

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
745 SECOND STREET, LA SALLE, IL.
7:00 P.M., Monday, April 24, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present- Mayor Grove, Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
Excused Absence: Alderman Duncan

A quorum was present.

Mayor Grove began the meeting by updating the public regarding a resolution concerning the K-9 Program. Mayor Grove recognized Assistant State's Attorney Brian Vescogni, as well as State's Attorney Karen Donnelly for her assistance in this resolution. Mayor Grove stated that at the meeting on April 10, 2017, State's Attorney Donnelly made an offer to fund the canine program. At that time, the Mayor could not agree to the offer as he did not have any of the details. Over the past two weeks, meetings have been held with Officers Zebron and Manicki, Union Representatives, Attorney Vescogni and the State's Attorney. An agreement has been reached and the Mayor thanked all who were involved in making this happen. Mayor Grove read a Press Release concerning the tentative agreement. (Exhibit A)

Mike Girton asked who the task force group was referred to in the Press Release. Mayor Grove stated that once the agreement is finalized, the group name will be provided but at this time he preferred to keep it generic.

Assistant State's Attorney Brian Vescogni stated that the States Attorney's office was happy to help and he believed this agreement will be beneficial to everyone. Mayor Grove thanked Attorney Vescogni for his personal assistance and asked that he thank everyone in the State's Attorney's office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Reynolds that the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held on Monday, April 10, 2017 are approved and placed on file. Each and every alderman has a copy.

PETITIONS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Schneider to grant the request of Thomas Sasgen of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc. to address the council.
Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. John Connon and Mr. Thomas Sasgen addressed the council regarding a grass roots campaign of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. to fund a memorial in the City of Chicago that honors WWII Submarine veterans. The memorial will be located along the Chicago River off of Lake Shore Drive. The group has secured 70% of the funding necessary for the project. During the 1940's, the gentlemen explained, these submarines made their way down the Illinois River as part of the journey to the Panama Canal. The group is asking that the council consider purchasing a memorial legacy paver to recognize the connection the submarines and veterans had to La Salle.

Moved by Alderman Schneider and seconded by Alderman Herndon to grant the request of John Dzierzynski to break curb for a driveway at 2295 Washington Street. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Schneider and seconded by Alderman Demes to grant the request of Heidi Dappen on behalf of the Josh Gualandri fundraiser for a 2017 Raffle License. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Treasurer's Report for March 2017 showing total cash balances in the La Salle State Bank of \$3,380,705.92 and in Hometown National Bank of \$5,183,666.28. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Schneider to accept and place on file the Monthly Police Income Report for March 2017 showing total fees collected of \$7,150. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Illinois Department of Revenue Report showing sales tax collected for January 2017 of \$70,094.18 and referendum approved sales tax of \$30,331.99 for a total of \$100,426.17. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Attorney McPhedran explained that an ordinance establishing an Administrative Adjudication System will be considered later this evening. This adjudication system will result in most ordinance violations being processed through this system versus through the Circuit Court. As part of that process, it is necessary to appoint a hearing officer.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to appoint Attorney Nick Balestri as Administrative Hearing Officer and related matters. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, ~~Herndon~~, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None
Motion Carried 7-0

**Appointment: Attorney Nick
Balestri as Administrative
Hearing Officer**

Alderman Bacidore expressed concern about the minimal fine under this new system for retail theft. He feels the low fine is not much of a deterrent. Attorney McPhedran stated that depending on the severity of the offense, the Police Department still has the right to file as a State charge which would be handled by the State's Attorney. Chief Uranich stated that the officers will use their discretion as to how to write the ticket.

BIDS

Moved by Alderman Schneider and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to award the low bidder Universal Asphalt & Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$219, 609.90 for the 2017 MFT Maintenance Program. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None
Motion Carried 7-0

BIDS:
Universal Asphalt & Excavating,
Inc. \$219,609.90
Advanced Asphalt \$259, 384.15

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to confirm the straw vote regarding a request for a Sign Permit from Designs and Signs for a 240" x 34" single faced, non-illuminated, wall sign for Amia Boutique located at 633 First Street. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

Alderman Bacidore updated the council on a request from US Silica, LLC to lower the speed limit from 25 mph to 10 mph on N. 3029th Road. The State speed limit of 30 mph would apply on that roadway. Presently, there was only one speed limit sign in the vicinity of the plant and it was unreadable. Therefore, the City has posted new 30 mph speed limit signs to see if this will help slow down traffic since there were no readable speed limit signs previously. If there continues to be a problem, US Silica will petition the council again for a speed limit reduction.

