

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF MARENGO**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Marengo Council Chambers  
February 8, 2023

**Call to Order** by Mayor Adam Rabe at 6:00 p.m. on February 8, 2023. Council Officials Present: Sue Peterson, Bill Kreis, John Hinshaw, Travis Schlabach. Absent: Matt Fults. Quorum declared by Rabe.

**Staff and Press Present:** Deputy Clerk Allison Fry; Finance Manager Ellen Young; Attorney Gage Kensler; Police Chief Ben Gray.

**Members of the Public Present:** Doug Kinzenbaw; Robert Bergstrom, Conifer Power Company; Mindi Slaymaker, Jerry McKusker.

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by Rabe.

**Approval of Agenda – February 8, 2023**

Motion by Peterson to approve. Second by Kreis. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**Consent Agenda**

Approval of minutes from January 25, 2023 City Council Meeting. Claims, checks and direct withdrawals totaling \$87,013.91. January 2023 Revenues Totaling \$206,574.96; January 2023 Major Operating Department Finance Reports; January 2023 Finance Expenditures & Revenue Reports. Approval of Liquor License Application for Dolgencorp, LLC dba Dollar General #7128; Approval of Liquor License Application for Casey's Marketing Company dba Casey's General Store #2533; Approval of Fireworks Permit Application for Marengo Fire Department. Motion by Peterson to approve. Second by Kreis. Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**Open Forum**

Slaymaker requested MRC sponsorship for adult pickleball league. McKusker requested public works to address manhole at corner of Franklyn and Hilton.

**Old Business**

- a) **Public Hearing and Resolution #23-45: Approving FY24 Maximum Property Tax Dollars**  
Public Hearing opened at 6:07 p.m. No Comments. Public Hearing closed at 6:09 p.m. Motion by Schlabach to approve. Second by Hinshaw. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- b) **Resolution #23-47: Setting Public Hearing for FY24 Budget**  
Motion by Schlabach to approve. Second by Hinshaw. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried

**New Business**

- a) **Consideration: Update on Conifer's Plans for Iowa County Solar Farm with Planned Interconnection to T.I.P. REC**  
Bergstrom provided an overview of plans for solar farm to be located outside of Marengo corporate limits, but within city's two-mile area of zoning influence; parcel IDs 113504010 and 113504040. Discussions occurred regarding council's zoning authority. Bergstrom requested written council response. Marck to draft council response for review and vote during February 22, 2023 council meeting.
- b) **Discussion: Proposed Iowa County Engineer's Building in R-1 Zone, parcel number #732828080; Public Service Special Use**  
Marck reported a preliminary meeting was held with County Supervisor Abby Maas regarding city building permit requirements for proposed new county engineering facility to be built on Franklyn Avenue, west of the existing engineer's building. Marck stated, with Kensler confirmation, that building could be permitted per city zoning ordinance's Permitted Special Uses.
- c) **Discussion: Commercial Property Maintenance Code**  
Marck submitted ordinance draft. Discussions occurred regarding limiting to (C-1) Central Business District, enforcement and associated costs for building inspector. Marck to finalize ordinance and bring to council for vote.
- d) **Consideration: City Façade Grants Program Offering**  
Marck submitted overview of proposed city grant programs for (C-1) Central Business District. Motion to move forward with grant program by Schlabach. Second by Hinshaw. Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- e) **Discussion: Vacant Building Permit and Inspection Code**  
Marck submitted ordinance draft. Discussions occurred regarding enforcement and whether policies would accomplish desired outcomes. To reconsider ordinance draft. No action by council.
- f) **Consideration: Acceptance of FY22 Auditor's Report – Financial Statement June 30, 2022**  
Motion by Schlabach to approve. Second by Hinshaw. Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Update Public Safety – Chief Ben Gray**

For January, Gray reported 26 incidents, 2 arrests, 7 citations, 15 warnings, 16 parking tickets, with a total of 44 outstanding parking tickets. There were 319 calls for service. Updated council on Governor Reynold's meeting, and reported state agencies will be leading storm sewer and retention basin cleanup and funding efforts required as part of the C6-Zero explosion and fire aftermath. Reported four burglaries in last 30 days, two residences and two businesses. Requesting to report any suspicious activities.

**Attorney/ Financial Manager/Administrator Reports**

Marck stated city has received Notice of Nonrenewal of PEP Policy - Property and Liability Insurance. Notice effective 4/1/2023. Researching options.

**Mayor/Council/Committee Reports**

No reports.

