

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 8, 2023 – 7:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in regular session on Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

Present: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce.

Absent: Stodghill-Weeks, Luzadder, and Brunner.

Council President Robin Fouce said they don't have anyone in their First Responder Spotlight, however, she would like to invite Mrs. RaChelle Fears-Neal to the podium. Mrs. Neal is with the Minority Health Coalition of Grant County and she is gracious to be here this evening. By the way, they thank Reverend Tanya Smith who is the Director of the Minority Health Coalition who was gracious to pray for them this evening. Mrs. Fears-Neal is one of their First Responder families so they want to acknowledge the sacrifice there. Her husband is Mr. Neal in the back and they welcome and thank them for their service to the community and she is gracious to give them a presentation through the Minority Health Coalition on lead poisoning. Welcome, Fouce said. RaChelle Fears-Neal said, thank you. President Fouce and board members, she won't be before them long but she does appreciate the opportunity. They have a bunch of goodies in front of them and her position with the Minority Health Coalition is Healthy Child Advocate. She is going around through the community to make parents especially aware of lead poisoning and its prevention. So the Indiana Department of Health has recognized that there's no amount of lead that children can have in their bodies that is safe and that's why they recommend children at their 1 and 2 year check-ups, healthy check-ups, have a lead test that's provided to them. Now, in January of this year, the House Enrolled Act 1313, which actually requires all Indiana Health Care Providers that are serving children to offer lead testing to the patients. They're finding that either parents don't realize their child has actually been tested or some of the health care providers are not offering this test. She believes that both could be true and that's the importance of her position. She's hoping that they can help her to get information out to our community while they are out in their respective divisions of the county to speak with people. But, they have one flyer that talks about how to prevent lead poisoning. So lead is here with us. It's a heavy metal that's in our soil and children are being affected by lead, just from being outside and playing in the soil, from going to their schools, sometimes in their houses. Indiana has 57% of our houses that were built prior to 1978, which means that they can safely assume those houses have lead, which is poisoning our children. So these are houses that we're renting, sometimes houses that people are purchasing within the community. Now that paper also talks about common sources of lead. They've already talked about the lead paint. Of course, it can be in the water if there are older pipes or faucets, that type of thing, that have lead in it. At this time of year, she knows she has family that's going to be coming into her house for Thanksgiving and if she pulls out some of her grandparents' old pots, the porcelain pots especially, with that glaze on top, there's said that there's lead in that. So they could be affecting our families and not knowing it. And then make up, she didn't realize could have lead in it, especially if it's imported from overseas. They actually had a case where there was a child that had high lead tests and the family lived in a newer home so it took some time with a team that they put together with the Grant County Health Department to become aware that the father was bringing it in from his job. So any and all of us could be affecting or poisoning children that are close to us and not knowing it. Indiana Department of Health has also said (inaudible) is if we just take a sugar packet and if she took this and just went all throughout this building, every level, every room, and then allowed a child to play on the floor and they had a few granules on their finger, that that is two times the amount that is needed for a child to be considered poisoned or have elevated levels. An elevated level for a child is 3.5 micrograms per deciliter. She didn't even know what that was. So, thinking about that sugar packet and spreading it along all of those offices helps her to get a visual, that it doesn't take very much at all. Now they do have some symptoms that children could show if they are experiencing lead poisoning. Developmental delay, learning difficulties, irritability, headaches, poor appetite or stomach ache, weight loss, fatigue and sluggishness, slow growth and development, vomiting or constipation, hearing loss, but most children have no symptoms at all, which makes it very scary and makes it important for us to make sure we are getting our kids tested. The Grant County Health Department does offer free lead testing if the parent chooses not to have their health care provider test or if they're just not certain that their health care provider did indeed test their child. That testing is free for children up to the age of six, as well as pregnant women, because as we know, when women are carrying the fetus, everything that we ingest, the child is getting as well. So, that child could be affected by lead

