

CITY OF MAROA MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2018
CITY HALL
7:00 PM

Meeting called to order by Clerk Edwards at 6:59 pm. Roll call taken by Clerk Edwards. Aldermen Edwards, Peart, Wilkey, Kissinger, Alderwomen Estep and Bogle, and Mayor Meador are present. Clerk Edwards and Treasurer Modro-Peters are also present.

Clerk Edwards leads the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Clerk Edwards presents the March meeting minutes to the council. Mayor Meador asks if everyone had a chance to look at the minutes. Alderwoman Bogle makes a motion to accept the March meeting minutes. seconded by Alderman Edwards. All council members present vote aye, motion passed.

Police Report

Chief Gaddy is present. Chief Gaddy presents his activity report to the council. Chief Gaddy states that activity has picked up. Chief Gaddy discusses the Northwoods Trailer Park, individuals at the trailer park have asked for more time to work on the violations since the weather has not been good. Chief Gaddy states they were given more time. He has also given more time to Fyke.

Attorney Report

Attorney Antoline is present.

Engineer's Report

Steve Bainbridge, Engineer, is not present.

Zoning/Public Works

Mike Hoffman, Superintendent, is not present.

Old Business

Alderman Edwards discussed the playground equipment. Alderman Edwards states that if there are 12 volunteers who will show up, the company will send a representative to show the people how to install. Alderman Wilkey states that there is \$25,000 set aside in the budget for this project. Clerk Edwards asks if the \$16,500 is still going to be used to make the payment on the park equipment, council states that it may be used but will try to find other funding as well. Amber Bennett states that she will talk to youth league members to see if any of them will

commit to the project. No start date as of right now. Alderman Edwards would like the Play and Park Structures bid for the park. Council agrees to purchase the equipment from Play & Park Structures. Alderman Edwards makes a motion to explore bid one further to get grants and find funding, seconded by Alderwoman Bogle. All council members present vote aye, motion passed.

New Business

Alderman Wilkey discussed the FY 19 budget. Alderman Wilkey makes a motion to accept ordinance 2018/04/23-1, seconded by Alderman Peart. All council members present vote aye, motion passed.

Alderman Wilkey discussed the ball diamond improvements, what has been done and what is in the works. Thank you to Corn Belt for volunteering the poles and labor to put up the new poles for the lights. Alderman Wilkey states that he had Treasurer Modro-Peters get some prices for trees that need to go be put up since the one there had to come down. She has some prices and will get more information and have the trees planted. There will be 2 put up, one on each side of diamond 50 ft away from the field. Alderman Wilkey makes a motion to allocate TIF funds for ball diamond improvements in the amount of \$16,000, seconded by Alderwoman Bogle. All council members present vote aye, motion passed.

Ray Coleman from Azavar Government Solutions discussed how his company could maximize tax revenue for the city and be sure they are getting all the tax dollars from utilities that they are supposed to get. Left information after presentation with the council.

Mayor Meador reads the following to the citizens present and the council regarding the City Administrator appointment decision;

“Before I make my appointment, I wanted to say a few things about my pick and the process. We received a total of nine applications for this position. Clerk Diane Edwards and Alderwoman Angela Bogle were among them but pulled their applications right before the interviews for their own personal reasons. Thank you both for applying. That means a lot from you guys. That showed me you believed this position was valid and right for the city. To the remaining applicants, thank you for your interest in this great city. I was honored to meet you. After the initial interviews, my personnel committee chose 2 applicants. At that time, they satisfied the ordinance requirements for me to choose. But it was suggested to do a second interview with the two remaining candidates to address concerns and ask more detailed questions. After those last two interviews, I felt every question was satisfied and was ready to make my decision.

My choice for the City Administrator has more experience with the inner workings of the city and has a working relationship with the employees. He has an MBA from Millikin University and with his brother, runs his own business. He cares a great deal about this city and is ready to

assist me anyway he can to help this city succeed. Together we will bring structure, organization, discipline, and growth to the City of Maroa.