**New Business cont.**

- g) **Consideration of Motion to Enter into closed Session under Iowa code 21.5(c) To discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the government body in that litigation.**

Motion by Schlabach to enter into Closed Session. Second by Hinshaw. Council Officials Present: Sue Peterson, Bill Kreis, John Hinshaw, Travis Schlabach. Absent: Matt Fults. Staff and Press Present: City Admin/Clerk Karla Marck; Deputy Clerk Allison Fry. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried. Session closed at 7:24 p.m. Motion by Peterson to come out of closed session. Second by Schlabach. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Session opened at 7:52 p.m. Claim has been filed with city's insurance carrier. No action taken.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Peterson. Second by Schlabach to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. Vote. Ayes: Peterson, Kreis, Hinshaw, Schlabach. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

**City of Marengo Claims - 2/8/23**

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Fund</b>	
General Fund	001	20,975.10
C6Zero Fund	013	951.23
Road Use Tax Fund	110	10,217.69
Pool Renovation/Donations	312	7,270.00
Miller Street Project	336	352.60
Water Fund	600	16,924.52
Sewer Fund	610	2,504.73
Storm Sewer Fund	740	251.31
Total:		59,447.18

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
PAYROLL	\$ 27,566.73	2/3/23 Payroll
<b>EFT Payments</b>		
Grinnell State Bank	67.23	January 2023 Bank Fees
Metlife	1,098.84	February 2023 Metlife Benefits
Iowa Department of Revenue	3,050.32	January 2023 Sales/Water Tax
<b>EFT TOTAL:</b>	<b>4,216.39</b>	
Alliant Energy	12,453.09	Electric
Ben Gray	68.50	Mileage for Meetings-PD
Big G Foods	8.73	January 2023 Supplies-PD
BP	320.74	January 2023 Fuel-PD/FD
Brian Miller Excavating, LLC	4,494.30	Curb Stop Repair/Hauled Snow/Water Main-PW
Carquest of Marengo	516.13	January 2023 Supplies-PW
Casey's General Store	383.87	January 2023 Fuel-PD

Charles Capper Auto Center	37.50	Wiper Blades F450-PW
City of Marengo Petty Cash	105.15	January 2023 Petty Cash-PW/PD
CMI, Inc.	467.00	Intox Kit-PD
Eurofins Environment Testing	731.30	Weekly Wastewater-PW
Goodwill Industries of the Heartland	351.00	January 2023 Janitorial Services-CH/Lib
Hawkins, Inc.	3,334.54	Water Plant Chemicals-PW
Heath Jepson	44.36	Mag Pouch-PD
Hogan Hansen	8,300.00	FY22 Audit-CH
Iowa Auditor of State	250.00	FY22 Audit Filing Fee-CH
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy	100.00	Charging Manual-PD
Iowa State Police Association	160.00	2023 Dues-PD
JEO Consulting Group	7,270.00	Marengo Pool Design-Pool
Koenig Trucking	562.50	Hauled Snow-PW
Kollmorgen, Schlue, & Zahradnik	1,413.75	December 2022 Legal
Lonnie Altenhofen	560.00	Certification Classes-PW
Luke Slockett	560.00	Certification Classes-PW
Marco Technologies	5,922.52	Fortinet Renewal/January Email/Azure
Marengo Farm & Home	1,172.73	January 2023 Supplies-PW/PD
Marengo Ready Mix	2,069.76	Hauled Snow-PW
Masters Telecom, LLC	9.65	Voicemail-PD
Microbac Laboratories, Inc.	46.00	Drinking Water Analysis-PW
Mid-States Organized Crime	100.00	2023 Membership Dues-PW
Quill	67.98	Trash Bags/Index Cards-CH/PW
Roggentien Electric	186.58	Battery for Pump-PW
S & J Sanitation	159.50	January 2023 Trash
Stratton Bencoter (Whitey's)	1,592.44	January 2023 Fuel/Tire/Oil/Signal-PW/PD/Fire
Swift True Value Home Center	986.30	January 2023 Supplies-CH/FD/PW
Windstream	174.39	Internet/Phones
WMPF Group, LLC	250.48	January 2023 Publications
<b>CHECK TOTAL:</b>	<b>55,230.79</b>	
<b>LIBRARY TOTAL:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>87,013.91</b>	

Claims Total - Payroll & EFT's

\$ 55,230.79

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Adam Rabe, Mayor

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Attest: Allison Fry, Deputy Clerk