2

poisoning. Like she said, there's a bunch of information that she provided to them. They won't read all of it. One of the things she did want to point out though, since they're just kind of off the cusp of COVID, they've learned the importance of washing our hands and keeping things clean. This is one of the things that can help to prevent lead being spread throughout our communities or in places where our children are at so kind of an apple a day keeps the doctor away as well because there are certain foods that you can eat that's enriched with iron, Vitamin C, and calcium that can help to fight lead out of the system is what they're being told. That is pretty much a very brief and quick glaze over this whole lead awareness. If you do have children in your family or you have neighbors, you have her business card there. She's more than happy to come out and do any form of presentation to help bring the awareness to this community but if they could also just pass on that the Grant County Health Department is offering the free lead testing, that is a great way to start and you can continue through the process from there if need be, Fears-Neal said. Ms. Fouce said, thank you, Ms. Fears. She appreciates the information that she and Minority Health Coalition are sharing in our community, it helps. She was fortunate to have them present to her neighborhood associations and that information got out in the community, as well she encouraged her to come here today. They do have representatives of all the districts. They want to spread the news about this. Again, sometimes you can't even tell that children or someone has been exposed to it but it has permanent, damaging effects. Who cooks in the old porcelain favorite pan? Somebody does, even if you won't admit it. Did you know that that could contain lead poisoning? Will you continue to cook in that or will you save yourself from that? Just things like that. So she really appreciates her willingness to come today, the work she's doing in the community. She would encourage any and everyone in earshot to utilize Minority Health Coalition and the programs and presentations that they have. It could make for us to have a healthier, safer community, so thank you. She will defer to the Council if anyone has a question for Mrs. Neal. Thank you so much for your presentation, Fouce told Fears-Neal.

Council President Fouce said now she'll entertain a motion for approval of the October 17, 2023 minutes. Councilman David Cain said he so moves, Councilman Steve Henderson seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Henderson for approval of the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 minutes. Is there any question? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

CONSIDERATION AND RATIFICATION OF PRE-APPROVED CLAIMS – Council President Fouce said they have consideration and ratification of pre-approved claims. She will entertain a motion. Councilman Brian Cowgill said he so moves, Councilman David Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cowgill, seconded by Councilman Cain for consideration and ratification of pre-approved claims. Does she have a question on that motion? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS – Council President Robin Fouce said, consideration of claims. They have yet to receive their requested voucher, invoice information ordinated by this Council and she would entertain a motion, comment on the claims. Anybody have a motion or a comment on the claims? Councilman David Cain said, Madam President, he moves that they table the payment of claims. Councilman Cowgill seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cain, seconded by Councilman Cowgill to table consideration of the claims. Does she have any question on that motion? Roll call please. The vote was then as follows: Aye: Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: Fordyce and Cline.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Council President Fouce said now they will be happy to receive any committee reports. Don't all go at once. Anyone have a committee report? She said she'd like to report that DLGF held an info session/meeting at the Council Chambers this past week. She was fortunate to attend. She thinks they have great information for the Council and the elected officials and the city. They have had several matters come before them as a Council, namely last year during the budget season where misinformation was given to them, perpetuated that the DLGF mandated it. (inaudible) meeting they found out that wasn't the truth and so she really thinks, as a Council and as a body, they (inaudible) over to their constituents to get informed, to understand the law and the guidelines the

COMMITTEE REPORTS Continued

DLGF has for them and when they approach budget season, adhere to those and have their own information. She expressed that and they have a lot of, what do you call it when they do the zoom sessions, not a zoom session but a.... Having seminars that they could take independent of being in a meeting or whatever. They can take it home, as a Council person, and she'd like to see them continue that discussion as a Council moving forward and make sure that each and every one of them get exposure to an understanding of that information. And so, you can't miss being overinformed. She doesn't know anyone that's over informed. So, she thinks they would do their constituents a great service to get informed with the DLGF and so she would recommend that. Secondly, she attended a presentation at Ivy Tech regarding Stellantis. Stellantis is the big battery factory going up in Kokomo. Stellantis is looking for partnerships with educational institutions and anyone for trades, people, trades and the work skills that they need so that they can hire. She can't remember the numbers, mega number of folk that they will be hiring and they said people that have come in for training thus far, and she wants to say they have under 100, have come to training in Kokomo for two days and then went to Hungary for two weeks or so to complete their training. The technology of building those batteries is like a medical lab. It's not a medical lab but it's pristine and clean and sanitized like that and they want well trained employees. There'll be different disciplines. Contact her if they would like a (inaudible) number. They can go online and look up Stellantis.com and see what opportunities they have. One of her questions to them was if they view themselves as direct competition with our new company, American Resource, and they said no. There are potential partnerships but that's to be discussed because of the technology that they have is so highly classified. And so, she wanted to bring that up. Those are the bags that you, the Council, have on your desk.

