

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – APRIL 21, 2020 – 7:00 P.M., VIRTUAL MEETING

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Tuesday, the 21st day of April, 2020 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. by virtual electronic means through Zoom Meetings.

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

Present: Cowgill, Fouce, Fordyce, Cline, Brunner, Batchelor, Luzadder and Cain.

Absent: Henderson.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of March 17, 2020 were presented. On a motion by Councilman Brian Cowgill, 2nd by Councilman Mike Cline, the minutes were approved as presented by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2020 (WAS ORIGINALLY ON THE AGENDA FOR THE 3/17/20 MEETING)

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 4-2020 by title only, Area of Redevelopment Declaratory Resolution. Council President Deb Cain told Mr. Ramsey she is going to mute everybody and then he'll need to un-mute himself to start talking. Sam Ramsey, Advisory Plan Director, told the Council, for those of them that were here last fall, they did a very similar resolution to this. It was for the area on the west side of Washington Street from 3rd to 5th. They are applying for a grant through OKRA. It's the Main Street Revitalization Program Grant for roughly \$600,000 of their portion. We have raised about \$400,000 to match it for the project. There's basically, a lot of the basements project out under the sidewalk and a lot of the buildings have water issues and they're attempting to get this grant to go back in and remove the sidewalks, backfill those basement openings and put structure walls at the front of the properties to just sure it up and make the sidewalks more stable as they go forward. As downtown is progressing, they are hoping to do their part to make the sidewalks safe for everybody else that's using them and to try to keep the water out of people's basements. This is just a first step. They have to do it every time they apply, just to declare what area they're doing and what they're doing to that area. He will answer any questions if anybody has any, Ramsey said. Council President Cain told the Council, okay, if they have any questions, raise their hand and she'll un-mute them. Councilman Brad Luzadder asked Mr. Ramsey, how many buildings are they talking about? Ramsey told Luzadder he thinks there's about nine parcels that are affected by this, because once you get on the southern block, there's only two. There's the Boston Hill Center and then the property that the Marion National Bank Building or the new bank building sits on now. And then north of that is on the square and there's six, he believes. He's been in the basements of most of them and taken pictures. Some of the water damage is bad, some of it's not. Luzadder said, and so, we're talking \$1,000,000? He told Ramsey he said \$600,000 from OKRA and \$400,000 that we're doing? Ramsey replied, he doesn't have the exact breakdown of the local match. The Community Foundation put up a substantial portion of it and they had a lot of other local donors. He doesn't know the breakdown of it exactly. They would bring that back later. But yeah, it's \$1,000,000 for the two blocks. They're doing more than just the basic sidewalk. They're going to put a bike path. They're trying to connect the Cardinal Greenway to the Riverwalk and this is the portion they've chosen to take it through downtown and down Washington Street to 9th and then cut in behind Meyer's Drive-In and go down to 10th and then take 10th all the way to the Greenway. And they'll have a separate pedestrian path and a biking path so you don't have people biking by and having businesses opening doors and you're having to dodge that. And then they're replacing the lights. The lights are a little taller than they need to be in the downtown area. The Cobra lights on top shine into the apartments of the people that have started to move into the area. So it's not just sidewalks. There's benches, lights, they're putting in storm water stuff. Right now, it's kind of hard to show them anything. He'd have brought some pictures if they were meeting in person. Luzadder asked Ramsey, will he be forwarding that to them? Ramsey said, yes, he can send them some drawings and graphics. They're working with a landscape architecture firm that's done some graphics and they've done some engineering work as well for them. Mr. Luzadder asked, and how much have we committed as a city? Mr. Ramsey responded, he does not know. He can get them that number. Luzadder asked, how do they vote on something that they're giving approval for when they don't have a total of what they're going to be approving? Ramsey stated, this isn't even the application. They have to come back again. This is just the resolution declaring that area as in need of redevelopment. Councilman Luzadder said, okay, so they've got a lot of information that's going to be coming before them. Ramsey responded, yes. There's more steps to this. They

