

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Tuesday, the 16th day of May, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Council President Robin Fouce said first she wanted to mention their dear Mike Cline and his family. Mike is having open heart surgery as they speak and so they want to cover them in prayer. She did ask for permission to share that. They want to cover him and his family in prayer that he gets through the surgery, that he gets the medical treatment that he needs and that he receives healing that none other than the Lord can provide. Please stand for the prayer by Councilman Henderson and the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Fordyce.

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

Present: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce.

Absent: Cline and Brunner.

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: Mark Johnson, GRCC Aviation Academy – Council President Fouce said, tonight, she is excited to share with them their neighborhood spotlight. They have Mark Johnson with the Grant County Regional Career Center Aviation Academy. Mr. Johnson, if he would join them up at the podium and press the red button and he'll be able to speak in the mike. She wanted to invite Mark here today. He is doing phenomenal things at our Marion Airport with our youth and these are not just local youth, these are national youth and out of the country even. International youth she should say. And so, she thinks it's good for them to be aware of it and consider his program and how they all can help in any way. Mr. Johnson said, well thank you, Robin, and it's actually been a pleasure to have her as part of the Marion Board of Aviation Commissioners as well, sitting in on those meetings and representing the city with the airport there. And so, he just wanted to thank all of them for just the support that they've shown to not only the airport but just their educational programs in general. This is his first year working with the Grant Regional Career Center and the center itself has he thinks about 15 different career programs and he gets to be part of the Aviation Academy. This is actually a very unique program and they're starting to get some notoriety around the state and really around the country as others learn about what they're doing here. There are a few other programs somewhat similar to this in the State of Indiana but not very many and so they actually are able to offer their high school juniors and seniors, and this is for this year representing all five of the county schools and so they have Marion, Oak Hill, Eastbrook, Madison-Grant, and Mississinewa students all represented there. They have 15 students who have devoted basically half of their school day in their junior and senior year and so they come out for three periods in the morning out to the airport. They actually do have a classroom out there in the city hangar so it's right next to the terminal building there, the big hangar there, 100' by 100'. One of the interesting things about that is they had built a very classroom in there and this year, they have 15 students, 11 of those are seniors so they'll lose 11 of their students, and yet, next year, they already have about 20 signed up to come. And so, it'll be exciting to see just the growth of that program. Some of the things that they get to do as part of this, and he actually looks at kind of the role that they play with their high school students, they've got kind of the three e's. First of all is exposing the students to aviation, secondly is just encouraging them, and thirdly is equipping them for a career in aviation. So exposing them to aviation, this last year and they're almost done, this week is their last week, they do finals on Thursday and Friday which will be a preparation for their FAA written exam so they'll have actually some certifications out of that as they move toward a private pilot certificate as well. But they have, over the course of the year, been able to give them opportunities to meet, he believes at last count they had 16 guest speakers come in. And so most of those they had actually come speak to them there, had a couple of them by video and then they also got to take some field trips as well so they got to take a field trip down to the Indianapolis Air Traffic Control tower and go up to the top of the tower down there and they got to see the other side of the pilot and air traffic controller communication. They got to see what that looks like on the back end of that, as well as downstairs, seeing all the radar screens and all that. They had one of their high school students who is a senior this year who was in the class because he wasn't really sure about what he wanted to go into and so he came to the class and realized he really didn't want to be a pilot but he wasn't sure what he wanted to do and they went and took the field trip down to the Air Traffic Control Tower and he came back and he just lit up and he was like "I figured out what I want to do. I do want to be involved in aviation, it's just not sitting in the front seat of an airplane". And so, that was actually really exciting to see that, kind of the light bulb going on. So they expose them to