Ms. Fouce said there was a TIF meeting, annual TIF report meeting, so much has gone on, she forgets when, last week and that will be presented before the Council at the October 21, 2023 meeting. So, that report and the presentation, she's sorry, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 meeting, thank you. That report will be sent to them or forwarded to them. Steve Smithley will present that to them at the meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Fouce said she's had a lot of questions about the mill, not the mill, the dam and when it's going to be done. She talked to Mike Graft or she texted with Mike Graft and he is here today. Would he care to share briefly with them? Does he mind? Please come forward. Briefly share with them the update on the dam. This is a big thing for the City of Marion. You may want to stay out of the way of the production workers but observe it and know about it. We all that grew up here and are from here, the dam has been part of our world. So, thank you Mike for joining us, Fouce said. Director of Engineering Mike Graft told the Council, so they had communication several weeks ago with the contractor and his time for mobilization at that point they were looking for today actually and he had some trucking issues so the equipment will be arriving tomorrow. He'll probably park some of it over by the old boat ramp and then truck it over to where he's going to start working on the dam but the concrete portion will be segmented. There'll be chunks of it brought out to get rid of the pool behind and as the pool empties then he'll start working his way over to the concrete and metal side of the dam. So, if you're in that area, obviously take some pictures because it's going to be gone and it'll probably take maybe a little over a week to completely get it done because there's a lot of dirt work that has to be done at the bank area off of River Road. So, there will be times where River Road might get shut down just temporarily while they do some maneuvering of equipment and moving some dirt but most of it will be confined to the water. Tomorrow is the move in date and then hopefully Friday they start seeing some action, Graft said. Fouce told Graft, thank you so much.

Ms. Fouce said, lastly, Councilwoman Annalisa Stodghill-Weeks wasn't able to make it on a last minute family emergency so she was voluntold to kind of briefly speak on her presentation. She went to a meeting with the Grant County Animal Lovers on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October and there was a big discussion about Animal Control and so some of the issues that were addressed were a lack of funding, this is regarding Animal Control, lack of funding, lack of employees, lack of training for the Animal Control Officers. Today, she wanted Sue Kershner, who is here to speak about what the group feels briefly about their experience with Marion Animal Control. She told Ms. Kershner to please feel free to step forward. Please hit the red button and feel free to speak, Fouce said. Sue Kershner told the Council she is a member of the board of Marion-Grant County Humane Society. She volunteers her time and her resources at the