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have another public hearing that they have to do once this is all over. It was scheduled for last week. That didn't work out, obviously. Councilman Mike Cline asked Ramsey to correct him if he is wrong but this is basically a technical fix that was needed for the grant because there was some language that wasn't quite like it should be so this is basically a technical fix before the grant is resubmitted, right? Cline said, and he was also involved in this from the Community Foundation standpoint and he doesn't know the exact numbers but most of that \$400,000-some came from outside sources. But yeah, this is just a technical fix essentially, right, Cline asked. Mr. Ramsey told Cline, yes, the OKRA reps, if you apply and are not awarded the grant, they come back and kind of go over what you did wrong and we scored high enough the last time. There was just some wording that was not put together properly in this same resolution they brought forward the last time. So if they had, he guessed if they had gone over the resolution with a little finer toothed comb the last time, they probably would have gotten awarded. We scored higher than one of the two people they awarded it to the last time. Councilman Cline told Council President Cain, if he may, he'd like to make a motion on the resolution. Cain told him, okay, she'll take that motion in just a second. She needs to check with Mrs. Fouce. Did she have a question, Cain asked Fouce. Councilwoman Robin Fouce told Cain that Brad (Luzadder) asked the question that she had so they're on point. She's looking forward to getting not only the graphic information in addition to the financial specifics regarding the project. Thank you Sam, Fouce said. Councilman Don Batchelor told Ramsey, so what they're doing tonight, they're just doing a resolution just declaring the area for whatever, for the redevelopment or whatever the case may be. They're not approving anything else other than just the resolution declaring the area, correct? Ramsey told Batchelor, yes. OKRA is very strict on how often you can come back and ask for funding from them so they want to know exactly what area you're trying to fund every time you apply for a grant. That's what this is doing today, Ramsey said. Being no further questions from the Council, motion was made by Cline to approve Resolution No. 4-2020. Motion was seconded by Batchelor and carried by the following vote. Aye: Cowgill, Fouce, Fordyce, Cline, Brunner, Batchelor, Luzadder and Cain. Nay: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 5-2020

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 5-2020 by title only, a Resolution authorizing the filing of an application to the Indiana Department of Transportation for a grant under Sections 5311 and 5339 of the Federal Transit Act. Chuck Martindale told the Council this resolution, like many in the past, is a resolution authorizing the Mayor to file an application through the Indiana Department of Transportation for federal and state capital and operating money for fiscal year 2021. He appreciates them doing this tonight. They have a deadline to meet. Their grant application needs to be in by May 15th and they still need to do a couple of things with it but they're in pretty good shape in that regard. He wanted to note that Jeff Edwards, the Marion Transit Manager, is here this evening, if they can't see him. Council President Deb Cain told Martindale they can and she thanked Mr. Edwards for joining them. Martindale said, so Jeff's joined him and if they have any questions with regard to the operating aspects of what Marion Transit is doing right now or beforehand or hopefully in the future, be sure to ask and Jeff will be happy to help them there. As he said, the application will be for federal and state funding for local fiscal year 2021. And he wants to kind of take them through a chronology here, if he may, because they have, he thinks, four new Council members that he hasn't had the opportunity to meet and try to bring them up to date on some of the things that they normally do as well as what they have to do going forward. There's been a lot of changes in the last three weeks in regard to funding because of this Corona Act, CARES Act, and this changed the picture for a lot of what they're going to be doing for the next 18 months, not just 2021. So, if that would please the Council, he'll go ahead and proceed, Martindale said. Council President Cain said, please. Martindale stated that before the CARES Act was passed on March 27th, the Indiana Department of Transportation notified the City of Marion that they would be getting \$665,000 federal money for operating assistance for 2021 and also just shy of \$300,000 for state money from the Indiana Public Mass Transportation Fund, PMTF, which now they understand may be in jeopardy. So anyway, they started out late in March with that amount of money and things have changed as of last week, in fact a week ago today. As they know probably, on March 23rd, the city pretty much shut down its operations. The Marion Transit System basically shut its downtown terminal down and they went from their fixed route service plus Americans With Disabilities Act para-transit service to just para-transit service with three priorities on the trips. First priority being medical and pharmacy, second one being grocery and the third one being work. Now, the Marion Transit System has been operating on a completely para-transit system basis since

