

Marengo Village Council

P.O. Box 310

Marengo, OH 43334

Minutes of the Council Meeting on January 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Village Hall

Council Members present: Brian Collins Ronda Siegfried Robert Beck

Mike Baker Earl Bennett

Village Clerk: Hilary Ostrom **Village Solicitor:** Adam Landon

Earl Bennett called the regular meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Mike Baker appoints Earl Bennett as President, Brian Collins seconds; Roll Yes; Earl Bennett abstains; Motion passes. Mayor appoints Brian Collins to Fire Board, Council agrees. Meetings will continue to be 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

Earl Bennett moves to appoint Robert Beck as Council member, Mike Baker seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. The Village will post the vacate Council position.

Bid Opening. KEM is here to open bids. 2 sealed Bids was received:

Rising Son Company, Inc.-Ashland, Ohio \$357,421.40

Crawford Construction Co., Inc.-Galion, Ohio \$373,555.00

KEM will check the math, review bids and notify Council of their recommendation.

Minutes: Brian Collins moves to approve minutes from the December 13, 2023 council meeting; Mike Baker seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes.

Council reviewed bills and discussed the property purchase by the park. Earl Bennett moves to approve expense payments up to \$1,000 for the property; Robert Beck seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Brian Collins moves to pass bills, Mike Baker seconds, Roll Yes; Motion passes.

Public: None

Old Business: JEDD meeting was last night. RITA also requires the JEDD Board to have insurance before they will collect tax. JEDD Board request the Village of Marengo pay the insurance for 1 year and the Village will be reimbursed once tax is starting to collect. RITA has all the information and should be able to start collecting tax soon. Council had further discussion on the JEDD. Brian Collins moves to approve purchase of insurance for JEDD Board; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Mike Baker and Robert Beck abstains; Earl Bennett Yes; Motion passes. The settlement agreement has been signed and initial payment has been made. Adam Landon reviewed ordinances with Council. Council had further discussion on the settlement agreement requirements. Mayor Whited reviewed Ordinance 2024-10-1A with Council and declaring an emergency, Robert Beck moves to pass; Mike Baker seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited reviewed Ordinance 2024-10-1B with Council and declaring an emergency. Mike Baker moves to pass; Brian Collins seconds; Roll Yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited reviewed Ordinance 2024-10-1C with Council and declaring an emergency. Brian moves to pass; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Motion passes; Roll Yes. Settle agreement was executed per Ordinance. Village is working on a job description.

Committee Reports:

Community Improvement:

Fire:

Personnel:

Park:

Zoning:

New Business: Pump went down by grain silos and was replaced. Village will be ordering an additional pump to have on hand. Old plow truck is getting a quote for repairs as well as the John Deere. Board had discussion. Mike Baker moves to spend up to \$2,000 on repairs for old plow truck; Robert Beck seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes. Mayor Whited reviewed quotes for tablet for GIS mapping and a phone for the Village. Cost is \$40 a month a line; Village would pay for the phone and tablet is free. Spectrum is \$29.00 a month a line and Village would need to purchase phone and tablet. Council had discussion. Jerry, the Village administrator, would be carrying the phone. Brian Collins moves to approve the tablet and phone contract; Ronda Siegfried seconds; Roll yes; Motion passes; Mike Baker abstains; Motion passes. Council discussed the sewer recommended annual rate increases. Mayor Whited is working on completing a grant of 1.5 million to upgrade the lines and plants for solids. It would be phase 1 of sanitary evaluation prepared by KEM a couple of years ago. The grant requires 10% match from the Village. The Village can use Local Fiscal Recovery fund for part of the match and we can also apply for additional grants to cover the match. He reviewed the plan with Council. Council had further discussion on sewer increase. Council had further discussion on the grant. Council had discussion on metering the sewer rate based on water. Some grants have a rate requirement to apply for the grant. RCAP recommended an inflation adjustment each year on the sewer rate. Council had further discussion on sewer plant repairs and maintenance. Ronda Siegfried moves to raise the sewer rate to \$55.00 a month in 3 months Motion dies. Brian moves to raise the rate to \$53.00 a unit starting April 1; Earl Bennet seconds; Roll yes; Mike Baker Nay; Motion passes. Robert Beck moves to adjourn. Out at 8:38 pm.