2

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT Continued

a wide variety of different careers. On the encouraging side, some of the students here just need that extra coaching, they need the extra attention that comes by getting to go out there and just be part of a program like this and then they tell others about it and they realize that others are kind of jealous a little bit that they get to go and fly in planes and all that. And so that leads right to the final part of this which is the equipping part. So they provide now through partnership with Indiana Wesleyan University, they have dual credit. They're, just in their first year, if they come in as a junior, they will receive six credit hours of dual credit with Indiana Wesleyan University's Aviation Program and so they will get an introduction to careers, introduction to aviation careers. That's one of the first classes that they take. And then they also get to take a, it's called Meteorology for Aviators where they really do a deep dive on weather. They learn all about those clouds that they look up every day when they come in and they're like I think that's a cumulus or that's a stratus or whatever it might be. They look at weather all the time. They get to learn that. And then they also get to fly and so that's a really exciting part of this program. Again, not very many places that a student can go and actually get flight hours as well. So the program itself provides a couple of hours for them just to kind of get an introduction to flight and that's a good way for them to determine either yes, they do want to become a pilot or maybe it's no, not quite what they were thinking and so they get a couple of hours there. And then, many of their students have gone on to also then pursue their private pilot's license and so they have, of their 15, eight of those students are currently in flight training outside of the class as well. And as part of their program, just sponsorship through the city, the county, the surrounding areas here, they've been able to get some scholarship fund for them as well. (inaudible) up to \$2,400 for those students that applied to that. And so, just what's really great, it's exciting to see the students really come alive and just see that this is something they can do and these are high paying jobs that they are looking at pursuing as well so they're going to be bringing a lot back to the community. Are there any questions that they might have, Johnson asked. Councilman Brian Cowgill told Johnson he knows that he said, it sounds like at least half of them go after their pilot's license. How long does it take to get their private license and what is the cost of getting the license? Mr. Johnson told Cowgill that's actually a really good question and there's one answer that they typically give in aviation to questions, it depends. Okay, so, it really is a very wide range on that and so, for their students, they have one, he's a junior this year, just finishing his junior year, from Oak Hill, he will be ready to take his private pilot (inaudible) which is the final step in that with an FAA Examiner. He would be ready by the end of May. So, less than a year for him. This summer, they actually have 24 Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets so mostly high school seniors going into their senior year, 24 coming out this summer and in eight weeks, they will all get their private pilot's license. Others in the community, it might take 18 years, it really depends. Cost is typically between \$8,000 and \$12,000, it just depends on how many hours it takes them of flight time. And that's actually interesting. That's where the scholarship fund has been a huge deal for these students. A lot of them are working at Walmart. They might be working at McDonald's, something like that. They might have to work two weeks for every hour of flight training because it is very expensive and so the scholarship is a huge factor for them. Council President Fouce asked, any further question or comment? She wanted to ask what is the beginning age range and any age range for his students, typically? Johnson said, yeah, so they're mostly going to be 16 to 18. So they're, again, juniors and seniors in high school. Many of their students actually begin in their senior year so even if they didn't take the program in their junior year, they still have the opportunity to come out and they'll still get the credits. They will get training and preparation for their FAA written exam and then those that choose to do flight training will get that as well. Fouce said she likes the girl power that she sees. There are as many young ladies graduating and participating in the course work as there were young men and so she was just super impressed with the diversity that they had. They had, they have someone from Italy or somewhere? Johnson said, yeah, so that's actually a different program. That's not part of the high school program but that is part of their, through Indiana Wesleyan University, they do have a, the 24 Air Force Cadets and this year, they actually have 12 females and 12 males coming in for that program and they're from all over. One of the things with that program this summer, they come June 1 and finish up July 27th. They're actually taking a little bit of a different approach. They bring about \$500,000 into the community here over those eight weeks, between all the cadets coming with that, and so this year, this summer, they're going to try to get them out into the community a little bit more, get them out in some of the restaurants, just some of the things that they can actually have a presence in the community as well, Johnson said. Fouce stated, thank you, Mark Johnson. They appreciate, again, his efforts with their kids, kids around this country and the work that they do at the airport is phenomenal. A whole new world. She

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT Continued

totally enjoys the exposure to the Airport Board and her service there and just appreciates them all. Mr. McKinney does phenomenal. He was going to be here tonight but perhaps could not make it. But thank you. Reach out to Mr. Johnson as a community member and let's see how they can support him. Thank you so much. Johnson said he'll leave one of his cards on the podium.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting of May 3, 2023 were presented. On a motion by Councilman David Cain, 2nd by Councilman Brian Cowgill, the minutes were approved as presented by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Abstain: Stodghill-Weeks.

CONSIDERATION AND RATIFICATION OF PRE-APPROVED CLAIMS – Council President Robin Fouce said she will entertain a motion. Motion was made by Councilman Cowgill that they approve the pre-approved. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gary Fordyce and carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS – Council President Fouce said, secondly, they have the consideration of claims. She will open the floor for a very brief discussion and move forward with her recommendation regarding this or receive what they all decide to do about it. Anyone have any comment about what they received or did not? Councilman Cowgill? Councilman Brian Cowgill asked, did they ever get the invoices for the vouchers? Fouce said no, they have not received invoices or vouchers to support the claims that they received. Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, he's certainly disappointed in the procedures that were followed that they did not receive vouchers and/or invoices. He's been in business a long time, had his own business early in his career so he's been in the work field for about 46 years and he's never, ever approved and/or paid invoices without seeing an invoice. And that's all he'll say with that. He, personally, cannot move forward with this, Cain said. Fouce said, thank you. Do they have further comments? Attorney Harker, would he have any legal perspective on this particular situation? Council attorney Martin Harker said, yes, Madam President, pursuant to I.C. 5-11-10-1.6 and also consistent with that, the ordinance that was recently passed, puts through a process by which the claims are approved and as they sit here today, he doesn't know, he's struggling with the fact that the Council is at a disadvantage in order to try to vote on matters when they haven't received the vouchers and cannot (inaudible) the statutory and ordinance requirements that have been set forth. In addition, I.C. 5-11-10-2 requires that the Controller's Office in regard to claims and bills "all such documents shall be carefully preserved by the disbursing officer as part of the official records of the office". And to him, his review of the situation is that in the year 2023, keeping paper records in a box does not qualify as carefully preserving records. So, this is difficult to move forward on, Harker said. Ms. Fouce said, thank you, counselor. Do they have any further Council comment? She'll conclude with, since the passing of this bill or this ordinance, this ordinance has been in motion since 2020, if she's not missing the date, and so, in this fourth year, they were able to pass it. It was vetoed by the mayor, she believes in a veto of such nature gives this ordinance in particular, it was a veto against transparency to the citizens, however, they successfully overturned that veto. She failed to mention that they had a frivolous lawsuit filed against them as they went to exercise their fiscal authority as the legislative body of the city that prolonged their process. They prevailed in that. Again, they overrode the veto and, as the ordinance states, it was in effect at that time of passage. So there's been plenty of time, in her opinion, on behalf of the administration to come up with a process that would support a smooth transition of the process and a timely transition of the process. She sent out an email a week or so ago to the Controller and a few other folks, just contacting you to ensure a timely and successful transition of the claims process from the Board of Works to the City Council according to the Ordinance 4-2023, please review Section 3 of said ordinance. Please highlight and identify the pre-approved claims so they can know which are the pre-approved claims that they have a line item for that, which they just approved this evening, they need to know which those are, hence, they are just taking over this process. Please submit in total the required information to the Clerk according to Section 3 of the ordinance. It was asked that it be sent to the Clerk by the deadline five days prior to the governing board or the fiscal board meeting to vote on such. The Controller's attendance and availability at this meeting is important to ensure any questions are answered on record, the key thing is "on record", and that those questions are addressed to ensure payment approval. Thank you for your cooperation and so forth. She got a reply

