

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL

April 29, 2024

A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois was held, Monday, April 29, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jeff Grove with proper notices being duly and continuously posted.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present – Mayor Grove, Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

Excused Absence – Alderman Ptak, Alderman Crane

Others Present: Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Finance Director John Duncan, Economic Development Director Curt Bedei, Director of Public Works Kevin Fay, City Building Inspector Andy Bacidore, Fire Chief Jerry Janick, City Attorney James McPhedran, City Engineer Brian Brown, Police Chief Mike Smudzinski, City Treasurer Virginia Kochanowski

A quorum was present.

PRESENTATION

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Herndon to allow Tara Green of Ameren to present to council regarding Easement Proposal.

Tara Green spoke in regard to the La Salle Link project which is an electric transmission project that will increase the reliability and energy delivery for La Salle and may municipalities in La Salle County. On August 31, 2023, The Illinois Commerce Commission issued an order for Ameren to construct an electric transmission line, 138 KV, from the existing Corbin/Oglesby substation, heading north, and then east to Utica. Ameren is currently at a place in the project where they are doing easement acquisitions and the pre-construction survey activities. Ameren has also completed many surveys that need to be done to continue this project. The next phase for their project will be soil borings. Ameren is requesting from La Salle for easement consideration and authorization for prepaid damages. The City of La Salle parcel, just south of Rotary Park, total easement acreage is 3.209 acres. She stated that the market value for M-2 zoning is \$55,000/acre. This would be \$176,500 for the easement value, paid one time. The City could split that with Ameren over a couple years if La Salle chooses. Green also

mentioned that there is a separate consideration for prepaid damages which is average of \$350/acre. She said that there was an incentive offered to all landowners on the preferred route for \$2,500 per parcel. If the landowner signed the easement within 30 days of receiving the easement packages, bringing La Salle's easement value to \$179,000 if signed by May 1.

Mayor Grove spoke and said that there was another proposed route along Route 6 and when they spoke, they knew it would impede on some neighborhoods and Mayor appreciates being able to discuss other options and choose their current route. La Salle has had a great partnership with Ameren.

Alderman Lavieri asked what the City can and can not do in the easement. One restriction that she did mention was the inability to access and maintain their lines due to structures within the 100 feet. Green said that there would be no issue if the City of La Salle wanted to develop any portion of this land in the future.

Alderman Jeppson asked if they were like the large towers on Raccuglia Drive and she said that they were. Green stated that they do measure between 80- and 120-feet vertical clearance.

Mayor Grove mentioned that Attorney Jim McPhedran did reach out to local appraiser, and he felt the appraisal amount was fair and accurate.

Alderman Thompson who asked maintains that 100 feet easement. Green stated that if there is incompatible vegetation within that 100 feet, it will be fully cleared and removed. Green did bring Jeremy Moore, who is one of Ameren's vegetation supervisors, with her tonight. Jeremy will be the point of contact in the future if the City has any questions in regard to spraying or maintaining the area around the line. Ameren will do the initial clearing of the property in the 100-foot easement. This will be cleared at about a two-foot reveal, but Ameren does not do stump grinding. La Salle will maintain fee ownership and have full control over the property.

Alderman Thompson was concerned about the mature trees at the beginning of the park. City Engineer Brian Brown stated that they would not be impacted because the area that green was describing was south of the soccer fields. He said that the area is along hole 7 and 8 of disc golf and the city will be maintaining it anyway.

COMMENTS

Mayor Grove reminded all that public comment is the time for the council to hear from the residents. Mayor Grove said that they will continue to try to answer any questions or concerns that are brought up throughout the course of the meeting.

Dawn Hicks mentioned that the air monitors at Rotary Park have not been functioning since April 12 at 7pm. She asked what the point of getting the air monitor was if it is continually not working. Hicks then asked why there are no parking signs on Sterling Street but on Thursday, April 18th at 8:06am there were two semis on the opposite sides

of the street, blocking all traffic in front of Carus Chemical. She said that she did not call the police because La Salle PD has helped Carus more than them.

Dawn Hicks continued by mentioning online complaints of parking tickets lately. She noticed on Wednesday, April 17, a black 2007 Mercedes Benz E350 parked out front of the Maytag building outside all day. She used to be the meter maid for La Salle and is very diligent about how cars are parked and whether they have moved or not. She was concerned because there was never a ticket placed on this vehicle all day.

