

TOWN OF MARION  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
MAY 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The regular monthly Marion Town Council Meeting convened @ 7 pm, Tuesday, May 26, 2026 @ the Marion Fire Station Conference Room. In attendance were Mayor Danny A. Smith, Alderman Bubba Hoggatt, Alderman Mark Andrews, and Alderman Channing Washington. Also, special guest, Town Engineer Bob Myers, Town Clerk Margie Albritton, Assistant Clerk Cheryl Geoghagan, and Assistant Police Chief Bruce McCrell were present. Mayor Smith called the meeting to order and asked Channing Washington to lead the prayer, and the Mayor led the pledge. Motion was made by Bubba Hoggatt and seconded by Mark Andrews to approve the agenda. Motion passed. The financials were reviewed and approved. A motion by Mark Andrews and seconded by Channing Washington. Bubba Hoggatt made the motion, seconded by Channing Washington, to approve the previous regular business meeting minutes for April 2026. Motion passed.

Mayor Smith announced we've been approved for a \$2,123,500.00 LDEQ Grant for the sewer system improvements. Bob Myers explained that the recent smoke tests performed revealed leaks in the pipes that will need to be repaired and made water-tight. We will also be able to do some repairs on the Lift Stations and rehabilitate the Sewer Lines. Bob Myers recommends moving forward with the project. Bob stated he will prepare a budget for this project to present to the council at the next council meeting. Mark Andrews made a motion to approve the LITA Corp project, and it was seconded by Channing Washington. Motion passed.

LA Outdoor Forever Picnic Pavilion Grant is for a 1.5 million total grant that was applied for by 7-8 applicants. The committee will meet on Wednesday to decide who will get the Grant. We will reapply next cycle if we are not selected for the \$50,000 needed for the picnic pavilion. Mac is moving forward with the Civic Source Agreement, which is an agreement for delinquent property taxes. Annexation changes were discussed. Annexation will go down the middle of the road and pick up the needed addresses. Handbook Revisions have been turned over to Joe Cusimano and are waiting for his review.

Mayor stated LAMATS will be handling the sale of the garbage truck and sidearm bushhog. The mayor has also talked to Paul Strickland with the Union Parish

Police Jury to trim the limbs hanging in roadways and to sell the equipment we are not using. Bubba Hoggatt made a motion to approve the sale of the equipment, and it was seconded by Channing Washington. Motion passed.

Risk Management is offering online tutorials for a reduction in the rates of our insurance. The mayor encouraged all staff and council to participate in these tutorials online. The Blight ordinance was discussed. The Mayor stated he needed a monetary figure for the Code Enforcement Officer for these offenses. Mark Andrews recommended a \$250.00 fine. Mark Andrews made a motion to accept the \$250.00 fine for the Blight ordinances, and this was seconded by Bubba Hoggatt. Motion passed. The Mayor provided a list of the streets needing limbs trimmed. The mayor stated that he talked to Paula Strickland with the Union Parish Police Jury to have these trimmed. Channing Washington made a motion to approve the trimming of the limbs by the UPPJ, and this was seconded by Mark Andrews. Motion passed.

The mayor recommended Jamarrio Rowland to be our new Public Works Supervisor after Jimmy Caldwell retires on 06/10/26. Jimmy has agreed to stay as a part-time worker for the same amount of money on an as-needed basis. Channing Washington made a motion to approve Rio becoming the Public Works Supervisor effective the 1<sup>st</sup> pay period after 06/10/26, including a \$1.00 raise. This was seconded by Mark Andrews. The contract for Keith Jesselink was presented to the Council for review. Jesselink is a level 4 operator and has the needed certifications to be compliant. Mark Andrews made a motion to accept the contract for Keith Jesselink, and this was seconded by Channing Washington. Motion passed.

The new Tax Roll Mileage from the Tax Assessor was presented. Mark Andrews made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Channing Washington. Motion passed. It was proposed to adopt a policy for the town vehicles on gasoline purchases. A motion was made by Channing Washington to approve splitting gas purchases for town vehicles between local businesses, and was seconded by Mark Andrews. Motion passed. We will ask employees to turn in the tickets for purchases and sign them. Mark Andrews made a motion to approve Wednesday, June 10, 2026, as Jimmy Dale Caldwell Day. This was seconded by Bubba Hoggatt, and all approved.

The Mayhaw festival activities were all a success. The front of the town hall and the canopy have been cleaned. We have new town and state flags in place at the Veterans Park. The Mayor attended a technical advisory board meeting in Baton Rouge on Wednesday, May 20. The Union Parish Chamber of Commerce Banquet is scheduled for this Thursday night.

Bubba Hoggatt made a motion to adjourn at 8:58 pm, and this was seconded by Channing Washington. Motion passed.

Danny A. Smith, Mayor

Marjorie L. Albritton, Town Clerk