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS Continued

that, a couple days later or so, the invoices are available in the Controller's Office and she said she's willing to work, this is from Controller Flores, she wants to work with the Council to ensure transparency but she's not willing to copy the invoices or the vouchers. It will cost the city money as well as employee time. And she gives an example of why she's not willing to copy it. A reply by, she believes it was Councilman Cain, said scan the documents and email them to the Council would be the most expedient, efficient way. They got, she believes, no response to that. Furthermore, she got, she sent another email because she didn't get a response favorable to supplying them the necessary information, she sent another email asking for compliance with that, encouraging, she believes, for those documents to be scanned and to take some of the initial labor off of the Controller's Office to see if the department heads or the departments could scan their vouchers and invoices. You know, she was skeptical to make that suggestion because for four years she's been on the Council, three and a half years, they've been reminded that certain responsibilities are not that of theirs and so when the administration and the Controller's Office is charged with these tasks, it is their liberty and their responsibility to comply with their request, to moreover comply with the ordinance, the city law that is currently in place. 2023 is time for us not to have anything in a box. It's totally unacceptable. The pandemic gave us two years of experience where we knew we had to be more digital and more utilize technology on another level. And she's not sure that anything was done to improve technology in our local government. They have paper records in a box, totally unacceptable. In talking to other municipalities to get a weight on where we are, she patterned Muncie. Muncie, if they go on the website, they can pull up Muncie's bills. They're on the website. They pay bills weekly instead of bi-monthly. They are transparently on the website. The Controller advises that he gets, their process, the department head scans the invoice and vouchers and approves them, forwards them to the Controller for her review or his review, and then the fiscal body does the final approval of payment of the claims. Important to note, checks are not printed until approved by the fiscal body. She believes she spoke with Attorney Harker about they can't pay a claim unless it's approved and it goes through that process. That is Indiana Code and law as well. Her suggestion, if they care, they need accounting software that supports that. If anyone wants to go online and look at Muncie's, please do. They are the perfect template for the type of information that they all could use. Also, she passed out to the Council, she passed out a group of government software companies that they could look at to help with what's needed. But we need to do better and she thinks in the end, once that's done, it would be just so easy and better for all of us and we'll be able to follow the ordinance that's in place. She takes today that we are getting blatant refusal to supply the public records that we're requiring and that the ordinance is mandating and, kind of like Councilman Cain, she's disappointed. Seems like more often than not, they walk in that disappointment. It'd be nice to work together to try to get this done and everybody do their piece of it. And so, having said that, she'll entertain a motion regarding the consideration of claims, Fouce said. Councilman Cowgill said he'd like to make a motion that they table this until they get all of their proper documents and are able to make a decision based on having invoices as well to these. Councilman Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion has been made to table the consideration of the claims until they receive the necessary documents. It's been motioned by Councilman Cowgill, seconded by Councilman Cain. Any question? Cain said, just one more comment. This kind of stems, from his opinion, this stems from this is a prime example several weeks ago when they found out that the Board of Works had been paying roughly up to \$2,000,000 with the claims to \$167,000 a year that absolutely no one, no one, knew what it was for. So that was a prime example of why, why we need to see invoices and why the City Council took over approval of the claims so we could study those invoices and see what we are actually paying. When we create and help pass a budget for the year, he thinks this is just a compliment for us and for the taxpayers to review those bills for payment. Fouce said, any further question on the motion? It's been moved and seconded, roll call please. Motion to table carried by the following vote. Aye: Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: Fordyce.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Councilman David Cain reported that the Compliance Committee met last night to review CF-1 forms which are tax abatement compliance forms. There were 12 submitted just within the last couple days. They reviewed 12 of those last night. They passed 11 and denied one for lack of information on the one. So, moving forward, everybody did a good job and he appreciates the work of the committee on passing those and he's sure the owners of those businesses appreciate that also. So, thank you to the committee for doing that. It was successful last night. Thank you, Cain said.

COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued

Councilman Brian Cowgill said he attended the Board of Work meeting yesterday and they had three properties that they have sold for \$800 each, the 500 block of E. 32-1/2 Street, 408 N. Adams, and 410 N. Adams. Janet Pearson spoke on those. Then they had, Mike Graft got up and talked about the opening bids for getting the streets paved through the Community Crossing Grants and he had two bids turned in to him, one is from E & B Paving for \$2,111,848.40 and one from Brooks Paving for \$2,077,523.52. So they'll have to see what happens as far as the bid process. Mike Graft will be getting back with them on that. And then Jason (Konazeski) from the Building Department got up and spoke on what decision they're going to go with on the mowing. They only had one bid turned in and they normally pay \$500/lot and this bid was for, he thinks, \$105/lot. Or \$50, excuse him. What did he say, \$500? Okay, \$50/lot but this guy's bid was for \$105 so it was double so he thinks they're trying to figure out what's going on there and he asked the question, Ms. Wilk let him ask the question on how many lots that we have that we have to take care of with the city and they said between 300 to 400 lots. He's telling them, from having a mowing business for 25 years, that's a lot. He really, he thinks that Commissioner Foustnight has come up with a great idea. He does believe they need to hire two people and those two people will be probably college guys or high school guys but one will work Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, the other one will work Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and their only responsibilities are to go out and mow city lots. He thinks that would be a huge impact. Right now, they have the work crew helping them out but, you know, they also have other things they have to do and he thinks that that's going to be what's going to help them the best. So anyway, they haven't made any decision still on what they're going to do on that. And then, Whitney (Gilbert) spoke on behalf of Commissioner Foustnight about 3407 S. Selby Street. It's a trailer there and they're going to, they approved that for demolition so that'll be put on the demolition list. And the other item that they talked about was his buddy, Nick McPike from the Marion Police Department, they had change in their language of their contract so they went in front of the Board of Works to get that approved and what the change is is that each officer will now get \$200 towards clothing allowance for their uniforms and their boots. And that was approved through that as well. Kudos to the mayor for giving them that. It's not easy and a lot of times you can ruin uniforms, two and three in one day. He's done it. That was pretty much it, Cowgill said. Council President Fouce said, thank you, councilman. As a follow up to the FOP Contract changes, they have Officer Nick McPike, the FOP President, here to elaborate on that briefly. Officer McPike told the Council, so to clarify on this, there is a state law in Indiana that states that all municipalities have to pay at least a \$200 clothing allowance towards officers and he believes that's for fire as well. What they added to the contract is now the city is responsible for purchasing officers' uniforms, the tops and the bottoms, and then \$150 credit towards boots. The way they had it worked out is an officer will receive two uniforms a year, which is one uniform every six months, and then \$150 towards the purchase of duty footwear. This contract proposal that he passed out to everybody, what is in red is the added language, what is in black is language that is already there, and then what is struck through is language that had been removed. Some of the language that had been removed were things like mentioning, in the past when clothing allowance was moved to base pay or different things like that, that money's already there, that kind of language doesn't need to be in the contract anymore. So if there's any questions, he can provide some further explanation on what's already been stated, McPike said. Ms. Fouce asked, does anybody have any questions for Officer McPike? Councilman Gary Fordyce asked, is this going to involve the Me Too Clause with the Fire Department? McPike told Fordyce, negative, it's not over \$250. Fordyce said, okay, thank you. Fouce asked, any further questions? Thank you, officer, for the work that he does and the service that he does and give their best to half of Marion's finest. McPike said, thank you, thank you. May he approach and have her sign this? Fouce replied, certainly.

Council President Robin Fouce said, as a follow up from her committee report, tonight was the ribbon-cutting for the Afena Federal Credit Union, the new branch out on North Bradford. It is absolutely beautiful. She would encourage them whether they are a member or not to stop by and see the facility. They offered the abatement to them and so that building is of some of the fruition of their efforts and the efforts of the citizens. And so, she would offer them tomorrow morning, there is a 9:45 a.m. ribbon-cutting at the Afena Credit Union so she wanted to mention that. She had the pleasure of attending the Ivy Tech Commencement. Our Alex Huskey, who is a faithful servant on our Board of Works, is the Chancellor there. They had the best graduation she's been to. It was short, concise, and a great celebration. A lot of high school students are graduating with college credits or an Associate Degree so that's a bit

