m. No public comments. Public Hearing closed at 6:14 p.m. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- b) **Public Hearing and Third Reading ORD #550: Amendment to Chapter 106 – Collection of Solid Waste; Section 106.07 Landfill Fees.** Opened the Public Hearing at 6:14 p.m. No public comments. Public Hearing closed at 6:15 p.m. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Geoghagan, Huedepohl. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- c) **Consideration: Posting Part-Time Public Works Job Opening.** Taking applications until March 13, 2026 with an April 1, 2026 start date. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Huedepohl. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- d) **Consideration: Approving the Agreement between Compass Memorial Hospital and the City of Marengo for the Lucas Street and Franklyn Water Main Project, Pending Hospital Approval.** Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- e) **Resolution #26-67: Approving Pay Application #3 for Contract #2 – Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Force Main.** Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- f) **Resolution #26-68: Set Public Hearing for Amending the Code of Ordinances; Chapter 46 – Minors, Section 46.02 Cigarettes and Tobacco.** Public Hearing set for March 25, 2026. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- g) **Resolution #26-69: Set Public Hearing for Amending the Code of Ordinances; Chapter 4 – Scheduled Fines, Adding Item #58, Schedule 46.02 Person Under 21 Using Tobacco/Vapor Products.** Public Hearing set for March 25, 2026. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Huedepohl. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- h) **Consideration: Approving to Move Forward with Concrete Pads to the Pavilions in the Park.** Motion by Wayson-Kisling to approve taking bids up to \$9,000. Second by Geoghagan. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- i) **Resolution #26-71: Set Public Hearing for Amending Code of Ordinances; Chapter 145 Dangerous Buildings, Adding Item #6, Section 145.03 Unsafe Buildings.** Public Hearing set for March 25, 2026. Motion to approve by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Huedepohl. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Approval of Monthly Bills:

a) Claims, checks, and direct withdrawals totaling \$296,355.78. Motion to approve by Geoghagan. Second by Wayson-Kisling. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Update Public Works – Director Lonnie Altenhofen

For February 2026, Altenhofen reported 0 water shut offs, Well #12 back up and running, 5 locates, Filter #3 has been rehabbed, pulled and replaced an impeller on pump #2 at Bear Creek lift station, Wendler starting work on new lift station excavation, removed 3 dead trees at City Park and looking into purchasing a new truck.

Update Marengo Public Library – Director Jackie Jordan

Application for accreditation has been filed with the State (Tier 3), Strategic Plan is finished; and House File 2622 is being considered which is an Act relating to public libraries. This could change eligibility requirements for state assistance and cause oversight by city councils.

Attorney/ Financial Manager/Administrator Reports. Attorney Kensler reported he will have agreements ready for the council at the next meeting. City Administrator O’Rourke reported that new playground equipment has been ordered to replace the broken pieces; City Hall needs a new furnace/air conditioner and will acquire bids for the next meeting.

Mayor/Council/Committee Reports. No reports.

Adjournment: Motion by Wayson-Kisling. Second by Geoghagan to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. Vote. Ayes: Wayson-Kisling, Huedepohl, Geoghagan. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

City of Marengo Claims-2.25.26

Fund Name	Fund	
General Fund	001	\$15,032.87
General Fund Capital Expenditures	002	\$2,917.28
Road Use Tax Fund	110	\$15,617.59
Wastewater Treatment Plant	328	\$133,335.24
Water Fund	600	\$13,079.24
Water System Improvement	604	\$79,211.00
Sewer Fund	610	\$7,799.62
Storm Sewer Fund	740	\$392.29
Total:		\$267,385.13

Payee	Amount	Description
Payroll	\$28,970.65	2.13.26 Payroll
Payroll		
EFT Payments		
Iowa Dept of Revenue	\$3,039.08	January 2026 Sales and Water Tax
MetLife	\$1,365.18	February 2026 Insurance
Wellmark	\$15,086.29	February 2026 Insurance
EFT TOTAL:	19,490.55	
ACCO	\$79,211.00	Media Project/Deposit - Pool
Alliant Energy	\$18,958.16	Electric
Amazon	\$1,235.32	Printer/Flags/Phone and Tablet Accessories - PW/CH/PD
Big G	\$14.06	Water/Kleenex - PD
BP (Express Stop)	\$148.33	Gas - PD
Brian Miller Excavating	\$133,335.24	WWTF Force Air Contract2 - PW
Central Iowa Union	\$552.07	Council Minutes/Public Notices - CH
City of Marengo - Petty Cash	\$121.42	Petty Cash - CH/PD/PW
Core & Main	\$50.00	Air Pressure Release - PW
Creative Product Source	\$184.53	Gloves - PD
Critical Hire	\$200.00	MMPI-2 FU Eval - PD
Dakota Supply Group	\$138.00	Curb Box - PW
Iowa County Recorders Office	\$34.00	Recording Fee - CH
Iowa State Police Association	\$150.00	Dues - PD
Kruse Tree Services	\$6,500.00	Tree Removal - PW

Marco	\$147.96	Copier Lease - CH
Marengo Fire	\$172.50	Washington, 110th, O Ave Fire Calls - FD
NATW	\$35.00	Membership - PD
Office Express	\$41.99	Toilet Paper - CH
REC	\$42.66	Welcome Sign Electric
Safe Haven	\$310.00	2025 Pound Fees
Shawn Huedepohl	\$175.00	Pool CEUs - Pool
Simmering Cory	\$1,500.00	Codification - CH
Tyler Business	\$1,152.33	Supplies - PW/CH
Tyler Tech	\$1,417.28	Software Update - CH
Verizon	\$657.61	Desk/Cell Phones - PW/CH/PD
Visa	\$866.73	Jan/Feb 2026 Charges
WEX	\$35.84	Gas - PD
Windstream	\$471.85	Internet/Phone
CHECKS TOTAL:	247,858.88	
UTILITY BILLING REFUNDS:	\$0.00	
Marco	\$35.70	Microsoft 365 Business
LIBRARY TOTAL:	35.70	
GRAND TOTAL:	296,355.78	

Claims Total - Payroll & EFT's **\$247,894.58**

Travis Schlabach, Mayor

Attest: Ellen O'Rourke, City Administrator