

CITY OF MARION – SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013

Minutes of a Special Meeting held at Marion City Hall Monday September 16, 2013. Mayor Butler called the meeting to order 4:30 P.M.

The City Clerk was instructed to call the roll and the response was as follows:

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS RIX, GOSS, PATTON AND MAYOR BUTLER.

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER RINELLA.

Mayor Butler explained the reason for the Special called meeting was to discuss the Affordable Care Act and how it pertains to the City of Marion and its employees and to amend Ordinance 3121.

Human Resources Director Jane Kidwell explained to the Council how the Affordable Care Act affects the employees' insurance and how it will affect that over the next couple of years with the Federal Taxes and additional fees. Some of the fees were already incorporated into the premium rates that the City and City employees are already paying. The additional fees could cost the City an additional \$34,000.00 a year.

The Exchanges talked about in the Affordable Care Act have not yet been set in place by the Federal government.

The Health insurance Exchange Assessment doesn't affect the City. An employee can stay with the current Health Insurance plan or go with an exchange if he or she so chooses.

Jane told the Council that our City insurance plan is stable. The insurance is affordable, good quality insurance.

In the coming year, Jane said she didn't know how the Affordable Care will affect our Health Insurance premiums. Our Health Insurance premiums are set to increase by 6%.

Jane suggested one way to keep insurance premiums low is to keep incentives to encourage employees to stay healthy and to encourage employees to use generic drug prescriptions when available.

In the past, the City has looked at getting working spouses of insured employees to get health insurance at their own employer as a means to keep our health insurance rates lower.

Jane also suggested looking at other health insurance just to see what is available. Looking doesn't mean we have to change. It would just be to see what is out there.

Mayor Butler stated that his experience with the insurance companies has been to see a new insurance company come in with a low bid the first year and then the second year raise the

premiums. Mayor Butler thought if one has a good relationship one should stick with it. However he had no objections to looking at other insurance companies. City Administrator Gail West reminded everyone that the Health Insurance renews at the end of December. If the City wants to change, it is close to the time to get the requests for bids out.

The City has to give all the employees an explanation of what the options are under the Exchanges in the Affordable Care Act by October 1, 2013. The notice has to either be e-mailed or mailed. It cannot be hand delivered.

Mayor Butler was concerned about the consequences if the City doesn't get the information out to the employees.

Steve Hale said our plan qualifies. An employee has the option of continuing with the City health insurance or going with the Exchanges. If an employee does nothing, the employee will stay with the City's health insurance plan.

Some of the taxes are stated to be transitional.

Steve Hale said this could affect high earners (someone making in excess of \$250,000.00 a year)

ORDINANCE 3121 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 3121 THAT AMENDED ORDINANCE 3120 BY CORRECTING THE WORD “NORTHWEST TO NORTHEAST”. ORDINANCE 3121 NOW SHOWS THE COUNTY CLERK'S RECORDING DATE AND ENTRY INFORMATION THAT WAS GIVEN AT THE TIME OF RECORDING ORDINANCE 3120.

Commissioner Goss made a motion to approve Ordinance 3121 as presented with Commissioner Rix seconding the motion.

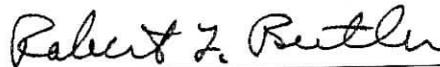
ON ROLL CALL VOTE ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTED YEA.

Commissioner Rix made a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Commissioner Goss seconded the motion.

ON ROLL CALL VOTE ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS VOTED YEA.

5:10 P.M.

Meeting adjourned.



Robert L. Butler, Mayor

ATTEST:


Alice F. Rix, City Clerk