6

different from the days when she was in high school and probably a lot of them. It's phenomenal. These kids are getting job training and to be work ready labor force and be able to sustain their life and contribute to society. They have two beautiful young ladies here with them today. If they would just stand up. They're doing phenomenal. One's in high school, one's in college. They want to celebrate our kids, or young ladies as she would say. These happen to be Councilwoman Stodghill-Weeks' two so thank you guys. She said she wants a special thanks to the Work Crew. They have weeds all over District 4 and she's been trying to get the areas around the schools (inaudible) so the kids can have a good end of the year experience. The Work Crew has been responsive. They look forward to the Code Enforcement Department figuring out what's necessary to maintain their properties annually. Winter, spring, summer, fall. They look forward to that but she wants to give all kudos to the Work Crew and thank them greatly. That concludes her report, Fouce said.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT: Marion Utility Service Board – Council President Fouce said next they have a Council appointment that's available for the Marion Utility Service Board. They sent out and posted notice about that a week ago and that notice went through yesterday. They have not received any applicants and so they will continue to seek to fill that seat. They did get an inquiry from Councilman Luzadder, she asked if he wanted her to mention him. He currently serves as the Council liaison on the Utility Board and has done that for many years. His request was to be selected for that. She doesn't know that they can do that and so she wanted them to chat on that briefly. She doesn't know that they can. If they could, at this point, while he's in office, she doesn't believe that they can. They certainly appreciate him and his continued and ongoing community service. Does anyone else want to chime in on that? Councilman, would he have anything to say regarding that? Councilman Brad Luzadder said he just thinks it's an honorable post and since he'll be leaving the 1st of January, he'd be happy to assume that position. Fouce said, thank you. So, can they resend that notice out again, please, sorry for the duplication, but also, do you have a copy of that application that comes along with it? Deputy Clerk Debbie Goodman said she has one in the office. Fouce said they would send, along with that notice, a copy of that application. Is that how it's typically done? She thinks that would just make that available to anyone so please contact her if they have or know someone that lives in Grant County, she should say Marion, and pays utilities, has to be a utility person, have to be receiving local utilities. Please contact her regarding such. Councilman Brian Cowgill said he had somebody contact him on the board post as well. She retired from there so that's why she was.... It's Ms. Cunningham. She currently serves on the Board of Works and he was told that if they're already on a board presently here in Marion that they could not take that post. Fouce said, thank you for that. They look forward to her sending that out again and hopefully they'll garner some interest in this next one. They'll also be looking diligently.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 8-2023 2ND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 8-2023 by title only, an Ordinance of the City of Marion, Indiana, appropriating certain funds for the City of Marion, Indiana, and providing for the effective date thereof. From the General Fund to City Hall Building & Landscaping the amount of \$72,000. Julie Flores, City Controller, told the Council, if she could give a little plug here for Mr. Johnson. She's the Treasurer for the Marion High School Alumni Association and if you join, if you become a member, you can direct your membership to go to any number of things, one of those being the aviation, be it athletics, be it arts, be it whatever. So, become a member of the Alumni Association and you can direct those funds to the Career Center. This is 2nd reading and public hearing on the funds to repair the ceiling and the roof. She believes Mr. Slusher has already given them the bids that have come in and so they will answer any questions that they might have. Council President Robin Fouce said she'll open the floor for questions. So, if they don't have any comment from the Council, if she will allow them, they'll have their public hearing on the matter then ask her to return to the podium. She can have a seat and they'll ask her to return to the podium as they have their public hearing. Fouce said she's waiting for her to have a seat, Controller Flores, so they can have their public hearing. Thank you. This begins the public hearing portion of their meeting. They ask that they step to the podium, state their name and their address and any comments that they have relevant to General Ordinance 8-2023, regarding repairing the roof and landscaping. Do they have any public comment? Paul Thompson told the Council he's a former

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 8-2023 Continued

Councilmember and lives at 1204 N. Manor Drive. He asked is this to repair or replace the roof of City Hall? The \$72,000? Now, if he's up here in the wrong place, it's because he can't hear them, can't hear anybody, but you can walk by any bar in this town and you can hear what's going on inside without going inside. And when you look at the audience out here, there's a lot of people out here that don't know what we're talking about. And he's sorry if he's off track here but he is concerned how much of the City Hall is going to be repaired or replaced with a new roof? Is that what we're talking about? Ms. Fouce said, yes sir, yes Mr. Thompson, she believes that the total roof will be replaced. Mr. Slusher said everything but above the Police Department. Thompson asked, all the flat roofs and everything? Okay, that's fine. That was his concern, whether they were just going to do certain areas where they were about to run out of buckets or what. Fouce said, well it's time to get a new roof, Mr. Thompson, so they thank him for his comments. Is he in favor of that or does he have a concern? Thompson said, well most certainly he's in favor of it because it's their tax dollars that's sitting here rotting away and there's other issues in this building that need to be addressed that's been overlooked for years and he's glad to see now that after it's about 40-some years old, it's going to get some attention. Fouce told Thompson, well they appreciate his comment about it and she really appreciates David Slusher. He's doing a great job and he brought it to their attention and they want to get that addressed. So if he has no further comment about it, they thank him so much. Thompson said, okay, thank you for the time. Fouce asked, do they have any further public comment? Public comment going once, going twice, public comment portion is closed. She'll come back to the Council. Do they have any further question or comment regarding this? They've heard from their public regarding this matter. They are at second reading and public hearing. Is a suspension of the rules in order? Clerk? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley said she's ready for a motion any time anybody else is. Fouce said, barring no further, Councilman? Councilman Brad Luzadder said, Madam President, he'd be happy to make a motion. Fouce said, please do. Luzadder said he would make a motion that they suspend the rules on General Ordinance No. 8-2023. Councilman David Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Luzadder to suspend the rules on General Ordinance No. 8-2023. It's been seconded by Councilman Cain. Barring no further question, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Luzadder said, now Madam President, he'd like to make a motion they pass Appropriation Ordinance No. 8-2023, Cain seconded. Ms. Fouce said the motion's on the floor to pass General Ordinance No. 8-2023 by Councilman Luzadder, seconded by Councilman Cain. Any question? Barring no question, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Fouce said, now go get that roof done, David. Thank you for all your efforts regarding such.

NEW BUSINESSRESOLUTION NO. 4-2023 WAS TABLED ON 4/18/23

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 4-2023 by title only, a Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Marion authorizing an amendment of the Master Lease Agreement for the lease financing of equipment through the Indiana Bond Bank. Mike Graft, Head of Engineering, told Council President Fouce she forgot to mention the Budget Committee met. Fouce said, okay, let her go before him. The Budget Committee did meet, thank you for reminding her. The Budget Committee did meet regarding this Resolution No. 4-2023. They had Engineer Graft there. Noted there was no one from the administration present. Does he recall what their recommendation was for that, Fouce asked Graft. Graft said a favorable recommendation. Fouce said, okay, so he's welcome to move forward. Graft told the Council, well a few of them were at the meeting so it's a pretty straightforward resolution. It's the Master Lease that they passed in 2021. They're just amending that resolution to add a schedule for payment to US Bank to that Master Lease. That's what the resolution is. Fouce asked Graft, is that his final comment on that? Graft said, that's it. Fouce said she will open it up for discussion or comment. So do they have any comment? Councilman David Cain asked Mr. Graft, how many times on an average, a monthly average, would he need a bucket truck? Just for information. Graft said he guessed it depends on the season. He means, obviously in the summer, they're going to use it a lot more than they will in the winter. They're not going to probably put a lot more posts in the ground in the winter because of the conditions but a lot more in the summer. It's seasonal. Cain said, thank you. Fouce said, thank you. Thank you, councilman. Any further question or comment? She knows her thought on it, she thinks they had good discussion in

