

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – DECEMBER 3, 2019 – 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Tuesday, the 3rd day of December, 2019 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

On the call of the roll the following members were shown to be absent or present as follows:

Present: Smith, Batchelor, Cain, Luzadder and Miller.

Absent: Henderson, Brunner, Homer and Johnson.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of November 19, 2019 were presented. On a motion by Councilman Henry Smith, 2nd by Councilwoman Deb Cain, the minutes were approved as presented by the following vote. Aye: Smith, Cain and Miller. Nay: None. Abstain: Batchelor and Luzadder. Council President Alan Miller asked, what do we do with that? Council attorney Phil Stephenson told Miller you have to have a majority of the members present for that motion. Miller replied, oh, okay, fine. Very well, the minutes of November 19th have been approved.

Councilman Brad Luzadder said, not a committee report but Community School of the Arts is having Cinderella this weekend. It starts on Thursday, will run Thursday with the students at all of the elementary schools in Grant County will get to see Cinderella as well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Friday and Saturday, performances start at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:30 pm and at 6:30 pm, the Face Place Performers will be opening at 6:30 pm and then the general show will start at 7:00 pm. On Sunday, it will begin at 1:30 pm, doors open with the Face Place Performers and then at 2:00 pm will be the performance. And tickets are still available online at CSA or you can pick them up at the door.

Council President Alan Miller said, talking with Steve Wright by phone as he drove over here, he, as they might expect, is at a Walkway of Lights meeting right now. He thinks they've been meeting 24 hours a day but just to remind everybody that Saturday is the big, official opening of the Christmas season. Basically there are activities in Downtown Marion beginning at noon and they continue until 9:00 pm, actually about 9:30 pm. Fireworks start at 9:00 pm so the parade is at 7:00 pm, tree lighting at 9:00 pm and then the fireworks will be shot off the roof over by Beatniks, he guessed Randy Miller's building on the north side of the square. All day long, something going on. 50 vendors he thinks he said here at City Hall, Boston Hill, some food trucks. So, big day. Pray for good weather. It's looking pretty good. Walkway of Lights has put a lot of effort into that.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2019

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 14-2019 by title only, a Resolution of the City of Marion authorizing the submittal of the Community Development Block Grant Owner Occupied Rehabilitation ("CDBG OOR") application to the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority ("IHCDA"). Council President Alan Miller told the Council, just so he doesn't forget it after they're done voting on the resolution, which he assumes they will approve, it needs to be signed by all of them so if he forgets to remind them, don't run out the door until they sign a copy of the resolution. Stacy Grindle told the Council, actually, she is going to let Lorri Cox speak to them about the resolution. She's been through it a few times before so she's going to let her talk. Lorri Cox from Affordable Housing Corporation thanked the Council for getting them on here and seeing them so quickly. The application is due to be turned in the 16th of December. They will announce those who receive the awards February 27th she believes is the date. You had to finish up one award to be able to apply for the other one. They received clearance letters on the Owner Occupied Repair Programs that they did with the City of Marion in 2014 and 2017. Just under \$250,000 was put into Owner Occupied Rehab for those that were elderly or disabled. They have provided services to 42 homes throughout these two grants, the majority of that being with new roofs or HVAC systems and they'd like to do that again. Council President Alan Miller told Cox, does she know how many, he supposes it's difficult to know how many this particular grant would serve. Mrs. Cox told Miller they're looking for the same \$250,000 to \$275,000 in hopes that that would serve 20 to 25 homes, depending on the priority list and what the needs are to make those homes safe and sanitary and sustainable and allow these homeowners to age in place. Miller asked, so basically it's a first come, first serve by application process?

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2019 Continued

Cox said there is an income requirement. It is first come, first serve if you meet the eligibility guidelines. Again, that's elderly or disabled so you would need to be over 55 or have someone in the home who is disabled. They've opened it up a little bit to single parent households. We're not sure that there's a call for that. We have a wait list right now, she thinks it's 99 people, 99 applications and Stacy has diligently gone through those and they have somewhere around 23 to 25 who are actually qualifying applicants now. So they will take more, certainly, in hopes that they can do more. Miller asked, is this federal money distributed through a state agency or a state grant? Cox said, correct, federal, Community Development Block Grant distributed through Indiana Housing Community Development Authority. Councilman Henry Smith asked Cox, she said the age limit is 55? Cox told Smith, correct, unless someone is disabled. They have to own the home, they have to have made sure that their property taxes are current and that there's current homeowners insurance. Smith said, so in other words, is it possible to, let's say that, pay the back taxes and then make it, bring it up to par and then apply or just what? Mrs. Cox replied, that's possible. Smith said, but the same year then. Mr. Miller said this is just for City of Marion residents he assumes, that's the target area and Cox told him that's correct. Miller asked, anybody else? Seeing none, they just need one vote this evening, correct counselor? Council attorney Phil Stephenson told Miller, you do but you have to have all five members (inaudible) would have to be a majority of the entire (inaudible). Motion was then made by Councilman Brad Luzadder to pass Resolution No. 14-2019. Motion was seconded by Councilman Don Batchelor and carried by the following vote. Aye: Smith, Batchelor, Cain, Luzadder and Miller. Nay: None.

Being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by Batchelor, 2nd by Smith, the meeting adjourned. Time being 7:12 p.m.