

Official proceedings of the City Council of the City of Marseilles of the meeting of January 21, 2026.

The City Council of the City of Marseilles met in the City Chamber of City Hall at the hour of 6:00 P.M. on January 21, 2026.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll call showed the following present: Mayor Hollenbeck, Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, and Buckingham. Absent: None.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the minutes from the Council meeting of January 7, 2026 be approved as displayed and placed on file. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Resident John Baratta addressed the council regarding a public nuisance on Lyons Avenue. John stated he personally paid to improve Lyons Avenue and now his neighbor is driving heavy equipment on the street and creating track out. Commissioner Scheib stated he will work with Attorney Cantlin to figure out a solution.

Pete Hall with Here and Again, Inc. said he submitted park permits for music in the park (Knudson Park) from May to September. He will be advertising the events from the Iowa border to the Indiana border.

Karen Stillwell, a resident and Planning Commission board member, addressed comments made during the public comment section of the Plan Commission meeting. She said Commissioner Scheib suggested Marseilles residents are of low income and uneducated. Commissioner Scheib implied that Constellation Energy presented the opportunity to the city because the residents were perceived as low-income and uneducated. Karen said he reminded the plan commission board he was from a northern suburb, where he indicated such an opportunity would not have been afforded. Karen said while he claimed to be speaking as a resident, he took the time to remind the plan commission board of his role as a City of Marseilles Commissioner. Karen said she believes this is an egregious violation of the spirit and principle of public service. Karen said public office is a position of trust and the remarks made by Commissioner Scheib shattered that trust.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Small that the accounts payable for the first half of January in the amount of \$139,353.62 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the City Treasury for the said amount. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the payroll for the first half of January in the amount of \$91,864.43 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the City Treasury for said amount. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski,

Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None. Abstain: Commissioner Scheib.

Commissioner Small reminded residents to lock their vehicles. She followed up with issues presented to her from residents at Belle Aire, she said Officer Kirsch is working with management to resolve the issues. Commissioner Small addressed misinformation that had been spread on social media. She explained the process for hiring a police officer in the State of Illinois, noting that each candidate must undergo a background check, fingerprinting, a full investigation, and national database searches. She stated that each agency, at both the state and federal levels, must review and approve the candidate prior to hiring. Commissioner Small said if anything is pending on the applicant, they would be disqualified to hire. She asked if anyone has any questions regarding the process to contact her. She said the claims being made on social media are not fact based.

Commissioner Schieb thanked Karen Stillwell for her comments. He stated that the amount of money to be received from Constellation is not sufficient when considering the impact fees and said that other communities may have received a better deal. He commented that wealthier and more highly educated areas tend to experience fewer “Not In My Backyard” projects. He also discussed the 6–1 vote on a data center in Naperville, Illinois, from the previous night. He said he has concerns with the approved permitted uses within the Emerging Technologies District. Commissioner Scheib said the city should have had more than one public hearing at a time when people are off work. He thanked the public for the criticism and said he welcomes it as part of his role as an elected official.

Moved by Commissioner Scheib seconded by Commissioner Small that the engineering services agreement for Lincoln Street be approved. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

Moved by Commissioner Buckingham seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that the offer from Landmark Dividend to buy out the Tenth Street cell tower lease in the amount of \$230,000 be tabled. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that Ordinance 1903, an ordinance rezoning certain property to the emerging technologies district and amending the district zoning map be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that Ordinance 1904, an ordinance affirming the City of Marseilles Zoning Ordinance, as amended and restated be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that Ordinance 1905, An ordinance amending the City of Marseilles Zoning Ordinance, as amended, to create

an Emerging Technologies District and regulations on land therein be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Commissioner Scheib expressed concerns regarding the permitted uses within the proposed Emerging Technologies District. Mayor Hollenbeck said to Commissioner Scheib that he wished those concerns had been expressed from the beginning.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that Ordinance 1905, an ordinance amending the City of Marseilles zoning ordinance, as amended, to create an Emerging Technologies District and regulations on land therein be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that Ordinance 1906, an ordinance amending the City of Marseilles Comprehensive Plan be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Mayor Hollenbeck gave an update on an abandoned property at 410 Wallace Street said the property has been sold and will be rehabilitated. Mayor Hollenbeck discussed the Brownfield grant for Nabisco and Washington School. Mayor announced the city was awarded \$1Million CDBG grant to line the sewers on Illinois Street. Mayor thanked the people who submitted letters of support for the project, including Illinois Street residents, Marseilles Grade School, businesses, Chamber of Commerce, and state representatives. Mayor Hollenbeck is working on a grant for funds to pay for Phase 1 and 2 Engineering costs for Sycamore Street, Main Street, Washington Street, and Kickapoo Creek.

Moved by Commissioner Small seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the City Council adjourns at 6:437 P.M. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

_____ Lesley Hart _____
CITY CLERK