

MARION COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA

PRESIDENT – BRIAN COWGILL VICE PRESIDENT – ERIKA DEVINE

Regular Meeting – Marion City Hall Council Chambers

Date: April 7, 2026

Time: 7:00 P.M.



CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER: Council President Brian Cowgill

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilman Dr. Jeffrey Reyes

ROLL CALL

RECOGNITION-SPOTLIGHT: Ruthann Sumpter

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING March 17, 2026
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION March 17, 2026.
- C. CONSIDERATION OF PRE-APPROVED CLAIMS
- D. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Additional Appropriation 02-2026- Motor Vehicle Equipment-2nd reading public hearing

An ordinance appropriating \$240,000 for motor equipment. Speaking: Police Chief David Gilbert

Executive summary: This request outlines the next phase of investment for the police department's vehicle fleet. Aside from personnel, vehicles are our most critical resource for providing safe and effective emergency services.

Additional Appropriation 03-2026- Equipment- 2nd reading public hearing public hearing

An ordinance appropriating \$240,000 for equipment. Speaking: Police Chief David Gilbert

Executive summary: This request is partnered with the above request and the Executive Summary shown there applies here. With both funding requests approved, the department will be in position to obtain a minimum of eight (8) police vehicles, including necessary support equipment installed. That number reflects a conservative estimate of need. It will be incumbent on the department to make the vehicles last for approximately eight (8) years apiece, which, we believe is a pretty economical responsible approach.

Additional Appropriation 04-2026- Park Maintenance- 2nd reading public hearing

An Additional Appropriation appropriating \$85,148 for maintenance at Friendship Corner Speaking Rose Cadena, Director of Marion Parks and Recreation

Executive summary: The Marion Parks Department is requesting an additional appropriation of \$85,148.00 from the Food and Beverage Tax. These funds will be used to ensure that Friendship Corner meets all American Disabilities Act (ADA) laws and guidelines.

NEW BUSINESS

Additional Appropriation 05-2026- Marion Aviation- 1st reading

An additional appropriation appropriating \$75,848.65 to Marion Aviation. Speaking: Representative from Board of Aviation.

Executive Summary: The Board of Aviation is requesting an additional appropriation of \$75,848.65 to help fund the replacement of a 38-year-old aviation gasoline underground storage tank.

Resolution 03-2026- Townsquare Development

A resolution approving a formal written commitment and use agreement by and between the City of Marion, Grant County, Indiana and Townsquare Development, LLC. Speaking: Mayor Ronald Morrell Jr.

Executive summary: The City of Marion proposes granting Townsquare Development LLC, a Riverfront District permit to operate a Rooftop Terrace called Rooftop 360 and a Basement Speakeasy called The Boiler Room in the designated Riverfront area. This initiative aims to revitalize the waterfront by fostering economic growth, increasing tourism, and enhancing community engagement. The Rooftop 360 and The Boiler Room will contribute to these goals by offering a unique dining experience, creating jobs, and attracting visitors. The resolution aligns with the city's vision of developing the Riverfront District into a vibrant commercial and cultural hub, promoting local business growth, and improving the overall quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

Announcements

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – APRIL 7, 2026 – 7:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in a regular session on TUESDAY, the 7TH day of April 2026, 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, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill

Absent: Marshall

Prayer: Dr. Keenan Davis, COO City of Marion

Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Dr. Jeffrey Reyes

SPOTLIGHT/RECOGNITION: Ruthann Sumpter

- Brian Cowgill introduces Ruthann Sumpter for recognition, highlighting her significant contributions to the community, including her role in reopening Fire Station Number One.
- Brian Cowgill praises Ruthann Sumpter for her dedication and contributions to various community boards and organizations.
- Ruthann Sumpter shares her personal history, including her move to Marion in 1961 and her involvement in local organizations like JC Wives, Tri Kappa, Daughters of the American Revolution and Rotary.
- Ruthann emphasizes the importance of community involvement and shares her passion for supporting veterans and local causes.
- Brian Cowgill presents Ruthann with a certificate and a frame, acknowledging her contributions to the city.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APRIL 7, 2026 preapproved claims and claims for April 7, 2026.

