

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 3, 2024
6:30 P.M.**

The members of the Marshall City Council met for a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the City Office Building, 214 N. Lafayette, Marshall, MO 65340, with the following members present: Mayor Vincent Lutterbie; Council Members Drew Green, Jim Papreck, Craig Thompson, John Allen, Nathan Swisher, Dan Brandt and Steve Cook; City Administrator JD Kehrman, City Counselor Elizabeth Bellamy and City Clerk Julie Lewis. Council Member Charles Guthrey excused absent.

Mayor Lutterbie said the purpose of the work session is to discuss the process of authorizing street closures for events on the square.

City Administrator JD Kehrman said street closure requests had previously been a staff level decision, however they now come to Council for approval and it has been recommended by attorney Paul Rost to return the consideration of street closures to staff level. Consideration of the request should be limited to where, when and how.

Mayor Lutterbie discussed the area around the square; the courthouse lawn and inside traffic lane are controlled by Saline County and the outside traffic lane is controlled by the City.

City Counselor Elizabeth Bellamy said the City must keep front and center the principals of freedom of association, speech and expression; and to not focus on content. There are laws in place regardless of what group is having an event.

Chief Donnell spoke about the process he uses to assist with street closures and to verify there is an active liquor license, if needed.

Council Members discussed smaller events that do not occur around the square but in neighborhoods.

Council Member Thompson asked if there is some sort of form to use for a request and who is liable in case of an issue at an event.

Chief Donnell said an application for street closure would include the requirement of insurance.

Council Members discussed potential liability with the City Counselor. Ms. Bellamy said an insurance requirement would be a part of every potential approval.

Council Members discussed the need for a potential amendment to the section of the code relating to open containers.

Council Member Green said the Council always gets an opinion from Chief Donnell prior to approving a request and it seems as if Council approval is for show.

Council Member Thompson would like to see an application form created that will include an insurance requirement. A Council committee should be involved in the creation of an application.

Mayor Lutterbie asked the Public Safety and Public Relations Committee to work on the development of an application.

Council Member Cook made a motion, seconded by Papreck to adjourn the work session. A voice vote was taken with all in attendance in favor; Guthrey excused absent. Motion carried and the work session ended at 6:53 p.m.

Julie A. Lewis
City Clerk