

# MARION COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA

**PRESIDENT – NICK MCKINLEY VICE PRESIDENT – GARY FORDYCE**

Regular Meeting – Marion City Hall Council Chambers

Date: November 04, 2025

Time: 7:00 P.M.



## CALL TO ORDER

**PRAYER:** Councilman: Nick McKinley

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Aisha Richard, 1st Deputy Clerk

## ROLL CALL

**COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:** History Center at the Marion Public Library, Kelsey Winters & Jamie Pitts

**CITY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** Entire Street and Citywide Maintenance Dept

## CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2025
- B. CONSIDERATION OF PRE-APPROVED CLAIMS
- C. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### General Ordinance 26-2025- Bonds for Parks District- 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing

An Ordinance Approving the Issuance of Bonds of the City of Marion Parks District and Related Matters.  
Speaking: Joe Murphy, Chris Greisl, and a representative from Baker Tilly.

**Executive summary:** On October 6, 2025, the Park and Recreation Board of the Park District of the City of Marion, Indiana adopted a resolution determining preliminarily to issue special taxing district bonds, in one or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) to finance the construction, acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping of improvements at various parks in the district, including a new Municipal Skatepark and Southside Food Truck Park.

### Additional Appropriation 15-2025- Additional Appropriation for Transportation 2<sup>ND</sup> reading and public hearing

An additional appropriation for the City of Marion Transportation Department. Speaking: Controller's Department

**Executive summary:** We need to address an issue with the transportation budget for account 2418. The 2022 audit report required that transportation has its own dedicated fund. However, by late 2023, the 2024 budget had already been completed and submitted to the council. As a result, no city funds were appropriated for the matching portion in either 2023 or 2024. To rectify this oversight, we are requesting an additional appropriation to correct these past years. The total city portion was \$638,658.00.

**Additional Appropriation 16-2025- Additional Appropriation for Parks and Recreation 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing**

An additional appropriation for salaries for the park's security officers. Speaking: Rose Cadena and the Controller's office

**Executive summary:** This request is for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$27,972.00 to fund three security positions for our city parks. The goal is to enhance the safety and security of both the parks and their visitors. These security staff members will provide coverage for our parks at least 42 hours a week, seven days a week. The salary ordinance for these positions has already been approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 15-2025 Lease agreement among the Marion Redevelopment Commission and the Marion Redevelopment Authority**

A resolution of the Common Council approving a lease between the Marion Redevelopment Authority and the Marion Redevelopment Commission and addressing matters related thereto. Speaking: Mayor Morrell, Barnes & Thornburg LLP, and Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors.

**Executive summary:** The Marion Redevelopment Authority is considering the issuance of one or more series of bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$20,000,000, to finance all or any portion of the Ballard Fields Project, the Bridge Project, the Airport Utilities Project, and the Fire Truck Project. The lease provides for the lease by the Redevelopment Authority to the Redevelopment Commission of certain real estate, consisting of all or a portion of Washington Street in the City from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 32<sup>nd</sup> Street. The Redevelopment Commission has conducted a public hearing and approved the form of lease presented for the purpose of paying the principal and interest on the Bonds issues to finance the Projects. The Redevelopment Authority has authorized the issuance of Bonds and approved the form of Lease.

**General Ordinance 28-2025- Adding no parking zones 1<sup>st</sup> reading**

An ordinance establishing a no parking zone on the east side of Washington Street from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Speaking: Administrative/Project manager Mike Graft

**Executive summary:** With the construction of the walking path and parking bump-outs along the west side of Washington Street from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 9<sup>th</sup> Street, it reduces the overall travel lane width of Washington Street. This reduction prompted an engineering recommendation to create a 'No Parking' section on the east side of Washington Street to enhance traffic movement and overall public safety from 7<sup>th</sup> Street all the way to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**General Ordinance 29-2025- Rezoning Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> reading**

An ordinance of the common council of the city of Marion amending Marion City Code Chapter §153 (Zoning Ordinance). Speaking: Mike Graft or Bryan Stumps

**Executive summary:** At the regular monthly meeting of the City of Marion Advisory Plan Commission on October 28, 2025, the main agenda item was a public hearing for the rezoning of lots 78 and 79 of Gray Dodd's 1<sup>st</sup> Addition, being a part of the Family Express development at 301 S. Baldwin Ave., from R4-Medium Density Single & Multi-Family Residential to GB-General Business, which is the same zoning as the remainder of the property in this development. The proposal aligns with the comprehensive plan's criteria and received a positive staff recommendation. The motion to approve the rezoning was made, seconded, and passed unanimously and subsequently passed on to the City Council.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Town hall meeting November 5, 2025 at REAL Community Covenant Church, 1240 S. Adams St.

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 4, 2025 – 7:00 P.M.  
– CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in a regular session on TUESDAY, the 4th day of November 2025, 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: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, and McKinley

Absent: Marshall and Cline

Prayer: Council President Nick McKinley

Pledge of Allegiance: 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Clerk Aisha Richard

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT – History Center at the Marion Public Library

- Kelsey Winters and Jamie Pitt discuss the History Center and AARPA-funded projects, including the roof project and phase two improvements.
- Kelsey Winters highlights the History Center's resources, including over a million local history records and digitized Marion newspapers.
- Kelsey Winters describes the museum's extensive collection of objects and photographs and mentions ongoing exhibits and collaborations with other local history organizations.
- Nick McKinley suggests a sports section for the History Center, and Jim Brunner agrees to contribute artifacts.