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March 23rd. Of course, the passengers have plummeted in that regard. Marion Transit, for the new Council members, Marion Transit normally carries on any given day, around 250 operating days a year, between 1,050 passengers, 1,050 passengers. They averaged last year 1,035 per day, five days a week, 52 weeks a year (inaudible). So anyway, there's a lot of usage of the Marion Transit System. Anyway, at the end of March, they knew they were going to get somewhere in the neighborhood of \$957,000 which basically equates to about 62% to 65% of the total operating expenses, net of revenues, for Marion Transit for 2021. Then comes along the CARES Act, Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act, CARES, the acronym CARES, and subsequent to that in early April, the Federal Transit Administration notified the states, INDOT, the Office of Transit INDOT, which basically handles all the funds for 41 transit systems, the federal funds for 41 transit systems under the non-urbanized transit part of the FTA funding. In addition to the FTA federal funding, there's a state PMTF, Public Mass Transportation Fund, that's been around since the '70s and it basically is about \$44,000,000/year that INDOT allocates to all 66 transit systems throughout Indiana, the urban systems, the Northern Indiana (inaudible) and then also the rural and non-urban transit systems, the other 40, like Marion that we get our funding from, that INDOT regulates that or they get the funding from FTA and they allocate it to all 51 transit systems. So anyway, we move along. INDOT did an excellent job of communicating with all the transit systems, what they were working with with FTA because they were kind of in the dark and everything was moving very quickly. So lo and behold, in early April, they were notified by INDOT to give them an idea of what they need to operate their system because, and also prepare for funding for the Coronavirus Act. Jeff and his team put together, you know, they tried to buy some things (inaudible) to keep the buses really clean and sterilized and all that and they're still working on that. He (Edwards) can tell them more about it later on, but anyway, they came back on April 14th, they being INDOT, and notified them that Marion has been allocated \$2,010,000 in Federal CARES Act for the next 18 months starting July 1, 2020. INDOT's program through the FTA, Federal Transit Administration, basically said that they wanted to go ahead and maximize the return of reimbursement to their grantees from this one single pot of money, so to speak, to help them defray all operating expenses (inaudible). So, here we are, as of today, they've been notified that Marion will receive, the preliminary allocation is \$2,010,000 and a few hundred dollars to reimburse the City of Marion for 100% of their net operating cost, their total operating cost less whatever revenues they bring in. Marion Transit does not charge fares, has not charged fares since third quarter of 2008 and as they move forward with this, basically what it says is the City of Marion will be reimbursed up to \$2,010,000 for all of their operating expenses for July 1 of this year through December 31 of 2021. So, what they're doing is they're submitting their grant application like they would for the local fiscal year calendar '21 but they're making it for an 18-month period. INDOT's allocation basically took their 2019 net operating expenses and took that times 1.5 and that's where they came up with this \$2,000,000 number. So, as far as this goes, they're going to be able to get up to \$2,000,000 at least, maybe a little more, based upon their projections and how much money they have to do this project, this one time project. These CARES monies are only good from July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. The State of Indiana has received \$48,000,000, \$47,800,000 to fund this program for these 41 transit systems. So they have an abundant amount of money. They want them to be expeditious and he thinks what expeditious means is they want them to get it done and done official. So what they're hearing is let's get it done, let's get a contract for it and they're working on that right now and let's get it spent in the next 18 months starting July 1. So, things are moving very quickly. It's an evolving process. They submit this application by May 15th. This resolution, a copy of that, once it's signed by the Mayor and the Clerk, will be sent to him in PDF form and they will upload that into the software program for these grants and they hope to get us contracts signed by the Mayor by July 1. So the first six months of this year, they'll stay on the old funding program and the old procedures and they'll continue to do that next year, or 3rd quarter and 4th quarter of this year and then next year, but under this (inaudible) amount of money that they've been allocated, the State of Indiana has been allocated by the FTA under this \$2,000,000,000,000 (two trillion dollar) Stimulus Program of the CARES Act. Some of them may recall, he thinks Mr. Batchelor was on the Council back in 2010, '11 and '12 when Marion received about \$1,000,000, just shy of \$1,000,000 in federal capital funds under the ARRA, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to, they bought eight new buses, and now they're gone, and they rehabbed the terminal down on Adams Street. Anyway, this project will apply for federal operating reimbursement for the city up to \$2,010,000-plus, it may change between now and July 1, to reimburse the city for 100% of its operating costs net of revenues. About the only revenues they bring in is advertising revenue, which they'll continue to do of course.