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2023 Continued

their budget meeting was, remind them again what the total amount of the debt we would be going into is. Graft replied, just a little over \$176,000. Fouce said, itemize that debt out for her. So the principal, the interest, and the total. Graft asked Fouce, does she have Schedule 2 with her? Fouce said she does not. Graft said, okay, give him just a moment. Let him see if he can find it for her. So the total principal amount would be \$177,170. The initial payments will be \$39,802.52 which is a principal of \$36,726, interest of \$3,082. Each month, obviously it changes because of what is still owed as far as how much lease and interest but the total interest portion would be \$21,877.60 and that's at a 5.25% interest rate. Ms. Fouce told Graft, thank you for that. Also, her other question that she posed was, for those that were here at the budget meeting, do we have dollars to accommodate this expenditure? First of all, do we need it? Is it important to get this now? And secondly, do we have dollars elsewhere for this expenditure instead of getting into debt for this expenditure? So those were her concerns about it. Did anyone have any further comment on such? Barring no further comment, she'll entertain a motion. Councilman Brian Cowgill said, Madam President, he'd like to make a motion that they pass Resolution No. 4-2023. Councilman Steve Henderson seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cowgill to pass Resolution No. 4-2023. It's been seconded by Councilman Henderson. Is there any question? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, and Cain. Nay: Fouce.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 9-2023 1ST READING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 9-2023 by title only, an Ordinance of the City of Marion, Indiana, appropriating certain funds for the City of Marion, Indiana, and providing for the effective date thereof. From the EDIT Fund to Miscellaneous Contractual Services the amount of \$15,000. Julie Flores, City Controller, told the Council she believes this was discussed at the last meeting when she was not here and the mayor asked her to put something together to allow for us to donate to the NAIA Track Meet. This evening, Mr. Gidley is here to speak additionally to that and the mayor also will speak. But they're asking for an additional appropriation from the EDIT Fund to pay this expense, Flores said. Mayor of Marion Jess Alumbaugh said, good evening. He thinks this is an event that is probably unlike any other the comes to Marion and Grant County just because of the tremendous number of people that are going to come to our community, fill up the hotels, the retail stores will gain dramatically from it, as will our restaurants. The impact on the businesses in this community is unlike any other event we do because of the number of days and the tremendous number of people that come from all over the United States to the City of Marion, more particularly to Indiana Wesleyan's Track and Field site. So, without any more talk about that, he wanted to bring Steve Gidley up again to refresh them on the numbers. He's representing Indiana Wesleyan University and he has his wife, Jackie Roorbach Gidley, with him. He doesn't know if she's here to speak or not. Steve Gidley told the Council he appreciates their time yet again. They did speak on the matter at the last meeting but a few things he wanted to make as clear indicators or clear reminders is in 2016, 2017, there was a study done by IU School of Business and that study showed that \$72,000,000 was the economic impact of Indiana Wesleyan University. So he knows that study's a few years old but what he can tell them is \$1,500,000 additional of that is what's going to come from this track meet. It's more than just a sporting event. It's an opportunity for us to witness to a ton, almost 10,000 people over the course of each day. Witness not only our mission but also how great this city is. We're also special in this is we're able to house those individuals on our campus. No other place can do that. These individuals would be staying in Muncie, they'd be staying in Kokomo, they'd be staying in places that would not pay tax dollars or bills outside of this community. And so the revenue would simply be miniscule to what we're able to do. So he knows the \$15,000 is a lot but when you look at \$1,500,000 and you look at the amount of sales tax alone in this community, we could probably pay for Mike Graft's bucket truck. So, thank you guys, Gidley said. Mayor Alumbaugh said, and he also wanted to remind them that this is only a four year contract with them. The reason, in his opinion, that Indiana Wesleyan quit hosting that was because of the tremendous amount of work hours it takes from volunteers and employees and the cost it takes to put it on each time. After this four years, his hope is if we can find enough people in the community to support it, enough entities to help support the cost of it, we can keep it coming back after this because he believes, at least in the past, they really didn't want to take it away from Indiana Wesleyan. The facilities are unlike any others. So he's trying to make this a thing that we can help endure well beyond a four year contract, (inaudible) another four years. Eight years from now we could still be seeing this influx of people to support all these people that have their business