Mrs. Hicks is also concerned that April 30th is the deadline for the Maytag building to be complete and it is not. She asked if the City was going to continue to give CL Enterprises extensions. She said that there needs to be accountability. She also stated that she continues to witness favoritism throughout the town. She said that she does not trust Andy Bacidore and he has a “buddy buddy relationship” with her neighbor and does not see that her neighbor’s house has been falling apart for years and does not just need a coat of paint like Bacidore has mentioned to her. She stated that there are holes throughout the home where animals are climbing in and out of. She believes that his vision is failing because it is a County Board member’s house.

Dawn Hicks also had questions for Chris Perra tonight, but he was not in attendance. She said that his words from previous meetings are contradictory to what his family has heard him say. Hicks questions if the water is so great, then why Carus gets their water from Nicolet. She has seen their delivery trucks at Carus several times.

Dawn Hicks continued her portion of the public comment by comparing the mayor to the Dalton Mayor, Tiffany Henyard. She referenced the movie “Princess Bride” and how the mayor speaks of accountability and transparency. Hicks said that many would not be in attendance of these meetings every time if the council would have had back and forth conversations and had answered their questions honestly. She said that they will continue to attend the meetings until “you act right.”

Dawn Hicks stated that on April 13 she witnessed a live video from Bikers against Predators of a pedophile being “gently ushered” into the backseat of a police car. She stated that these individuals “who victimize children” are treated kindly, but if one talks out of turn and isn’t liked will be threatened with arrest. Hicks does not understand why people are afraid and do not want to talk about CL Enterprises, Maytag Building, Carus Chemical, or Inga Carus.

Dawn Hicks finished up her portion of the comments by stating that John Duncan has made rude comments, multiple times about her, including her motivation to attend these meetings. She said that Duncan has made accusations that this was all personal. She said that this was why some had stopped attending these meetings. She said that Duncan had also bragged about being with other women while he was dating his current wife. Dawn Hicks told Duncan to “grow up.”

Lisa Dyas, 4th Ward, wanted to ask on a timeframe for when the curbing in her driveway would be replaced. It was mentioned that it would be on a list for spring. City Engineer Brian Brown mentioned to Dyas to contact him personally and they will discuss.

Dena Hicks first asked if the Code Red was meant to be specifically for emergencies because she noticed that it is not. She was wondering if there was another way to send out non-emergency messages. She believes that there have been so many non-emergency messages sent out with Code Red that when a real emergency happens, people may ignore or send to voicemail assuming it is not an emergency.

Dena Hicks understands that it is the end of the fiscal year and she has been recently interested in the finances and how they are allocated through each department throughout the year. She asked how it works for each department to discuss what is needed before the finance/budget meeting that will be coming up soon. She had many questions in regard to the appropriations meeting. She hopes that these questions will be answered at the finance meeting.

She also mentioned "No-Mow May". She asked if residents would be able to participate in such a thing and not get fined by the city. She also asked if there was any assistance for residents who may be sick or unable to cut their grass, without them getting a ticket or fine. Chief Mike Smudzinski said that this is taken care of for those residents, but he would talk to Deanna after the meeting.

Dena Hicks also had two more questions in regard to the water. She shared the ordinance book that she had received for free. She stated as of October 2001, the City uses 3 million gallons of water per day. The city uses 1.5 million and Carus uses 1.5 million. She said that additional capacity in the future should be expected. Hicks then started to ask about the agreement with Carus but Duncan said that Mrs. Hicks five minutes were up.

Breanne Hicks stated that she believes that there are many things that the City can do to improve our parks within the city. She said that Rotary Park is a beautiful park and has a scenic walking path and a great dog park. Hicks does believe that the City does need to incorporate more into the local parks. She would like to see more toys or equipment, along with updating the yellow caps along the fence lines. She also was concerned that the swings were not getting put away for the winter months.

Breanne Hicks mentioned that how the parks have lost a lot of things in the last few years. The City once had horseshoes at M&H. She also pointed out that M&H park had lost a lot of trees due to disease. Breanne Hicks also suggested allowing residents to be able to walk through the Rotary Park Christmas Lights at some point throughout the Holiday season. She thought that maybe the city could start charging per vehicle if the City was still in a deficit from the lights. She suggested charging businesses to put up their decoration or for their advertisement of. She believes that there are a lot of opportunities and growth for changes and would like to see some good things happen throughout the city.

The next speaker referred to herself as Good Citizen of Peru (G.C.). G.C. stated that she received a personal invite to attend the meeting from Mayor Grove. She said that she also was told by the mayor that she is able to bring all her concerns to the aldermen. She questioned what the Mayor is getting paid for.