Attorney McPhedran stated that the settlement with XPO Logistics will result in a savings to the taxpayer as this settlement is less than it would have been had the City not disputed it. In addition, this overpayment will be paid out the TIF fund where it was originally deposited. The funds are available and no funds will come out of the General Fund in regard to this payment.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve and place on file the request for Approval to Authorize and Execute Settlement Agreement resolving the Assessment Dispute with XPO Logistics f/k/a Con-Way Freight for tax years 2010-2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

Alderman Bacidore expressed concern about commercial landscapers dropping off refuse at the City's leaf drop off area, as well as other items such as old TVs and tires. Mayor Grove asked the Police Department to do extra patrol of this area and told Alderman Bacidore we will look into getting cameras.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought forth.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to pass and place on file **Ordinance 2684**: an ordinance Amending Title VII, Chapter 71 of the City of La Salle Code in regard to Impounding Vehicles and related matters. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

Ordinance 2684: Amending Title VII, Chapter 71 of the City of La Salle Code in regard to Impounding Vehicles.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to pass and place on file **Ordinance 2685**: an ordinance amending La Salle City Code to Establish an Administrative Adjudication System and related matters. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

Ordinance 2685: amending La Salle City Code to Establish an Administrative Adjudication System and related matters.

COMMENTS

Chief Uranich reminded the public to take personal responsibility for their dogs. He stated there has been an increased amount of animal related issues.

Alderman Herndon recognized and thanked Economic Development Director Don Aleksy for all he has done for the City.

7:40 p.m. Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to exit regular session and enter into Executive Session regarding pending and/or potential imminent litigation and related matters: Collective bargaining and related matters, and acquisition and/or sale of city real estate and related matters and the employment, appointment, performance and/or compensation of non-union personnel and related matters pursuant to the Open Meetings Act including 5-ILCS 120 Section 2(c) 1-3,5,6, and 11 thereof.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider

NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

9:33 p.m. Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Schneider to exit Executive Session and resume regular session.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider

NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Herndon that bills submitted totaling \$542,455.82 (Total Payroll \$161,432.19, Bills to be Paid \$251,251.12, Total Bills Paid \$129,772.51) be accepted, paid and placed on file. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Alderman Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Herndon, Schneider

NAY: None Absent: Alderman Duncan Abstain: None

Motion Carried 7-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Demes to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNED 9:35 p.m.

Carrie Brown

Carrie L. Brown, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

PRESS RELEASE

Late last week an agreement was reached between the City of La Salle and the Office of the State's Attorney for La Salle County regarding the reallocation of certain La Salle Police Department K9 Unit resources. Under the terms of the agreement, the Office of the State's Attorney for La Salle County has agreed to cover the expenses associated with one police canine in conjunction with the reassignment of that canine and one City of La Salle Police Officer to a special drug enforcement agency currently in need of a police dog and handler. According to the Office of the State's Attorney, the cost of the canine will be paid using money from its drug fund.

City of La Salle Mayor Jeff Grove presented this proposal to the Office of the State's Attorney after La Salle County State's Attorney Karen Donnelly recently attended a La Salle City Council meeting and mentioned the availability of funding from her office that could be used to cover of the expenses associated with maintaining a police dog. While the expense of operating a K9 Unit was a primary concern for City of La Salle officials, it wasn't the sole concern. The increased efficiencies and productivity that will naturally result from expanded community policing by the canine and its handler along with the financial assistance from the Office of the State's Attorney sufficiently address all weaknesses of the current program and make this an attractive and beneficial collaboration for the entire community.

"This is a great partnership not only for the City of La Salle but also for La Salle County and the broader community. We feel it is an excellent use of the very capable resources of the Police Officer and police dog, and we are confident that the inefficiencies of our old K9 program, financial and otherwise, are satisfactorily addressed by this new plan. Most importantly, the entire County has the potential to reap the benefits of this alliance. We thank the State's Attorney for agreeing to the arrangement" Mayor Grove stated.

Another beneficial facet of the agreement is that the performance of the canine in the drug enforcement agency will be regularly reviewed by the City of La Salle, the Office of the State's Attorney, and the members of the drug enforcement agency's governing board giving all parties the option to continue the new partnership so long as the results justify the costs. The police dog and City of La Salle Police Officer will need to be approved by the policy board of the drug enforcement agency at its next meeting before the proposal between the City of La Salle and the Office of the State's Attorney for La Salle County can be finalized.