CITY EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT-Citywide Maintenance Department

- Nick McKinley introduces the city employee spotlight, featuring the Street Citywide Maintenance Department.
- Randy Hiatt and his team are recognized for completing the MS4 audit with 100% no deficiencies and earning a perfect score on their annual sprinkler inspection.
- Randy Hiatt credits his team and the mayor for their success.
- Council members and department employees share their appreciation and experiences with the department's work.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2025, minutes for October 21, 2025, preapproved claims and claims for NOVEMBER 4, 2025.

President Nick McKinley moves for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes the approval of minutes, pre-approved claims, and claims.

Motion to approve consent agenda- Cowgill, second Brunner. Aye: Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Abstain: Cain. Nay: none. Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Erika Devine reports on the Board of Works' approval of equipment for the building department and updates on the utility services board's projects and H2O Fund donations.
- Jim Brunner mentions the latest park board meeting and the upcoming projects for the parks.

GENERAL ORDINANCE 26-2025- Bonds for Parks District 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing

An ordinance approving the issuance of Bonds of the City of Marion Parks District and related matters.

- Joe Murphy explains the bond ordinance for the parks district, including the South Side Park and skate park projects.

### **Public hearing**

- Public comments are heard, with some speakers supporting the bond and others expressing concerns about the economic impact and maintenance of the skate park.
- Council members discuss the importance of investing in community amenities and the potential economic benefits of the skate park.

Motion to suspend the rules for General Ordinance 26-2025 Cowgill, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

Motion to pass General Ordinance 26-2025 - Cowgill, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

### **Additional Appropriation 15-2025- Additional Appropriation for Transportation 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing**

An additional appropriation for the City of Marion Transportation Department

- Dana Gault explains there was an oversight of \$638,658, and they are wanting to get it corrected.

### **Public hearing**

None.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 15-2025- Cowgill, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 15-2025- Cowgill, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

### **Additional Appropriation 16-2025- Additional Appropriation for Parks and Recreation 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing**

An additional appropriation for salaries for the park's security officers.

- Dana Gault states this money for the park's security officers for the remainder of this year. The salaries are in the budget for next year.

### **Public hearing**

None.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 16-2025-Cowgill, second Brunner. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 16-2025- Cowgill, second Brunner. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

### **Resolution 15-2025- Lease Agreement for Marion Redevelopment Commission and Marion Redevelopment Authority**

A resolution of the Common Council approving a lease between the Marion Redevelopment Authority and the Marion Redevelopment Commission and addressing matters related thereto.

- Joe Murphy explains the project, which involves issuing \$20 million in new money to fund four major projects, adding to the two projects already completed.
- Joe Murphy discusses the lease financing structure due to Indiana's constitutional debt limit, which restricts cities to 2% of their assessed value in general obligation debt.

- The redevelopment authority will issue bonds up to \$20 million, with proceeds flowing back to the city to perform the four projects.

General Ordinance 28-2025- Adding no parking zones- 1<sup>st</sup> reading

An ordinance establishing a no parking zone on the east side of Washington Street from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

- General Ordinance 28-2025 provides no parking zones on the east side of Washington Street from Seventh Street to Tenth Street.
- Mike Graft explains the need for a no parking zone due to the construction of a walking path and parking bump outs along Washington Street.
- The ordinance aims to enhance traffic movement and public safety.
- Council members discuss the impact on adjoining property owners and the church, with no significant issues reported.

Motion to pass General Ordinance 28-2025 to 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and public hearing- Cowgill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

General Ordinance 29-2025- Rezoning Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> reading

An ordinance of the common council of the city of Marion amending Marion City Code Chapter §153 (Zoning Ordinance).

- General Ordinance 29-2025 is to rezone lots on Fourth Street from R4 to GB for a new gas station, car wash, and other facilities.
- Brian Stumpf from HWC and Patrick Lyp from Family Express provide details about the project, including its alignment with the comprehensive plan and the positive recommendation from the Planning Commission.
- Patrick Lyp explains the \$9 million investment and the company's commitment to the Marion community.
- Council members discuss concerns about traffic safety in the alleyway and the agreement to maintain it as a right of way.

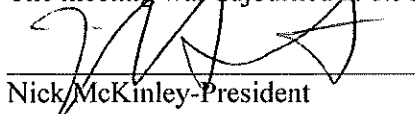
Motion to pass General Ordinance 29-2025 to 2nd reading and public hearing-Cowgill, second Brunner. Aye: Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Abstain: Cain. Nay: none. Motion passes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Nick McKinley announces the next town hall meeting with the mayor on November 5, 2025, at Real Community Covenant Church.
- He also mentions the Cops and Kids fundraiser on November 29, 2025, at the Grant County 4H building from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This fundraiser helps to provide children with a wonderful Christmas.

Motion to adjourn- Cowgill, second Fordyce. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Devine, Whitton, Cowgill, McKinley. Nay: none. Motion passes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

  
Nick McKinley-President