Good Citizen stated that sometimes during the meetings she goes into the lobby to narrate or calm her anxieties. She said that the men's softball are allowed to speak loudly in the lobby while the meeting was going on, but she went into the lobby two weeks ago to ask a question and was told she by Andy Bacidore that she was "either in or out." She said that Bacidore blocked her from coming back in from the lobby and this reminded her of her sheriff's office incident. She stated that he did back away, and she re-entered the meeting. She was not even aware of who Andy Bacidore was. She recalled the city engineer being absent one meeting and Bacidore had sat in the engineer's space. Good Citizen stated that the City has been crooked and corrupt and there are random City employees bossing her around and blocking the door. She stated that when she re-entered the room, she spoke a few words and was given her first warning by the mayor. Good Citizen recalled her "setup arrest" and how her life was threatened by "public bloodsuckers". She said that due to the recordings of the Sheriff County Employees and safety concerns, she was held at the Grundy County Jail for six weekends. She said that she had great correction officers while at Grundy County. She said that she has only spoken up at these city council meetings because the town was "targeting Jamie Hicks and others who speak up." She stated that Mayor Grove has made it known that women have less work than men. She said that the City Hall sink has been a "deathtrap" for so long and there is not a bin for discarding feminine products. She asked Duncan how many minutes she is at. She was at 3:45mins. She stated that she expects the council members to "demand better" Good Citizen stated that her remaining time will be to send good vibes to Jamie Hicks, along with her demonstration on how far away the trash bin in the women's restroom is to dispose of feminine products.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and Alderman Jeppson go out of order to discuss the Ameren resolution.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the resolution and ordinance Authorizing Transfer/Grant of Easement to Ameren of 100 foot-wide strip of Rotary Park premises adjacent to Troy Grove Blacktop. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Mayor Grove

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

PROCLAMATION

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to proclaim Saturday, May 18, 2024 through Friday, May 24, 2024 as Safe Boating Week.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Herndon to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held April 15, 2024. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS:

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the request from Ameren Illinois to break ground at 314 Civic Road to replace secondary drop pole.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the request from Colton Cinotto and William Hocking of the Detour to install a double-sided lighted sign at 328 3rd Street.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the request from Maria Magana of La Michoacana for a Special Event Permit to utilize the Pocket Park 540 First Street for a "Day of the Kid" event.

It was a short notice but she did get her certificate of Liability insurance for this event.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Nick Fox, new Vice-President of construction and development for CL Red, introduced himself to the Council. He stated how he was brought on specifically to get the location at 801 1st Street kickstarted and finished. The following request is to get Ameren into their building. They need to upgrade the service. Fox stated that he plans to put stone back into the narrow trench that will be dug with asphalt on top, unless otherwise specified.

Attorney McPhedran stated that he believed Fox to have a contractor lined up that the City is familiar with. Fox stated that his contractor did have the contracts in place.

Attorney McPhedran also stated that the approval tonight was only for the request to break ground in the alley diamond north of 801-805 1st St. subject to protecting easement rights and also subject to developer's process as he indicated here with the understanding that any maintenance necessary would be at the cost of the developer and/or Ameren as is the duty to restore the premises to its current condition.

Alderman Bacidore had a few questions and concerns for Mr. Fox. He asked when he believes Fox to have his work done. Fox mentioned that they were currently working on the base building now and the apartments above. He stated that once the underground is in, he can finish the concrete. Fox mentioned that it will take 2-3 months to get the storefront ordered and replaced.

Mayor Grove did mention that tomorrow, April 30, is the deadline that they originally had with this property. Grove stated that he will be contacting Mr. Fox after tomorrow in regard to this deadline. Fox stated that he will be available at anytime.

Attorney McPhedran mentioned that this discussion did not pertain to the TIF agreement which was a 16-month agreement from January 9 to May 9.

Alderman Bacidore asked if CL has any plans for the hotel. Fox stated that there are plans. He said that he is unable to say more than that at this time. Fox stated that he will be in charge of the hotel project. He stated that the plans are done and ready to go. Bacidore said that they have been telling that to the city for 10 years.

Fox did want the council to know that he is unable to speak to the past, but he is able to speak to what is going to be done in the future. Fox stated that he has been on the inside and cleaned it up, swept up, and has made it safe during the short time that he has been with CL.

Alderman Bacidore asked if Mr. Fox would be any different than Nathan Watson. Fox said that he would not disparage Nathan in any way. Fox stated that his reason and mission was for the construction and development. He said that the city will be seeing movement.