President Brian Cowgill moves for a motion to approve the consent agenda for April 7, 2026.

Motion to approve the consent agenda for April 7, 2026- Cain, second Cline. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mike Cline reports on the Board of Aviation Commissioners' meeting, including the approval of a bid schedule for a taxiway project and updates on the jet fuel system project.
- Mike Cline also mentions the upcoming "Run the Runway" 5K event to benefit the regional Career Center and the Aviation Academy.
- Erika Devine provides an update on the demolition order for a building with major structural issues.
- Erika Devine reports the Board of Works upheld the demolition order for 3115 and 3117 S. Washington. The order is for one building.
- The utility board meeting was moved to another date.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 02-2026- Police Vehicle Fleet 2nd reading public hearing
An ordinance appropriating \$240,000 for motor equipment.

- Mark Stefanatos, representing the police department, provides an update on the Bearcat Tactical Vehicle, expected to be delivered in the third quarter of the year.
- The proposal includes funding for new vehicles and upfitting costs, emphasizing the benefits of having warranties and newer vehicles.
- Gary Fordyce praises the new locker rooms and bathrooms at the Marion Police Department, noting their positive impact on officer morale.

Public hearing

None.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 02-2026- Cain, second Devine. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 02-2026- Cain, second Whitton. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 03-2026- Police Vehicle Fleet (continued) 2nd reading public hearing

An ordinance appropriating \$240,000 for motor equipment.

- Brian Cowgill introduces additional appropriation 3-2026, related to equipment for the police department, with funds coming from the opioid money set aside for law enforcement.

Public hearing

None.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 03-2026- Cain, second Brunner. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 03-2026- Cain, second Cline. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 04-2026-Park Maintenance 2nd reading public hearing

An additional appropriation appropriating \$85,148 for maintenance at Friendship Corner.

- Rose Cadena provides updates on the parks, including the Friendship Corner resurfacing project to make the park ADA compliant.

Public hearing

None.

Councilmen Cain and Reyes share the importance of this park due to the high utilization for the community.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 04-2026- Cain, second Brunner. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 05-2026-Marion Aviation

An additional appropriation appropriating \$75,848.65 to Marion Aviation.

- Councilman Brian Cowgill explains this money was approved last year for replacing tanks at Marion Airport.
- Ray Dosh said it was a misunderstanding and the money did not get encumbered last year.
- Ray Dosh said the project is anticipated to be done in two or three weeks but he does not have an exact time frame. The pads are poured and now they are curing.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 05-2026 to second reading public hearing- Cline, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

RESOLUTION 03-2026-Townsquare Development

A resolution approving a formal written commitment and use agreement by and between the City of Marion, Grant County, Indiana and Townsquare Development, LLC.

- This proposal is for Townsquare Development LLC be granted the permit to do renovations on a building on the west side of the square.
- Keenan Davis explains the project, which includes a rooftop 360 named Rooftop Terrace and a basement bar called the Boiler Room.
- This project will bring another culture, cultural and dining experience to downtown Marion. It aims to revitalize the riverfront, foster economic growth, and enhance community engagement.
- The owners are from Florida, Utah, and Marion, Indiana.

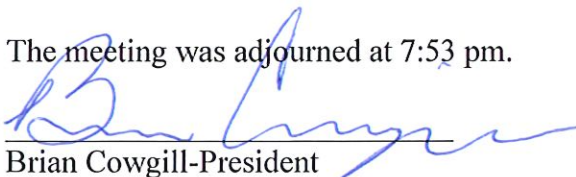
Motion to pass Resolution 3-2026- Cain, second Cline. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

Motion to adjourn: Cain, second Fordyce. Aye: Cain, Reyes, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.


Brian Cowgill-President