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They're also looking to buy four new buses. They believe that they're probably going to cost more because of new chassis, new models and the city will be responsible for up to 20% of the local match. These four buses will cost, once they put cameras in them, onboard cameras and all that, it'll cost probably around \$70,000 a piece and the city will be probably responsible for..... They don't know yet what the state funding will do as far as the local match for it. They've been told that as long as they have (inaudible), they'll pay for the entire 20% of it but INDOT has told them that they've been costing, by the state budgeting agency, that those state funds may be reduced or sequestered by the state budget agency because the state revenues will be dropping because of this Coronavirus situation. They're not collecting, he doesn't think, probably many sales tax revenues or income tax revenues and all that right now. So anyway, it's a fluid situation but they've been told that they'll be allocated a little over \$2,000,000 for the next 18 months for 100% of the operating expenses. He'll be happy to answer any questions he can on this grant program and then Jeff is here if they have any questions in regards to operations that he can't answer, Martindale said. Council President Deb Cain asked the Council, do we have any questions? Councilman Jim Brunner said, a question he guessed for either Chuck or for Jeff. Cain asked Martindale if he could hear him (Brunner) and Martindale said no, he can't hear him. Cain said, okay, she thinks, just one second. Brunner asked Martindale, can he hear him now? Martindale said, a little better, yes. Brunner asked again, can he hear him now? Martindale replied, he thinks so, yes. Mr. Brunner said, for either one of the gentlemen, it was mentioned about the special criteria we have to have now (inaudible) people to still have them use the buses. Do we still have a number of people using the buses? Mr. Martindale told Brunner, he's sorry, he didn't..... Cain asked Martindale, what's the number of people that are using the buses? Is it still the same as it's been or has it increased? Martindale responded, it's about the same. They've had a couple of routes that have decreased 2019 compared to 2018 but they're still covering the same number of passengers basically on an annual basis (inaudible). As he said, a couple of routes have dropped somewhat in 2019 compared to '18 but it may have had to do with weather or something like that. They're pretty well consistent. Any other questions, Martindale asked. Council President Cain said she thinks Mr. Cowgill does, but for some reason, he's not, his phone doesn't have the audio connected. There it is, it's starting to connect, just a minute. It's still saying connecting to audio. Yeah, while they're waiting on that, Mr. Fordyce has a question. Councilman Gary Fordyce told Martindale and Edwards he just wanted to say thank you for such a fantastic job that they do and how they get the funding and the federal money to keep the bus system going. It's just phenomenal how they just take care of the city and the constituents on their needs and stuff and for them to come up with this and proceed with this, he just thinks it's awesome and in unprecedented times, they need people like them. He has sat in on budget hearings and their request for over a year before he was even elected and it's just phenomenal how they take care of this system and he's just really, really so proud that we have two people like this in our transportation system. Thank you very much for all they do, Fordyce said. Mr. Martindale told Fordyce, thank you very much, appreciate his comments. Jeff and his team do a really good job, they really do. Councilman Brad Luzadder said, our regular budget, normally 75% is covered by the federal and the state. Currently, they're going to be picking up 100% of that. Martindale told Luzadder, yeah normally it's, when it first started, it was 75%, 50% federal and 25% state, subject to the maximum allocation and subject to what you spent. But, over the years now, our federal funding has been good, it's been going up, but our expenses have outpaced that. And right now, with everything, with our revenues and all that, basically the federal and state money picks up about 63% to 65% of its cost. 50% is federal, the remainder is state. Okay? They've also had more systems get into this pot of money. When he first got in this business many years ago, many years ago, there weren't that many systems that were, shall he say participating in the overall funding. These 5311 funds used to be a different number, that was started in 1979. They've seen a big increase in the amount of grant assistance, typically rural, county operations, get into this business so it's kind of had a thinning effect on what is available for everybody else. So right now, it's about 65% federal and state. This 100% is the first time he's ever seen this. It used to be 50% federal and then the state and local had to pick up everything else and it's more (inaudible) this situation where it's the first time in the 40-some years that he's been in this business that he's seen federal funds pick up 100%, no reimburse, not pick up but reimburse 100% of the city's operating cost for 18 months. So, we need to caution ourselves because we don't know what's going to happen after December 31, 2021. Okay? They've been allocated this money by, well INDOT's been allocated this money, the State of Indiana has been allocated this money and INDOT has (inaudible) allocate it (inaudible) using their formulas that they use, which are all very algorithm based, miles, passengers, you know,