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the request of CL RED to break ground in the alley between 1st, 2nd, Joliet, and Hennepin streets to install conduit to connection with Ameren Illinois and in relation to construction work at 801 1st Street.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to approve and place on file the Treasurer's Report for March 2024 showing total cash balances in La Salle State Bank of \$10,424,612.23 and in Hometown National Bank of \$8,005,922.99.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the communication from the National Weather Service Chicago re-certifying the City of La Salle as a StormReady Community.

Mayor Grove stated that this is an insurance policy that he hopes the city never has to deal with. He plans on doing a tabletop drill in the near future. The Utica commemorative 20-year mark was just recently.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

BIDS

City Engineer mentioned that Universal was the low bidder for the MFT & Non-MFT maintenance program. Universal was about \$5,000-\$7,000 under his estimate while Advanced was slightly over his estimate. Universal plans on starting the middle of next week. This will be for the work of all the streets that was on the list the Brown had accumulated a few months ago.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Bacidore to approve the recommendation regarding bid award for 2024 MFT & Non-MFT Maintenance Program to Universal Asphalt.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Mayor Grove discussed for this situation the same about of money was allocated to each ward. The Aldermen were able to give their input about concerned areas within their ward. At times, the City does have to pick and choose different areas of the city

based on need. Mayor stated that the City tries to do their best to maintain each ward. Mayor also discussed a project that Brown is planning to still get to this year, Richard Hallett Road shortcut and Eighth from Crosat to Sterling streets. This will be different funding.

Mayor also explained how the downtown TIF districts can use funding for sidewalks. Every project has a different way of funding. Some projects can be used from the MFT (motor fuel tax) money or it may have to come out of the general fund monies. The general fund does not usually get used for these projects because the city doesn't have it in the general fund, so they do rely on the motor fuel tax.

Alderman Herndon pointed out that the fourth ward has had newer remodeled sections and curbing due to the project that Brian Brown had recently completed with the sewer separation.

Lisa Dyas had a question for the council. Mayor stated that they were not taking questions at this time. Brown motioned to Dyas to see him after meeting to discuss any questions.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee and the Economic Development committees regarding selection of fiber service provider to go with Geneseo Communications Fiber Service, potentially entering into a nonexclusive agreement related to broadband internet, internet service, and related matters.

Mayor asked if the council wanted to wait to hear from Alderman Ptak and Alderman Crane. Lavieri stated that he had spoken with Alderman Ptak and both Ptak and Crane were in favor of Geneseo Communications.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Mayor Grove wanted to point out that other companies are allowed to come into the city also to try to sell their service. This is giving Geneseo the opportunity to get it started and possibly get as many residents as possible.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding \$2,500 donation to North Central Area Transit.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding a request from DBLM Land Trust for a Rebuild Downtown LaSalle Program (RCLP) grant totaling \$34,380 for premises located at 536 3rd Street. Alderman Ptak did not participate in this vote, nor was he present.

Deputy Clerk Bader also discussed how this agenda item was amended to reflect the DBLM Landtrust as the owner.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding a request from M Bird Estates for a Rebuild Downtown LaSalle Program (RCLP) grant totaling \$40,000 for premises located at 502 1st Street.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Bacidore to approve the authorization of Pay Request #2 for Otto Baum Company, totaling \$21,444.49 for work completed to date on Masonry Restoration project. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Brent Bader began the conversation with the city council in regard to a date selection for community clean-up event. He has been in contact with Alderman Crane in regard to this matter also. Bader mentioned having a potential sponsor for this event and that the

city will provide vests, water, and garbage bags. He is asking for guidance from the council as to when this event should take place. Alderman Crane had suggested to Bader May 18th but there were concerns with this date, as Peru will be having their air show. May 11th and May 25th are also possible.

Alderman Reynolds asked if this event would be in conjunction with LBA. Bader stated that it was not necessarily in conjunction with LBA, but they did ask to be notified and they will join if they are able to also. Alderman Reynolds is also concerned that some may take it as a "junk day". Mayor Grove believed the city wanted this to be a cleanup of litter and other yard waste to freshen up the town after winter.

No date was set by the council so Deputy Clerk Bader would communicate with Crane and pick a date.

Alderman Herndon asked for a little information from Curt in regard to the McDaniel's Marketing tool. Economic Development Director Curt Bedei stated this was a grant that the city applied for from the Office of Travel and Tourism, being a marketing and promotions grant. It's a matching grant, \$10,000 from city and \$10,000 from the grant, total cost being \$20,000. Bedei said that the state wanted to know if the city would be able to pay for this within their fiscal year which will be ending shortly. This is why Bedei was asking to have this discussion item on the agenda tonight. Curt and City staff were able to meet with some of the website group today. Mayor Grove believes it be very useful and beneficial for the city.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to authorize the payment for McDaniel's Marketing totaling \$20,000 for website project management and associated services in relation to the matching Illinois Travel and Tourism grant.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Alderman Jeppson stated that he was unaware of the air monitor to be offline. He will look into getting someone to look into it and get it back up and working. Dawn Hicks asked if there was a number she could contact so she doesn't have to bug Alderman Jeppson every time it is not working. Jeppson stated that there is a number right on the app that one is able to call if there are any questions or issues.