At this time, I am asking for the council's consent in appointing Ted Agee as the City Administrator of the City of Maroa." Alderman Wilkey makes a motion to appoint Ted Agee to the City Administrator position, seconded by Alderman Kissinger. Alderwomen Bogle & Estep, Alderman Kissinger & Wilkey vote aye, Alderman Edwards & Peart, vote nay, motion passed.

Clerk Edwards swears in Ted Agee as the City Administrator.

Citizen Comments

Sheila Hornickel asks why to have a city administrator, Mayor Meador states that we need someone who will solicit businesses, write grants and help grow the city. Mayor Meador states that in February or March of next year there will be a discussion to see if the job is working out, if not it may be eliminated at that time. Ted Agee states that he does want to see Mayor Meador succeed and he wants to do the things he could not do while in office. The taxpayers should not have to pay this large of a salary to him.

Kim Moore asks what is happening with Coastal, Attorney Antoline states that the EPA just issued its letter of remediation so now the city can move forward to condemn the building.

Kim Moore states that she is disappointed in the decision to create job of city administrator as she does not feel that the city is in a position financially to justify \$50,000 salary plus all the benefits. Mayor Meador states that he would like to see if the city administrator could grow the city and help the city.

Sheila Hornickel asks why is the salary \$50,000, why not start at \$1,000 per month and see if it works and if it does increase the pay accordingly. Ted Agee states the he has thought about this position while he was in office and it is now being put into action. Alderman Wilkey states that is was discussed 5-6 years and nothing ever came of it.

Reverend Mary Alice Cunningham asks who is over the city administrator, Mayor Meador states he will answer to the council and the Mayor. Mayor Meador states that the success will be evaluated at the end of one year, it will be subjective, the pros and cons of the position and it will be in an open meeting. Mayor Meador wants accountability. The council will know in the first six months if it is working. There needs to be a February 1 evaluation date.

Amber Bennett, President Maroa Youth League would like to thank the council for having the fields done.

Alderman Edwards asks Attorney Antoline why we needed to have the EPA reports before asking them to tear down Coastal. Attorney Antoline states that it was company owned, they let it go for taxes and the property was in limbo as to who owned it. The tax issue had to be resolved. Now tax deed is issued, and property owner is known. Phil VanNess, Attorney, working with Attorney Antoline and the EPA to get it resolved so that the city may move forward to take the building down. A gentleman asks if the tanks were removed and why not checked at that time, Attorney Antoline addressed the question.

Clerk Edwards states that there is a person who is interested in buying the Maple Tree Trailer Park and would like to know if they could build a storage shed like the one the city has. They would store their big equipment in it. The property is zoned R3, so would they need to re-zone if they bought it. There is industrial property to the south and east of that property. Council states that yes, they would need to re-zone and then they could build the building.

Amber Bennett, Maroa Youth League gave an update on the Liberty Festival, the next festival meeting is May 6, 2018 at 6 pm. There will be a bags tournament, water ball on 6/30 at 1 pm, K9 demonstration, cheeseburger eating contest, sponsored by McDonald's.

Alderwoman Bogle states that some members of the youth league would like to bring BINGO back as a fundraiser. She will get with Amber.

Committee reports

Alderman Wilkey states that he would like to thank Treasurer Modro-Peters for all of her hard work assisting him on the budget.

Bills

Clerk Edwards presents the council with the accounts payables. Mayor Meador asks if everyone had a chance to look at the bills. Alderman Edwards makes a motion to pay the April bills, seconded by Alderman Peart. All council members present vote aye, motion passed.

Executive Session

Mayor Meador states that he no longer needs executive session.

Adjourn

Mayor Meador asks if there is a motion to adjourn, Alderman Edwards makes a motion to adjourn at 8:29 pm, seconded by Alderman Peart. All council members present vote aye, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.



Diane L. Edwards, City Clerk