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population and all that. The city's been really good about putting up its fair share of money because they had to to keep the bus system running. So anyway, right now, it's 65% for the first six months of this year, net, and then after that, it's 100%. So, that's all he knows right now. Does that answer his question, Martindale asked Luzadder. Luzadder replied, yes sir, thank you. Council President Cain asked Mr. Edwards if he had anything to add. Transit Manager Jeff Edwards told Cain, not really. They're just plugging away, taking people to the doctor, pharmacy, work and the grocery stores and trying to keep the buses clean, sanitized, wearing masks, and making sure their passengers have masks on before they get on. He thinks, starting next week he thinks they're going to implement taking temperatures. They're waiting on the thermometers to get in and see if they can start taking temperatures of their bus drivers and the passengers that are going to get on. They're doing everything they can to get people where they need to go but keep them safe, Edwards said. Mrs. Cain said, so Mr. Cowgill's question, because his audio's not working, is before COVID-19, how many buses ran each day? Edwards stated, six. Cain asked, do they have that same amount now? Edwards told Cain, no, they run between three and four right now because everybody that rides is 24 hour call in, at least, so the numbers are down. They just get to go to the doctor. It's limited where they can go and they're all call-in's. The numbers are down but they don't turn anybody down so everybody that needs to go somewhere gets there. Dialysis, wherever they need to go, they take care of them. Mr. Luzadder asked Mr. Edwards, is there any type of protection that we can do for the drivers? He knows they've been putting up Plexiglas shields around at some of the grocery stores and things. Have we thought about doing that in order to keep.... And the reason he's asking is because one of the gentlemen who was in New York was sneezed on or coughed on directly by one of the people coming in and he passed away. Is there any way in which for us to protect our drivers possibly by putting up some plastic shields between them and the general population coming in through the door? Edwards told Luzadder they already have the plastic in the back behind the driver. They don't have any on the side. They can look into that. They get better every week. They started with the masks and the gloves and then they started making them wear masks and now they're going to take their temperature. They only allow a maximum of two people on the bus at a time. That's something they can look into. They're trying to get better every week. Luzadder stated, he hates to be a Debbie Downer but how much is it costing us to run a bus for two people on it? Edwards answered, well, it's the same but we get it done. We allow two people on the bus at a time and the call-in's, when they call in, we get it done. We take them anywhere they want to go, the time they want to go. We have six buses, we're only using three or four right now so we have enough buses for whoever calls. Mr. Martindale said, if he may, Mr. Luzadder, public transportation is one of the essential services that's been deemed essential by the federal government so (inaudible) provide what we can. He knows it's difficult but he doesn't know how these people would get to some of the places that we have to take them to, or Jeff takes them to, the drivers, if they didn't have the Marion Transit System. Luzadder told Martindale, he's not arguing that point, he's just trying to look at the bottom line of it. It would seem that it's quite expensive to take two people. Martindale said, it is, it is. Mr. Edwards added, but it'd be worse if they take six and somebody gets sick. Luzadder responded, oh believe him, he understands. Edwards stated, right now, at this time, we're trying to not have anybody catch the COVID-19 so we're doing the best we can that way and still get people to where they need to go. Martindale told the Council the downtown terminal is closed. Jeff has dispatch personnel in there during normal hours but no one else can get in. All the buses are at the garage and then the dispatcher calls the garage and then Jeff or whoever is there dispatches the bus from the garage. So we're trying to make it to where there's the least amount of interaction possible. But it is an essential service deemed so by the federal government. Councilman Fordyce told Luzadder he thinks that's what Charles (Martindale) and Jeff (Edwards) were trying to elude to with this new federal funding on the expense that he (Luzadder) was talking about, just taking two people at this point in time during the COVID-19 is that, you know, the federal government's going to come in and fund 100% of this, as Charles eluded to, where it was basically our funding with the federal government before this was 62% and they're going to give us \$2,010,000 on this new relief program. So, he thinks during this point in time that, if we're only running three buses compared to five or six and we're only taking two people, he thinks with this new funding that we have to get this approved and get it advanced, like Charles was talking about because we've got a limited amount of time, he thinks that they're going to take care of that extra expense on just the amount of people that we're taking at this point in time during this to get through this. So, he understands it and he understands his (Luzadder) point and his question 100% but he thinks with the new funding through the federal government, through this stimulus and this package that it's going to alleviate a lot on

