

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 20, 2023

The Mayor and Council of the City of Marion met on Monday, March 20, 2023 in its regularly scheduled council session. The council meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Council's Chambers of the Marion City Hall located at 123 E. Jefferson St. and via Zoom. The public was asked for comments and concerns during the public comment session. Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton called the meeting to order immediately following public comments. On roll call, the following members were present: Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton, Councilmembers: Jeremy Arrington (D1), Tommie Kennie (D2), Joseph Pearson (D3), Willie Jackson (Pro-Tem-D4), and Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5). City Clerk-Treasurer Laura W. Hinton & Zoom served as the recorders of the minutes. Attorney Malika Sanders-Fortier of the Law Office of Chestnut, Sanders, and Sanders, L.L.C., along with local citizens, and other agenda presenters were present.

A quorum being present, Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton declared the meeting open for the transaction of business.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) provided the invocation and lead The Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to adopt the minutes from the previous council session held on Monday, March 6, 2023. Councilman Jefferson Nail (D5) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Chief of Police, Water Superintendent, Court Magistrate, Street and Sanitation Superintendent and the City Clerk-Treasurer provided monthly reports.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved via request for an executive session as authorized by [AL Code § 36-25A-7 \(2016\)](#) for the purposes of general reputation/good name and character and to discuss pending ligations with the attorney and other legal representatives for a period of fifteen (15) minutes. In facilitating the meeting, Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton accepted the request and asked for a motion via the council as authorized by [AL Code § 36-25A-7 \(2016\)](#). Councilman Tommie Kennie (D2) seconded the motion. Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton requested a roll call vote noting the following: Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) yes, Tommie Kennie (D2) yes, Joseph Pearson (D3) yes, Councilman Willie Jackson (Pro-Tem-D4) yes, Councilman Jefferson K. Nail (D5) yes, and Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton cited that no actions were taken nor decision made in executive session.

Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) moved to reconvene from executive session. Councilman Tommie Kennie (D2) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Councilman Tommie Kennie (D2) moved to pay the February 2023 monthly expenditures. Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to suspend the rules and make an addendum to the agenda to add the \$299.16 lodging stay of the Tucker family due to the city sewer backup activity. Councilman Willie Jackson (Pro-Tem-D4) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) moved to pay the \$299.16 lodging expenditure of the Tucker family due to the city sewer backup activity. Councilman Willie Jackson (Pro-Tem-D4) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Jefferson Nail (D5) moved to budget \$5,000.00 to pay to an outside law firm to look at the legality of spending of \$21,000.00 without a vote of the council. However, before fully completing the motion, Councilman Jefferson Nail (D5) moved to withdraw the previous motion regarding budgeting for an outside law firm. Councilman Jefferson Nail (D5) moved to have the **city attorney** look into the legality of the spending of the \$21,000.00 that did not come before the council for a vote with the city attorney giving an opinion about who should be paying the funding back at the first meeting in April. No second nor roll call vote occurred. Motion failed for a lack of second.

Presiding Officer Mayor Dexter Hinton declared the next regularly scheduled council meeting will be Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. With no further business to come before the council, it was properly moved by Councilman Joseph Pearson (D3) that the session be adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Jeremy Arrington (D1). Motion carried.

Mayor

Attest: _____
City Clerk-Treasurer