shelter on Miller Avenue. More importantly, she is an animal lover. Maybe some of them are expecting her to be critical and place blame this evening but she will not. It is far more important that we come together and search for solutions. She's asking the City Council and members of this community to help them do so. The needs of the animals in this community is tremendous, not just the lost and the strays but the neglected, the abandoned, the abused, those that are bred (inaudible) left to roam our streets by the very people that are responsible for them. This occurs every hour of every day. They at Marion-Grant County Humane Society work in tandem with Animal Care and Control. At both facilities, their needs greatly outweigh their resources. The number one issue being manpower. In the interest of time, she won't present individual cases that they deal with, Marion Animal Care and Control being either unwilling or unable to respond to calls from us and from the public. If they would like to know those, feel free to contact her or Brenda Volmer, their Board President. Bring some tissue and be prepared to have their hearts shattered. It is devastating. Marion-Grant County Humane Society receives no financial support from the city. They operate solely on the generosity of the community. The City of Marion does allocate a budget through the department of Code Enforcement for Marion Animal Care and Control, however, MACC is only open four days a week, six hours a day on those days they're open. That's 24 hours weekly. Animals are in need 24 hours a day. Because of MACC being unavailable, the animals of this community suffer. In this line of work, they often hear that it's just a dog or it's just a cat. Personally, she does not feel that way and she hopes that most of them don't either. These are living, breathing, vertebrate beings with feelings. They experience pain, joy, love, just as them and her. This is a sad reality but she doesn't want it to only be about that. She wants to take the opportunity for them to explore some solutions. At the present time, it's assumed that only MACC has the authority to enforce the laws and ordinances that are in place in Grant County in regards to animal welfare, Kershner said. Fouce said, ma'am, please clarify MACC. Kershner said, Marion Animal Care and Control, she's sorry. People often believe that MACC is the only one that has the ability to enforce the laws and ordinances that are in place in this county and that does not have to be. The Humane Society is able and they are willing. These ordinances that are in place are rarely if ever enforced. They include the requirement that your animal be spayed or neutered in this community unless you apply for a special breeder's license. Animals cannot be left outside in sweltering heat and the freezing cold. Animals are not allowed to roam freely and although they hate to think of it, they deal with many cases of animals intentionally and viciously being abused. Being open 24 hours a week, it is impossible for MACC to enforce these laws. Her solution, personally, while simplistic and in its infancy, she implores them to consider two initial steps in starting to solve these problems. Number one, she asks the City of Marion to increase the budget for Marion Animal Care and Control in order for them to be available to the animals and the people of this community more than a mere 24 hours a week. That requires manpower and manpower requires money. Your tax dollars pay for this and it is her opinion, they deserve more than what is essentially one day a week. MACC needs to be available in some capacity every day of the week of the year. She will give one example. If your neighbor refuses to contain a dog and you are unable to exit your car, with your infant, what would you do? This is not a hypothetical situation. The citizen involved called 911, an officer responded. MACC was called. They were unable to locate and catch the dog at that time. That shouldn't be the end of the story, however, it is. The dog has been reported loose roaming and aggressive. Three additional times, MACC has not returned. They at Marion-Grant County Humane Society help each time they are contacted that they are unwilling or unable to respond. She, personally, answered a call at 7:00 a.m. on a recent Sunday of an aggressive, known aggressive dog, roaming freely in Brinker Heights. MACC was not open so the non-emergency number of dispatch was called as they've been directed to do by Jerry Foustnight, head of Code Enforcement which oversees Animal Care and Control. The woman was told by dispatch that if the animal was not currently attacking someone, they couldn't send anyone out. There was no one available. She's not placing blame, she's pleading for help. Marion-Grant County Humane Society helps each time they're contacted via a network of volunteers. They give out their personal cell phone numbers, they are on call 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They pick up the strays and the injured, regardless of the weather, time of day, or day of the week and they often do it at their own personal expense and they need their help. Second part, and she'll be brief, is Marion Humane Society recognizes the overwhelming amount of time and effort it requires just to meet the daily needs of the animals in their care and they assume it takes Animal Care and Control has the same demands. When looking in the eyes of a lost, frightened animal, paperwork is the last of their concerns. They know MACC feels the same. Let us help them. Recognize their ability and their willingness to issue citations to fine those who refuse to follow the laws and ordinances that they fought so hard to get into place, allow them to remove an animal due to

