

November 15th 2023

Mayor: Jim Hollenbeck

Commissioners: Bobby Kaminski, Melissa Small, Mike Scheib, Jim Buckingham
City Clerk Lesley Hart, Deputy City Clerk Catherine Strottner, Treasurer Cheryl Gray



From the Mayor's Desk

Marseilles Residents

Last night the city council by a 3-2 vote approved the purchase of the Illinois Valley Cellular Building. Mayor Hollenbeck, Commissioner Kaminski, and Commissioner voted in favor. Commissioners Buckingham and Scheib voted no. We would like to thank everyone who reached out with their opinions whether for, against or neutral. Over the last 10 months and numerous council meetings we have had a great discussion on the pros and cons. The council was also given some ideas as to additional use if we did purchase the building. We will be exploring the suggestions such as Marseilles Nursing Service Office Veterans Assistance Office. The city doesn't expect to taken occupancy until fall of 2024.

The council placed on file the 2023-2024 Tax Levy Ordinance. The council is proud to report that we cut the city's tax rate from 2.3548 to 2.0720. This translates into a \$96.14 savings on an owner occupied residence valued at 120k with means your EAV is 40k. If the residence is owner occupied and valued at 165k with an EAV of 55k your taxes will be reduced by \$138.57. The forementioned assumes that the homes EAV is the same as the previous year. We would also note that all of LaSalle County was reassessed. This should be done every 4 years. The city has

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no control over assessments and questions should be directed to your township tax assessor or the LaSalle County Assessors Office.

The council appointed Justin Krasowski, Brady Bentlin, and Emmitt Doty to the Marseilles ESDA Unit. This brings their roster to 12.

Fun fact: Many people aren't aware that the city for decades has had a long-term Comprehensive Plan. I am asked from time to time why the city doesn't have a long-term plan and they are surprised when I say we do. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9m7A4QIQyzHaER0TmhnMHdvcjQ/view?pli=1&resourcekey=0-5NdOKeQfz_TQGqmJMNSL0Q

It is also on the city website and is available for review at city hall. The Marseilles Planning Commission has recently finished an update as it was last updated in 2014. It is updated every 5-10 years, and we are happy to report that several of the goals have been accomplished such as a municipal boat launch, the I-80 sewer and water extension, the Main, Commercial, and Broadway Street intersection. The Rutland Street sidewalk project goes from Fillebrowne Street to 11th Street and East to Carrie Lane. Then from Rutland Street North up Bratton Avenue to 10th Street. City participates with NCAT for public transportation. City has been involved in the feasibility study as to passenger rail from Peoria to Chicago going through Marseilles. Many of the issues relating to flood control and sewer backup have also been implemented. This year issues were addressed on East Bluff Street relating to sewer back up. Some unexpected issues developed on Union Street but that will soon be fixed as well. This was done in part by a 450K grant the city was awarded. We have a list of capital Improvement Projects that we utilize relating to grants. We will once again apply for a Main Street Revitalization Grant and will be having Hitchcock and Associates prepare an updated design plan for submission and we are working with CSX as well.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.