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 9-2023 Continued

doors open that need our support and these tourists coming in will be a great value to them in the years to come, Alumbaugh said. Fouce said, thank you. You've heard, regarding this Appropriation Ordinance 9-2023, \$15,000 to come out of the EDIT Fund, the economic development fund, miscellaneous contractual services to facilitate or partner with Indiana Wesleyan for the NAIA Track Meet. She believes that track meet is next weekend. Gidley said, yes ma'am. Fouce asked, would you name the dates on that for her? Gidley said, yes, it'll begin, individuals will move into campus starting Monday, this coming Monday. At 9:00 a.m., roughly 3,000 of those people will move in Monday and then they will move out the following Saturday so it's a full week. And then Wednesday through Friday is the national competition with heptathlon and detathalon (sp?) starting at 10:00 a.m., running until about 9:00 p.m. on those nights as well. Fouce said, thank you. Councilmen, you've heard the proposal for Appropriation Ordinance 9-2023, councilmen and councilwoman. Councilman Henderson? Councilman Steve Henderson said he just wanted to question if we have any plans for extra security or anything to handle the extra people that's going to be here? Mr. Gidley told Henderson, yes sir. That's being handled through Kyle Beal, their Chief of Police at Indiana Wesleyan University. He's in contacts with the different Sheriff's Department. That's typically who they've worked with in the past, but as far as specifics, he would have to speak on that. But he does know that they're paying for the staffing of the movie theater that night as well to make sure that that event goes over as well as they intended. Fouce said, thank you. Any further question or comment? Barring no further question or comment, she'll entertain a motion on Appropriation Ordinance 9-2023. Councilman Gary Fordyce said, Madam President, he'll make a motion to pass Appropriation Ordinance No. 9-2023 on to 2nd reading and public hearing. Councilman David Cain seconded. Ms. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Fordyce to pass Appropriation Ordinance 9-2023 to 2nd reading and public hearing. It's been seconded by Councilman Cain. Any question? Barring no question, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. City Controller Julie Flores asked if she could ask for clarification. Was that to pass to 2nd reading, public hearing? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley told Flores yes.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 10-2023 1ST READING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 10-2023 by title only, an Ordinance of the City of Marion, Indiana, appropriating certain funds for the City of Marion, Indiana, and providing for the effective date thereof. From the EDIT Fund to Insurance Fund Payment the amount of \$250,000. Julie Flores, City Controller, told the Council she doesn't know if they will recall but they did have in the EDIT Budget last year before it got cut to \$1.00 \$250,000 to send over to the Insurance Fund. They've been doing this since she's been here. This has helped us to get the Insurance Fund back to a positive number. This, in addition to budgeting \$20,000 per employee eligible to be on the plan, those funds also go to the Insurance Fund, in addition to the deductions that the employees pay and the retirees insurance. So, she attached, she believes, with that ordinance where we are so far this year and the expenses have far outweighed income. They have transferred 1.6, she believes it's \$1,060,000 that gets transferred every quarter. That's the \$20,000 per employee that they budget. So that first quarter, they have already transferred over. The second quarter they will do in June. So, she will entertain any questions they have regarding this additional appropriation, Flores said. Council President Robin Fouce said, so Council, you've heard from Controller Flores and now she will open up the floor for any comment or questions they have regarding this Appropriation Ordinance 10-2023. Councilman Cowgill? Councilman Brian Cowgill said, he's sorry, that \$1,060,000, that was each quarter or every six months? Flores said, it's \$1,600,000, she's sorry. She should have looked before she said. \$1,600,000 gets transferred every quarter. That's the \$20,000 per employee that they budget in the budget in each department. Fouce asked, any further questions? Barring no further questions, she'll entertain a motion. Councilman Gary Fordyce said, Madam President, he would make a motion to pass Appropriation Ordinance No. 10-2023 to 2nd reading and public hearing. Councilman Brad Luzadder seconded. Fouce said Councilman Fordyce made a motion to pass General Ordinance, Appropriation Ordinance 10-2023 to 2nd reading and public hearing. It was seconded by Councilman Luzadder. A motion's been made and seconded. Does she have any questions? Barring no questions, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

