

# MARION COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA

PRESIDENT – BRIAN COWGILL VICE PRESIDENT – ERIKA DEVINE

Regular Meeting – Marion City Hall Council Chambers

Date: August 4, 2026

Time: 7:00 P.M.



## CALL TO ORDER

PRAYER: Pastor CJ Kelly

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilman Dr. Jeffrey Reyes

## ROLL CALL

RECOGNITION-SPOTLIGHT: None

## CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING JULY 21, 2026
- B. CONSIDERATION OF PRE-APPROVED CLAIMS
- C. CONSIDERATION OF CLAIMS
- D. APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### Additional Appropriation 13-2026- Appropriation for Park Bond-2<sup>nd</sup> reading public hearing

An additional appropriation appropriating \$25, 814.00 for a park bond. Speaking: City Administration

**Executive summary:** This Summary is regarding the Additional Appropriation for the Park Bond payment due in 2026. This request is intended to cover the scheduled payment for the current year.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Additional Appropriation 14-2026- Appropriation for Blight Elimination- 1<sup>st</sup> reading

An additional appropriation appropriating \$500,000 for Blight Elimination. Speaking: Justin Dickerson, Building Commissioner.

**Executive summary:** The addition appropriation will be used to strengthen the communities in the City of Marion by addressing vacant, deteriorated, or unsafe properties thereby improving neighborhood safety, attracting investment and supporting economic development.

### Resolution 12-2026- A resolution for Historic Gallatin

A resolution for the tax abatement for Historic Gallatin. Speaking Joe Murphy, Economic Development Director

**Executive summary:** A resolution of the Marion City Council terminating the tax abatement granted to Historic Gallatin Square LP after the City Council determined the project did not substantially comply with the commitments made in its approved Statement of Benefits. The determination is based on significant project delays, substantially lower assessed value than projected, and concerns regarding ownership continuity during project development.

### **Announcements**

District 5 City Wide Clean-up August 8, 2026 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Residents who live in District 5 may put items at the curb for pickup. All other citizens can take no more than two loads to the street department at 520 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.

REGULAR MEETING – MARION COMMON COUNCIL – August 4, 2026 – 7:00 P.M. –  
CITY HALL

The Common Council of the City of Marion, Indiana met in a regular session on TUESDAY, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 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, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill

Absent: Reyes

Prayer: CJ Kelley- Real Community Covenant Church

Pledge of Allegiance: Council President Brian Cowgill

SPOTLIGHT/RECOGNITION: None.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR AUGUST 04, 2026 preapproved claims and claims for August 4, 2026

President Brian Cowgill moves for a motion to approve the consent agenda for August 4, 2026.

Motion to approve the consent agenda for August 4, 2026 Cain, second Cline. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Jim Brunner asks Joe Murphy to give an update on the discussion from the Park Board Meeting.
- Joe Murphy updated the council in the Marion Skate Park, Elevate Marion Bridge Project, Ballard Field, and the Southside Park Project.
- Erika Devine reports on the Board of Works Meeting, discussing an unsafe structure at 3629 South Boots Street. The demolition order was upheld.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 13-2026-Appropriation for Park Bond

An additional appropriation appropriating \$25, 814.00 for a park bond.

- Lynda Faw states the board approved the bond but DLGF stated they did not appropriate the correct amount. This amount is the remaining amount needed to pay the bond.

**Public hearing**

None.

Motion to suspend the rules for Additional Appropriation 13-2026- Cain, second, Whitton. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION 14-2026- Appropriation for blight elimination

A resolution for \$500,000 for blight elimination.

- Justin Dickerson, Building Commissioner, requests an additional \$500,000 from the EDIT Fund for blight elimination, explaining the need for demolition funds and the challenges faced in managing demolition projects.

- Justin Dickerson explains he does not only pay for demolitions from his budget, but also the dumpsters for the city clean-up, legal fees and other items.
- There are currently twelve properties that have been approved for demolition, 10 properties that are in the process, and 30 properties that the process has started but has to start over for a total of 52 demolitions
- Jim Brunner asked about a time line.
- Justin Dickerson states he hopes to have at least the twenty-two properties demolished by the end of December.

Motion to pass Additional Appropriation 14-2026 to second reading public hearing: Cain, second Whitton. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

RESOLUTION 12-2026-Resolution for Historic Gallatin Square, LP  
A resolution for the tax abatement for Historic Gallatin Square, LP.

- Joe Murphy introduces the resolution for the tax abatement termination of Historic Gallatin due to noncompliance with the CF1 form.
- The estimated completion date for the project was 2016, but wasn't actually completed until 2023.
- The original estimated cost was 7 million but according to the CF1 form the actual cost was 13.8 million.
- There has been no communication with the city.
- There were three building to be developed in the abatement, but only two have been developed.
- Anne McKinley, representing the project, explains the delays and cost increases due to COVID-19 and the successful completion of 42 units of senior housing.
- Although it is senior housing, 20% is allowed to be under the age of 55.
- Ann McKinley states the third building has not been renovated because the company ran out of funds.

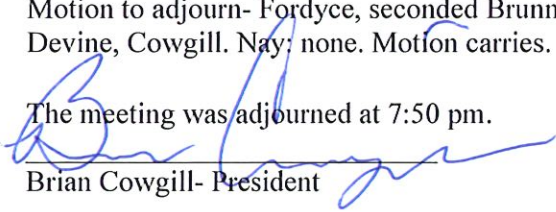
Motion to approve Resolution 12-2026 to terminate the tax abatement for Historic Gallatin- Cline, second Cain. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Cowgill. Nay: Devine. Motion carries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clean-up August 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm for district 5.

Motion to adjourn- Fordyce, seconded Brunner. Aye: Cain, Fordyce, Brunner, Cline, Marshall, Whitton, Devine, Cowgill. Nay: none. Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
Brian Cowgill- President