Mayor Grove wanted to recognize City Volunteer RJ Newell. She did a lot of private events around the city and was part of LPAC. Grove wanted to send his thoughts and prayers to her family. Many on Facebook recognized and appreciated her for her volunteerism around the city.

Mayor Grove stated that the City will be looking at the annual budget and appropriations very soon. The city's budget is to be done by the end of July. He mentioned how the city council does approve the appointments of different staff, public works, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Engineer, Parks and Rec, and Economic Development. He wanted to example to the public that each department head has a budget, and any thoughts, concerns, or projects are up for discussion with John Duncan and then possible put into appropriations for the following year. This is when Duncan will bring all the numbers and information to the appropriations meeting which can last approximately 2 hours. Mayor Grove stated that the city does always hope for grants to offset an expense that the city appropriated for, but this does allow departments to have wish lists too in order to get some needed projects done now or in the future.

Mayor Grove wanted to point out that many of the agenda items that are voted on at every meeting are items or projects that were once discussed during the appropriations of the prior fiscal year. Works get paid for once a job or project or a phase may be complete.

John Duncan also stated that he does meet with each department before appropriations and try to get the working budget to a presentable form. That is when he will then bring it to the council and have a lengthy meeting to go over each line item of the budget.

Mayor Grove also wanted to talk TIF with the public. Mayor Grove gave an example that when someone buys a \$100,000 building in a TIF district, that person can come to the Council and say they want to put \$250,000 into it. The developer can ask for a TIF rebate, for eligible expenses, on their property taxes for the money going into it. The City doesn't go off the cost of the building only the improvements and work put into it. He said once the project is complete, the County assesses the new tax. Anything above the cost, that increase the City gives back to the developer which could be below their initial estimate.

Member of the audience stated "What a convenient way to use your position of power."

She was given her first warning for interrupting by Mayor Grove.

Mayor Grove continued to explain that the city will be receiving the city of La Salle's portion of paid taxes and will be reimbursing owners in TIF district the city's portion of the taxes. The city pays the TIF owners back through tax reimbursement once the work has been done and the property has been assessed.

Duncan stated that the downtown TIF formed in 2007 and will go till 2031 tax year. Mayor Grove also stated that as a developer one would want to collect as much as they can and get a project done within the first part of the 23 years. He did mention that there are exceptions for extensions to be made.

Mayor Grove also wanted to mention that he was aware of the trees that did die at M&H park, and they are looking into some trees that would be best to add back to the park. He also mentioned that he was the one that had asked for the swings to not be taken

down at M&H. The weather in late fall and early spring can be very seasonable and has taken the opportunity to use the park when other parks do not have their equipment up due to the time of the year.

Attorney McPhedran did mention, back to the TIF reimbursement discussion, that only a percentage, often 50% is the amount of taxes that are reimbursed.

Finance Director Duncan also thought it was necessary to mention that the city does make whole agreements with all the taxing district and all the schools involved. They are getting a percent back as well before the city reimburses the developer. The other taxing bodies are in agreement of it as well.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

Duncan mentioned that the following was something that the city does annually, in terms of things that are over budgeted vs. things that are under budgeted. This is just something that is done for maintenance on an annual basis.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the ordinance making transfers of amounts of Appropriated Funds from one Corporate Purpose to another Corporate Purpose. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the ordinance making amending ordinances regarding certain aspects of compensation, hiring and residency of Paid on Call Firefighters, First Responders, Members of MABAS Teams. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the ordinance fixing wages for Non-Union Employees of the City of LaSalle, Illinois commencing May 1, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

COMMENTS

Mayor Grove wanted to recognize National Nurses Week next week. He stated how the area has had a lot of uncertainty in the last year with healthcare in the area. Mayor stated how his family is appreciative and blessed to have good nurses in the area.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept, pay, and file the bills from April 15, 2024: Total Submitted: \$1,341,951.80 (Total Payroll \$205,255.93, Bills to be Paid \$806,763.56, Total Bills Paid \$329,932.31). Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds

NAY: None **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

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

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNED

7:47

pm



Amy Quinn, City Clerk