

# **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL**

**October 14, 2024**

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois was held, Monday, October 14, 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 6:31 p.m.**

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Deputy Clerk Brent Bader reminded all to speak into microphones clearly for audio and video recordings.

## **ROLL CALL**

**Present** – Mayor Jeff Grove, Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

**Absent** – None

**Others Present:** Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Finance Director John Duncan, Economic Development Director Curt Bedei, City Attorney James McPhedran, City Engineer Brian Brown, City Treasurer Virginia Kochanowski, Fire Chief Jerry Janick

**A quorum was present.**

Dawn Hicks expressed concerns about the air quality and the air monitor readings, highlighting high pollution readings at various times in the area. She questioned the source of the pollution and emphasized the need for immediate action rather than waiting for more severe readings. Hicks also requested information on who to contact to get veterans acknowledged and how to go about getting the banners for the veterans.

Dena Hicks spoke in regard to her concerns with the air quality concerns also. She provided detailed information on the health risks associated with different air quality readings, emphasizing the need for public awareness and action.

## **PROCLAMATION**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept and place on file October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Herndon to accept and place on file minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held September 30, 2024.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS:**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to send to Streets, Alley, and Traffic committee the request of Sam Volpe, of 105 Gunn Avenue, for a “No Parking” sign in front of his property.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Alderman Bacidore stated that he will place this item on the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee for two weeks from tonight.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and Alderman Thompson to approve the request from Mossy Paws to install a single-facing, wall sign at 828 1<sup>st</sup> Steet.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

**NAYS:** NONE      **Absent:** NONE      **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Reyonlds to approve the request of the City of LaSalle Foundation and LaSalle Downtown Merchants for a Special Event Permit to use the City’s Pocket Park on First Street from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, October 25, 2024 to host a Ghouls Night Out event.

The Alcohol Portion has been removed from the original request.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore

**NAYS:** NONE      **Absent:** NONE      **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve, accept, and place on file the Building Inspector’s Report for July 2024 showing total fees collected of \$2,172.00 with total value of construction of \$141,175.00.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve, accept, and place on file the Monthly Police Income report for September 2024 showing total fees collected of \$7,545.00.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept, approve, and place on file Illinois Department of Revenue report showing sales tax collected for February 2024 of \$97,570.89 and Home Rule Sales Tax of \$87,923.63 for a total of \$185,494.52. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

## **BIDS**

Bids for 2024 water system improvements, new well drilling, and the existing water treatment plant project were discussed. Alderman Thompson was very concerned that one bid was substantially lower than the other two. City Engineer Brian Brown mentioned that there is a state statute if there is an unemployment rate of greater than 5% over two months, then the city would have to use 90% Illinois employees. Municipal Well and Pump uses both Illinois and Iowa. Brown does not believe the city to be in that window of unemployment. Brown believes that the other two bidders were pushing for that and were bidding accordingly. He believed the project to cost between \$2.5 million and \$3 million. He stated that this award is contingent upon everything getting verified. Engineer Brown believed that there was a 180-day completion goal after the bid award.

This project was discussed in a prior meeting, and it was mentioned to go to a 24-hr deep well for this project. It was still expected to have the site screening for lighting and also a sound barrier created to minimize the impacts for the neighbors as much as they possibly could. This project location is on the south side of the water treatment plant.

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the bid price of \$2,679,016.00 from Municipal Well and Pump for 2024 water system improvements, new well drilling (a.k.a. Deep Well) and the existing Water Treatment Plant project. These are subject to all contingencies discussed and subject to entering into a contract with the city.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

## **MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the bid for \$25,000 on and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 1154 10<sup>th</sup> Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

It was discussed about a timeline and conditions for property rehabilitation, including start dates and completion requirements for this property and the other property on Union and First because multiple people have inquired in regard to these properties.