5

neglect and abuse. They are able, they are willing and to the city, they are free. They're a completely volunteer agency. Rather than recite details of numerous cases that the Humane Society deals with, recently, in order to justify this need, allow her to introduce Bailey Bigelow and the story of Hudson. Fouce said, hi Ms. Bigelow. They have just a few minutes, please continue. Bailey Bigelow told the Council her name is Bailey and she had a Dutch Spaniel. He was very kind, lovable. He was nice to kids, was friendly to everybody. He was skittish due to his previous owners. She will take accountability and say that she should have had Hudson in a better contained environment, however, she did her best. You know, sometimes they just get out and that was what happened in this case. She had her and her family searching for him for over a week. She had reached out to several people. She had reached out to Channel 27 and she posted it on Facebook. Many of them might have seen his picture. In the end, she ultimately didn't want to call MACC because she didn't want them to hurt him and they did that anyway because they had gotten several calls, which is fine. He was running loose, she understands. They tranquilized him, they said with a 2 cc tranquilizer. She talked to Brittany Shrouf, which is the manager, two times. She had two different phone calls with her. In one phone call, she told her that Hudson was dead upon arrival due to the tranquilizer and that the vet checked on him. She said that usually they have a pill that can pull a dog out of it, however, in this case, he was dead. So, on Tuesday morning, she went to pick up his body and she talked to Danny, she believes. She has a video if anybody would like to see that. She spoke with him and he said that Hudson was being aggressive, which he not known to be. They said that he had been roaming, which he had been roaming, and he said that he had been there for three hours and they checked on him for three hours and that he was breathing and then on that third hour, he was gone. So, already she's told two different stories. And then she talked to the responding officer, which is Day, Officer Day. He told her that he sat with Hudson for 12 hours as he breathed but did not wake up and no one administered that pill to him. She does not know the truth in what actually happened to her dog. She is very heartbroken for losing him and she just thinks that there could be a lot better training due to MACC. She thinks that the people there need better resources, they need better management, and they need to use other things than a 2 cc tranquilizer. If a 2 cc tranquilizer could kill her dog, who is probably only 25 pounds, then she doesn't think that they should be administered. Thank you, Bigelow said. Ms. Fouce said, thank you. They are certainly sorry for the loss of her pet and they appreciate her presentation, Ms. Kershner. She believes they'll take that under advisement. Does any Council member have any comment or question regarding what they just heard? Comment? Councilman Brian Cowgill said he doesn't know if this is for Ms. Kershner, he means, how many animals do they deal with in a week's time approximately? Ms. Kershner told Cowgill, personally at the shelter, they have, they're far over capacity. They receive hundreds of calls weekly. She can't tell him today.... This is their Board President, Brenda Volmer. Volmer said they're sitting on probably 90 animals right now, that's just dogs. That doesn't include cats. Cowgill asked, that's just dogs? Volmer said, yeah, she's turning cats away. There's not an empty space to put another dog, and the problem with that is, MACC is closed on Saturday, Sunday, Monday so those days, they're taking in the fallout. If she turns them away, they tell her they're just going to go dump them somewhere. You know, she doesn't know what else to do with them, she just doesn't. Where do they put them? What do they do? Ms. Kershner said, yesterday was a perfect example. They had a woman drop a year old beagle-mix perhaps. It's gun shy. Her husband's a hunter. If they didn't take it, they'd dump it at 1812. They said that's what they do with them. Fouce said, thank you. Do we have any further questions or comment? With this matter, she's going to defer back to Councilwoman Stodghill-Weeks but she does believe there should be some follow up. Mainly, this is managed under Code Enforcement and so she believes it is an administrative matter to address but she thinks it's all of their issue to address about the disparity of animals in our community and what solutions they can come up on regarding such a thing. And so, when Councilwoman Weeks returns, she (Fouce) will be sure to take it under advisement, their presentation, as well as her (Stodghill-Weeks) direction and lead on where they go from now with this. But thank you so much for taking the time to come and thank you, audience, for that. They'll move on to Unfinished Business, clerk, thank you.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 19-2023 2<sup>ND</sup> READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 19-2023 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

6

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 19-2023 Continued

Municipal Wheel Tax Fund to Miscellaneous Contractual Services the amount of \$55,243.70. Mike Graft told the Council Julie called him this afternoon and she fell ill so he told her he would fill in. This goes along with the previous conversations they've had about the Wheel Tax. This one, they've held on to this one a little bit longer because of the legal that they had to do with the News Herald. It was like a week off and then they ran into some dates. He'd be glad to answer any questions that they might have, Graft said. Council President Robin Fouce said, thank you, Mr. Graft. Before they go forward, she wants to see, Council, what they want to do. They don't have basically the administration here to speak on this financial matter. They've had this come up before. She will defer to whatever they all recommend regarding such. They are at a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing on this issue and also under New Business, they will have another request for that. So please, Council, chime in and they'll move forward based on that. Councilman David Cain said, excuse him, Madam President, his suggestion is they move forward with this and continue on and pass this matter. Councilman Gary Fordyce said he would second that. Fouce told Fordyce that's not a motion, they're asking for comment. Fordyce said he would agree with him. Fouce said, okay, if he'll speak in order, hit his mike and let them know what his thoughts are, she'd appreciate it, thank you. Councilman Cline? Councilman Mike Cline said, yeah, he agrees, especially since it's a public hearing. There may be folks here who have something to say. And he agrees with Councilman Cain, Cline said. Fouce said, thank you. Do we have any other comment? She's fine with that. They are at 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, public hearing. They will go into their public hearing portion of this and then they will entertain any questions or comments from the Council. This is a public hearing. Please step to the mike, state your name, address, and your position on this particular matter of the transfer of funds for the Miscellaneous Contractual Services Municipal Wheel Tax Fund in the amount of \$55,243.70. You have three minutes to speak. Attorney Harker will keep time. So please step to the podium if you are wanting to speak in this public hearing portion. Going once, going twice, Fouce said. Bill Creech – 1409 Ironwood, Marion, Indiana – said he just had a question. They're transferring the money. What's it appropriated for? It says miscellaneous. What specifically is the amount for? Fouce said the amount is \$55,000..... Creech said he understands that but he meant, what's it used for? Fouce replied, for their Wheel Tax Fund, so roads, streets, repair, that type of thing. Creech said, okay, alrighty, he was just misunderstanding. Fouce asked Creech, so would he want to say if he's in favor of that or not? Creech said, yes he is, absolutely. Fouce asked, did they have any further public comment? Two and a half. Creech said the only reason he asked is because they were transferring funds around at one time for the air conditioners and some of that maintenance and, Ms. Fouce, she actually brought up was it under warranty and he was just wanting to make sure that that wasn't what this was for. Fouce said this is something totally different, thank you. Mr. Creech stated, and he knows this is not the appropriate time but was that ever found to be under warranty? Fouce told Creech they can't speak on that right now, they're in a public hearing about the Wheel Tax portion of it. She'd be happy to speak with him afterwards to answer his question, sir. Okay, going three times. This concludes the public hearing portion of their meeting regarding Appropriation Ordinance 19-2023. Do they have any questions for Engineer Graft? Barring no questions, she will entertain a motion on such ordinance. Councilman Brian Cowgill said, Madam President, he'd like to make a motion that they suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 19-2023. Councilman David Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cowgill, seconded by Councilman Cain to suspend the rules on Appropriation Ordinance 19-2023. Does she have any question on that motion? Barring no question, roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None. Cowgill said, now Madam President, he'd like to make a motion that they pass Appropriation Ordinance No. 19-2023, Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cowgill, seconded by Councilman Cain to pass Appropriation Ordinance 19-2023. Does she have any question on that motion? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 21-2023 1<sup>ST</sup> READING