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public transportation (inaudible). Mr. Edwards said they take approximately 50 people a day to where they need to go and get them back home, the way they're doing it now. They accommodate everybody that calls in so that's the best we can do to get the job done. Mayor of Marion Jess Alumbaugh asked if he could jump in on this? Council President Cain told him he may, please. Alumbaugh said these are some of most (inaudible) people on our buses too. They are some of the most at risk and by making sure that we keep the numbers down, we are protecting them the best we can at this time. That's another reason for doing it the way we are. Thank you, Alumbaugh said. Cain asked, anybody else? Mrs. Fouce? Councilwoman Robin Fouce told Cain, Don (Batchelor) is trying to get her attention. Batchelor asked, is he muted? Cain told him, no, he is not. Councilman Don Batchelor said, a couple of things. He wants to thank Mr. Martindale for the work that he's done down through the years and helping us to secure these grants and funding because he's been with him towards 20 years so we appreciate the job that he's done and Jeff, he's done an excellent job down there for the Transportation Department because he is fortunate to have some of his great, former employees working for him now. They expect nothing else but excellent service. Jeff, keep up the good work and hats off to both of them. Mr. Martindale said, thank you Mr. Batchelor. He appreciates that. Cain said, okay, she's going to unmute everybody and if they have nothing else.... Mrs. Fouce? Councilwoman Fouce said she just wanted to piggyback off of that thank you and expression of gratitude. Her pleasure to interact with him, Charles Martindale, and Jeff, as always, they appreciate what they do. She's also grateful to the City of Marion that we can continue this service to our constituents. Kind of like Jess said, you know, there's an opportunity cost in what we're doing here and she can appreciate, Brad, his concerns and like Gary, she hears him, but she's also grateful that we can still serve (inaudible) served in our community. That's all she wanted to say, Fouce said. Mayor Alumbaugh asked if he could jump in on this too and Cain told him, yes, please do. Alumbaugh told the Council he couldn't be more proud of Jeff Edwards and the work he's done for the City Transportation Department. He's just changed the whole culture there and it's been amazing to watch and he couldn't be more pleased with what he's done with City Transportation. Mrs. Cain told Alumbaugh, she agrees. Councilman Luzadder said, he guessed, Mrs. Cain, he guessed he should clarify. He was not downing the program. In fact, every year that he's been on the Council, he's voted in great support of this. He's just wanting to know financials so that we're able to get our heads together during this time. He's sorry to ask those questions if it sounded negative but it was (inaudible) trying to find out numbers to move forward. Mayor Alumbaugh told Luzadder he sounds like Julie Flores and he appreciates that. Luzadder commented, he would say she probably looks 10 times better than he does. Council President Deb Cain said, okay, if they have nothing else, she'll take a motion. Motion was made by Councilman Brian Cowgill to pass Resolution No. 5-2020. Motion was seconded by Councilman Jim Brunner and carried by the following vote. Aye: Cowgill, Fouce, Fordyce, Cline, Brunner, Batchelor, Luzadder and Cain. Nay: None.