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Ptak to require a one-year completion goal from sale of the property at 1154 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

The prior bid and following bids are accepted for each property, with conditions and requirements for rehabilitation and compliance with city ordinances.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept the Bid for \$20,001.01 and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 1315 1<sup>st</sup> Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept the Bid on and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 636 LaFayette Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the Bid for \$1,000.00 and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 827 Hennepin Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the Bid \$1,100.00 and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 945 2<sup>nd</sup> Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the Bid for \$1,525.00 and Potential sale of the City of La Salle's interest in Certain Surplus Lots at 1031 2<sup>nd</sup> Street subject to entering into a contract with the city.

### **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

City Engineer Brian Brown mentioned that the city had recently ran a sewer through that lot. He mentioned that he did discuss adding an easement to that property. Curt Bedei mentioned that this was mentioned in the notice.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Alderman Bacidore asked to table the recommendation of the Streets, Alley, and Traffic Committee regarding adding a stop sign for southbound traffic on Linden Avenue at the Kilmer Road intersection and consideration of "No Parking" on the west side of Linden Avenue from driveway nearest the Kilmer Road Intersection to corner and related matters on Kilmer Road, Linden Avenue, and Creve Coeur Street. The committee was unable to make a decision tonight.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to discuss Zoning Board of Appeals Recommendation regarding the request for variance concerning premises at 1213 Canal Street (Brewer) within the City of LaSalle. This recommendation was granted unanimously by the Zoning Board.

This met all parameters under the city ordinance. This variance would reduce the front yard setback from 25' to 13'. The owner indicated that he had discussed with both east and west neighbors and he indicated that he would resolve any issues with the landscaping with the one property owner. Each and every alderman has a copy.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the authorization of Final Pay Estimate for Cruz Concrete, Inc. totaling \$49,613.00 for work completed to date on Train Depot Retaining Wall Project.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** NONE   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the authorization of Pay Estimate #1 for Universal Asphalt & Excavating, Inc. Totaling \$209,365.08 for work completed to date on Rotary Park Phase IV – Pickleball and Parking Lot Improvements project.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** None   **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to authorize Pay Request #20 for Vissering Construction Company totaling \$139,905.55 for work completed to date on Aerobic Digester Conversion project. Each and every alderman has a copy.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri

**NAYS:** NONE   **Absent:** None   **Abstain:** NONE

## **MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Deputy Clerk Brent Bader mentioned that the following item was on the agenda last meeting and was not necessary to be on agenda this meeting, Letter of Support for Recreational Economy for Rural Communities initiative.

Mayor Grove mentioned that the city will send out a message when they feel it is a good time to start running the leaf vac. Mayor Grove did remind residents that yard waste bags can be dropped off to the Public Works Building across from the St. Vincent's Cemetery. There is a container for the paper yard waste bags. He also mentioned that the city will have a control burn next Tuesday to make room for other yard waste.

The city's Halloween event will be Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> downtown LaSalle, with 10:45 am line up for costume contest with business trick or treating after.

Deputy Clerk Brent Bader mentioned that there will be a community garden initiative led by Renee Kim with the availability of a city plot near the fire department. She is looking for volunteers to assist with this initiative.

Deputy Clerk Bader addressed the issue of mattresses or larger item disposal, reminding residents to call LRS for large item pickup. The LRS phone number to call to schedule large item pick ups is 309-586-4410.

Mayor Grove mentioned property damage done to the planter and flagpole at the island at 1<sup>st</sup> and LaHarpe. He mentioned that the city will make one more attempt to better the visibility. If this damage does happen to this area again, then it was discussed to possibly remove the island.

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

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve an ordinance amending the Employee Handbook for the City of LaSalle. Each and every alderman has a copy.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve an ordinance authorizing a variance concerning premises at 1213 Canal Street (Brewer) within the City of La Salle. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to accept, pay, and file the bills from October 14, 2024: Total Submitted: \$916,280.34 (Total Payroll \$228,924.69, Bills to be Paid \$305,146.86, Total Bills Paid \$382,208.79). Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Bacidore, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 8-0**

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

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

**ADJOURNED 7:20 pm**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Amy Quinn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Quinn, City Clerk