The City Clerk read Appropriation Ordinance No. 21-2023 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 Municipal Wheel Tax Fund to Miscellaneous Contractual Services the amount of \$54,737.77. Mike Graft told the

7

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 21-2023 Continued

Council this is actually from August, this amount is from August, so he doesn't know that he'll be back because he's not sure if they'll get another draw this year. He's sure they will but he doesn't know that they'll be back to probably ask for anything. They'll probably just carry it over into 2024. They'll ask for an appropriation in 2024. There wouldn't be any time, if they do get another draw in another couple of months, to be able to do anything with it anyway, Graft said. Council President Robin Fouce told the Council they've heard the presentation from Engineer Graft. She would entertain a motion or do they have any questions first, or comments, regarding Appropriation Ordinance 21-2023? She will entertain a motion regarding such. This is the first reading so it would go to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Councilman? Councilman Mike Cline said he moves they pass this appropriation ordinance to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing. Councilman David Cain seconded. Fouce said a motion's been made by Councilman Cline, seconded by Councilman Cain to move Appropriation Ordinance 21-2023 to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Does she have any questions on that motion? Roll call please. Motion carried by the following vote. Aye: Fordyce, Cline, Henderson, Cowgill, Cain, and Fouce. Nay: None.

Council President Robin Fouce said, okay, she has one more thing before they adjourn. She would like to actually thank all the elected officials that serve the city. Service is not the easiest but it is worthy of your time and your talents and we're grateful for that. She'd like to congratulate our newly elected officials that are here with them today. They have Councilwoman-elect Erika Devine. Please stand. And what district is she over? Ms. Devine said three. Fouce said Councilwoman Devine will be over District 3. They have Councilman-elect Andy Whitmore. Whitton. She doesn't know where she got Whitmore, that's a show. Mr. Whitton said he will be proudly representing District 5 in the City of Marion. Fouce said, thank you. And they have Councilman-elect Nick McKinley. Mr. McKinley said, an honor, he can't wait. He'll be an At-Large Councilman representing the entire city. Fouce said, thank you. They congratulate them on their win. And they also have an old favorite with them, a young old favorite with them, Clerk Debbie Goodman will inherit the fun duties of being the clerk. Deputy Clerk Debbie Goodman is their newly elected Clerk. So thank you for your service and the willingness to step up and all the folks that already serve, both on the Council and in the administration throughout the city. She doesn't say it lightly. It is good work to do. It's not always easy, again, but it is worth it. They're looking forward to a vibrant city. Lastly, she'd like to acknowledge their Mayor-elect, Ronald Morrell, Jr. If he could stand for them, thank you. She'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

On a motion by Cain, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Henderson, the meeting adjourned. Time being 7:46 p.m.