

Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on August 14, 2019 at 7:00pm at Village Hall

Present: Mayor Mike Baker  
Council Members: Michel Anderson  
Robert Beck  
Earl Bennett  
Ricky Caldwell  
Gary Brian Collins  
Becky Margraff

Village Clerk: Hilary Ostrom

Mayor Mike Baker called the meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Brian Collins moves to approve the minutes from July 10, 2019 and July 31, 2019 meetings; Michel Anderson seconds; Motion passes.

**Bills:** Council reviewed the bills. Mayor Baker went over additions to the bills. Earl Bennett moves to pay bills; Brian Collins seconds; Roll Call; 6 yes 0 no; Motion passes.

**Public:** Rob DiCuccio, attorney for John Corrado presented a packet for Council to review. He would like to add a 5 x 7 LED sign to his building. The sign can have text and images and will advertise the businesses in his building. Robert Beck asked if the sign will be mounted on the same pole as the Marengo Market sign and it will go on same pole. The sign should not be distraction to traffic. Council reviewed the packet.

There was a question on the progress of the storm pipes. The Village is waiting on the excavator to put the new 18" line in. The Village received the cost for items damaged when Tammy Drakes' s basement was flooded.

A Christmas festival and parade has been planned. It will be December 7, same date as the Marengo UMC craft show. It will begin at 2:00 pm and parade will be at 5:30 pm. They have many activities planned. The Village will try to have electric at the pavilion for the tree lighting. Rhonda asked about decorating the Village and Mayor Baker would encourage businesses to decorate for Christmas. She is working on getting donations for the festival. She also said they are having a Halloween decorating contest and asked if Mayor Baker could be a judge or any members of Council. Mayor Baker stated he would like to invite people from outside of the Village limits to pass candy out at the park. The decoration contest will be October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Lillian asked if Council has considered her driveway request. She also stated there is now a drainage problem and the grass is all weeds. Mayor Baker will be walking the sidewalk project with the contractors tomorrow and he will look at Lillian's property.

Girl Scout Troop 639 would like to do a community service project at the park. Council reviewed the plans, which include planting a tree, grasses and flowers. Mayor Baker has also spoken with Boy Scout/Cub Scouts about maintaining the flag display. He will also contact Girl Scout Troops, 4H groups or the ROTC program at Highland. Earl Bennett suggested a crimson king maple for a tree for the park. Becky Margraff also suggested having local businesses adopt a flag.

Earl Bennet discussed the sidewalk project with Council. He asked Council if they are interested in a joint application with Bennington Twp. for an additional sidewalk to Dollar General and Council agrees. He also discussed 43 W. Walnut St., which is abandoned. The Village had it mowed, as well as 19 Noble St. and will charge the property owner according to the ordinance.

Mayor Baker asked the Council for approval to hire additional help. Tyler and Dave are unable to do all the work that is required in the Village and there are several projects needing done before winter. The Village is also going to look at training someone to operate the sewer plant. Michel Anderson asked if the Village would drug test. Robert Beck moves the approval of Mayor Baker to hire additional help at \$13.50 an hour as needed. Employee must pass drug screen and 30 day probation period; Becky Margraff seconds; Motion passes.

**Old Business:** Hilary gave Council appropriations status to review. She will discuss supplemental appropriations with Council next meeting. Council reviewed email request from Winnie Earwood for damages to her property. Mayor Baker went over situation with Council. Council had discussion. Earl Bennett suggest having the Village Solicitor handle the situation.

Earl Bennett informed Council no one is running for Mayor and he is resigning as Council President on September 11, 2019 at 8:00pm. Mayor Baker also informed Council there is a need for a replacement on BWJFD Board in January 2020. Council President will become Mayor in January 2020 since no candidates ran for Mayor in the Village.

Village has not heard about the playground park grant. Mayor Baker and Joe Clase will be meeting with the State to look at applying for grants for storm sewers, drains and roads. Earl Bennett feels the amount of truck traffic has increased over the last couple of years. The State is willing to work with the Village to help them through the grant process. Mayor Baker is seeing if the State can put another 120 ton on 229, he was told the State can only put on 120 tons once a year. There was discussion on the additional sewer tank added and advertising not to flush flushable wipes. Council discussed the proposed sign Corrado is requesting. Robert Beck moves to approve Corrado's sign request; Brian Collins seconds; Roll Call; 6 yes 0 no; Motion passes. Council had discussion on Johnna Higgins property. She states the Village does not have an easement for the sewer and Earl Bennett is researching the easement. Earl Bennett is working on gathering all the signed easements for the sewer system. Mayor Baker stated the sewer tank and the new tank the Village just put in is in the alley. The Village could have the alley surveyed if needed. Earl Bennett moves to have the survey done of S. Church St. not to exceed the cost of \$350; Becky Margraff seconds; Motion passes.

Earl Bennett moves to adjourn; Robert Beck seconds; Motion passes. Out at 8:30 pm.