At this time, Council President Robin Fouce said she wanted to take the opportunity, while they are gathered here together, to appeal to Mayor Alumbaugh, since he is here. He doesn't have to speak but she would that he would. She would like to get this situation worked out with the bills. She'd ask that he give her a commitment and this Council a commitment that we get the documents that we need so that we can move forward in paying our bills timely from the city. Never is the goal of elected officials, that she knows, to not pay city bills timely. And so, while we're here tonight, we have that opportunity to get your commitment as the head administrator of this city to forward the requested documents. Mayor, if he cares to speak, please do, Fouce said. Mayor Jess Alumbaugh said, well first of all, this has been a Council unlike any other Council for any mayor before him. This has been a Council that keeps limiting his scope of power and authority. Whether you want to admit that or not, the people in the community who do support him have taken notice. This is another attempt to put more work onto our employees, more time, which is money, because you're asking them to provide the information you could come and get throughout the week. For two weeks, you have time to prep for the next meeting. We're looking into what state statute says about this because we're wondering why you can't do what the Board of Works did. Cindy Shaw was in there many times to get information. Why can't you come in and get that information, disburse it, and share it with the Council? But what you're asking us to do is take away the time of the Controller's Office and maybe put it on the department heads, which takes their time and their employees' time away from their daily operations. We're not saying no for certain. We're looking into this to see what is the best way. But we're wondering why can't you come in, pick up these pieces of... Everything is public knowledge. Transparency, transparency, transparency, everything in city government is public knowledge, if people will only take the effort and time to look into it. That falls first and foremost on you guys. Look into it, take a look at those documents, see what information you need and share it with each other. He's not saying no to this for sure but we're looking into it. Is Muncie's, is their fiscal body, for the payment of bills, the City Council because there's only a few in the state where the City Council took over? Fouce said, actually Muncie does their Board of Works, however, their process is transparent and we've had problems without having a transparent process. And so, you know, she appreciates no interruptions. Alumbaugh said, this is what you asked for. Fouce said, she understands, if he'll let her finish, she appreciates no interruptions when we're talking. Her appeal to him was sincere. She wants to get his commitment that we just merely get the necessary documents, the invoices and the vouchers, so that we can look at and approve the claims with information. She's not impressed by that pile. We are a municipality. Heck yeah, we have a lot of bills. Alumbaugh asked, could you not come in and look at these documents you're wanting and print them? Fouce said, it's antiquated. It is an antiquated process and we need to move forward here in the City of Marion. And she asked, she sent out several memos or emails, asking you to facilitate the ordinance. It's actually our law now here in the city and while we may be somewhat different, there's benchmarking that you can take from different municipalities and that's what she feels that she has done in terms of looking to see is she so far off, is she not, but the bottom line is they don't make our ordinances. This City Council makes the ordinances and we did that within the right of Indiana Code and within the authority of this body. She doesn't want to throw around weight. She wants to pay the bills. That's what she sincerely wants to do. It came to her just to ask him would he ensure that we get those documents scanned and forwarded to the Council so we can pay our bills timely. Alumbaugh said, which takes time, from our employees, doing their every day duties and it's something we're looking to see would you guys be able to come up and take care of that timely process. And, he wants to make clear that they understand this because he's never been given a chance to address this. The Board of Works has handled the payment of bills in almost every city and town in Indiana since 1900. Yeah, since 1905, state statute. So it's very unusual that the City Council takes that over. It was referenced by one of you or more of you that the Board of Works is appointed by the mayor. Well he wants to tell them that none of them are personal, close friends of his that he socializes with. He picked them because of the character and the expertise from their professions they brought to the table, and most of all, their character. And so, you're asking him to commit to this. He told them we're looking into it. Don't want the bills to be late. When we came in office, bills were being held so they could pay the employees. That's what he inherited in 2016 along with Julie and the rest of this administration. We were paying the bills timely and efficiently prior to this. You're just giving us more work to do, which we're asking if we can, that you guys come in and do some of that work so our people can continue taking care of the day to day operations. Now he doesn't want to make this a debate but.... Fouce told Alumbaugh the decision's been made to table paying the bills but that does not sit well with her. She wants us, as a municipality, to pay the bills on time. She doesn't want to debate. We've had public hearings, we've had first

reading, second reading, we convened in committee to discuss this issue so we don't have to continue that discussion. You know, she has several reasons she could tell him why we found ourself at this impasse. But she just wanted to hear from him whether he would support, tonight, before us.... Mayor Alumbaugh said he's not ready to commit to that. Fouce said, okay, we appreciate that and thank you for your comments. Councilman Henderson? Councilman Steve Henderson said, so he's allowed to go to the Controller's Office and just go through the paperwork himself or is he going to have to have somebody help him? He's confused here because if he comes up to the office, isn't somebody going to have to take the time to help him? City Controller Julie Flores asked, is she allowed to speak? Council President Fouce said, no, Controller, we're not going to continue this discussion. Like she said, we've had meetings.... Flores said, so you can just throw that out there and not have (inaudible)? Steve, will he come to her afterwards? Fouce asked Flores, would she please not disrupt her meeting? Childlike behavior's not going to get us anywhere, wish that you would walk in your age. So, is that his comment, Councilman Henderson? Henderson said yeah, he's just confused. It looks to him like both ways is going to take time so he doesn't understand the time. Fouce said, Councilman Cowgill, does he have a comment? Councilman Brian Cowgill said, yeah, just to a couple of the mayor's comments he made there. A lot of these people on the City Council, they also work full time jobs and when their office closes at 4:00 p.m., a lot of people don't get off until 5:00 p.m. so it's kind of hard to go through them all during those time periods and he would like to know, he means, everybody saw that stack, to try to go through that. Does Muncie keep all their invoices in a paper box too? He means, he doesn't know. He just, he's not an IT guy by any means but there's got to be some way that this goes into a system that we can just have it come up and sent out. He means, he doesn't know. And then he made a comment that Mrs. Cunningham was up there often. Well there's five people on the Board of Works. Does that mean the other ones didn't? He means, he doesn't get it, Cowgill said. Ms. Fouce asked, do we have any further Council comment? City Clerk Kathleen Kiley said she has a question. Fouce said, yes, no question. Kiley said, well, we have something that needs signed to pay the bills so how do we know which ones are pre-approved and which....? Fouce told Kiley, if she remembers during her comment part of it, that was one of their requests, to identify which claims were pre-approved claims. Kiley asked, okay, so you're not going to be signing this tonight? Fouce said, not until we're able to determine or ascertain which is which. So ideally, we would find out which claims are pre-approved claims, we would categorize them. There's a different line item for that. Then we would also get, ideally, the invoice and the voucher for the other claims. We would verify that, ask any questions on record and approve or disapprove of those. Thank you. Do we have any further questions? Council? She'll entertain a motion to adjourn. Councilman David Cain said, one thing he'd like to add. He'd like to mention that Friendship Corner is going to close for resurfacing starting May 19th. He knows that's a well-attended park for the kids and so forth and so weather permitting, that's going to be closed for about 30 days. It's a shame but that's a much needed improvement to the park for the safety of the children and so forth. It'll be nice when it's completed but just bear with the city as they work to resurface that park and make it a better park for everyone, thank you, Cain said. Fouce said, thank you councilman. She'll entertain a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Luzadder, 2nd by Fordyce, the meeting adjourned. Time being 8:19 p.m.