Council President Cain asked the Mayor if he had anything else he wanted to add tonight before they close. Mr. Martindale thanked the Council and told them he appreciates their help and approval. Cain stated, thank you Mr. Martindale and Mr. Edwards, she appreciates it. Mr. Edwards said, thank you for the kind words. Cain said, stay safe. Mayor Alumbaugh said he just wanted to say to all nine of them, well eight of them and keep Steve (Councilman Henderson) in their prayers, they know what he's going through. Wow, what an unprecedented time. The first Zoom meeting he's ever had with City Council. He told Luzadder they know he's looking at the finances, he appreciates that. Without that, they can't move forward so he gets it. But no, he just really appreciates their heart and soul for serving us and wow, he's not (inaudible) but he's picking up on it quickly because we have to. Cain asked the Mayor, does he have anything else for the city to hear about? Alumbaugh replied, he'll let them know this. They're starting the yard waste pick up again. Starting Thursday morning, they'll start going out and picking up yard waste. They'll have one person in the truck instead of two as they usually do and the citizens of Marion need to know to keep that yard waste in a format that is easy for one person to pick up and load into our trucks and keep your distance from our city employees. They will be wearing masks but there's a public announcement coming tomorrow to all the news media but, yeah, unprecedented times. He told the Council he appreciates them and their service to their community. They'll get through this together, they really will. Cain said, we will. Thank you everybody. She appreciates their time figuring out how to get on Zoom. At this time, she thinks what they are going to do, Mrs. Kiley, is they will not have the meeting the first week of May, unless they have something urgent. Mr. Mayor? Mayor Alumbaugh told Cain, let's

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have her or Brad or somebody close them out in prayer. He doesn't think there's ever been a greater need for prayer than these times right now. Cain replied, absolutely, they will do that. But then they will meet the third week, by Zoom. Councilman Gary Fordyce asked, the third week of May? Cain answered, the third week of May will be a Zoom meeting, just to protect them all. She doesn't know if anything will be lifted by then with the Governor or not so they'll just plan on that, just in case. Fordyce said, so by that, if we're going to the third week of May and we're going to do a Zoom with the City Council, does that mean that businesses are not going to open? Mrs. Cain told Fordyce, as of right now, the Mayor's Executive Order is that everything will open May 1st, unless he has a need to extend that. Fordyce asked, is that the Mayor or the Governor? Cain said, the Governor. Mayor Alumbaugh added, but he also will be weighing in with Dr. Moore with the Health Department and Bob Jackson with EMA to get their feedback. These are the people that we trust as far as when it comes to health issues. He's not a health expert so he'll follow their lead. Cain said, what we need to be aware of is that we still have cases that are increasing. She knows most of them were in an isolated area with the nursing home, but at the same time, those are still increasing so social distancing is working. It needs to work first before we get back out in the community and this escalates to where it's not controlled and we put ourselves at risk. So, at this point, that's the plan, unless they hear otherwise. She just wants to have something planned, something prepared unless we know otherwise. Councilman Jim Brunner said, Madam Chairman, those dates would be the 5th and the 19th. Cain told Brunner, yes, the 5th is cancelled and then the 19th would be a Zoom, unless they hear otherwise.

Mrs. Cain then told Mr. Luzadder she agrees with the Mayor wholeheartedly. She thinks they need to close tonight in prayer. If he'll do that then she'll take a motion to close and a second. Councilman Brad Luzadder said he would be happy to: Dear Heavenly Father, we do ask that you would be with our city at this time, that you'll continue to be with us during this treacherous time with this virus. Let us not be antsy in wanting to move around but Father, let's tell our constituents, our people, our family members that it's okay to stay home and it's nice to enjoy the family time in which we can spend together. We do want to ask that you're going to be with each and every family that's here in our city, that we're going to keep them safe, that they're not going to be congregating and going to places where the possibility of this virus can take effect and continue to spread. We continue to ask that your hand be upon our Mayor, our medical, our first responders. I don't believe that there's ever been a time that our front line workers have been working harder or been put to the test any more than what they have during this time, God, and during this time, they're going to need you to be their comfort, to be their strength, to be their guiding light as we forge through this terrible situation we're in and we're going to hope that the sun's going to rise and that things are going to continue to get better and we're going to continue to keep our eyes upon you and ask for your guidance and your grace because that's really what we're going to be seeking is your wisdom and your guidance and your grace as we move forward. And so please give us the courage to take those tough stands. He does want to thank our Mayor for standing strong (inaudible) and going along with our Governor. He prays for our Governor, that he is taking the strong steps to keep everyone safe and we want to continue to listen to the medical professionals. God be with our first responders, our police and our fire who continue to put their lives on the line every day for us. Our front line workers at the grocery stores, we want to lift them up and we want to ask that you're going to give an extra ounce of blessing to them for the work in which they are doing. We will give you praise and lift you up in the precious name of Jesus, he prays. Amen.

Being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion by Fordyce, 2nd by Cline, the meeting adjourned. Time being 7:55 p.m.