

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

**March 17, 2025**

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois was held, Monday, March 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jeff Grove with proper notices being duly and continuously posted.**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**Excused Absent** – Alderman Ptak, Alderman Crane

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to allow Alderman Crane to attend the meeting remotely.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak, Crane **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present** – Mayor Jeff Grove, Aldermen Bacidore, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Alderman Crane (remotely via phone call)

**Absent** – Alderman Ptak

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

**A quorum was present.**

### **COMMENTS**

Mayor Grove opened the floor for public comment, allowing residents to share their thoughts and concerns.

Breane Hicks raised concerns about selective distribution of letters from the Mayor and the lack of updates on community cleanup. Ms. Hicks also expressed her frustration over the lack of response from aldermen regarding community issues. Ms. Hicks stated that she is running for Fourth Ward Alderman and would appreciate support on the April 1st election.

Dena Hicks questioned the transparency of the city council and the availability of meeting packets before meetings. Mrs. Hicks also raised concerns about the city's sidewalk programs and the condition of city-owned buildings.

Finance Director John Duncan stated that Mrs. Hicks three minutes were up for her public comment portion.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept and place on file minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held March 3, 2025. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

### **PROCLAMATION**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to proclaim April 3, 2025 as JA Day in the City of La Salle.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

### **DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS**

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the request for a 2025 Raffle License from Lighted Way.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve the request for a 2025 Raffle License from Hegeler Carus Mansion.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Herndon to break curb to install Comcast Telecommunications cable in conduit from existing service at 75 Creve Couer Street.

City Engineer Brian Brown asked if Comcast had shown proof of an easement before the city granted them to go across the property. This petition can be voted on and passed based on proof of evidence of an easement.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request from Knights of Columbus Calvert Council 792 of La Salle- Peru to hold a Tag Day Collection on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at the intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> and Bucklin Streets.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Bacidore to approve the request from Guylene Strange of LP Cavalettes Dance Team to hold a Tag Day Collection on either Saturday, June 7, 2025, as their primary weekend, and Saturday, June 14, 2025, unless another organization would need Saturday, June 14, 2025.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE

**Absent:** Alderman Ptak

**Abstain:** NONE

## **MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to send the request to Streets, Alley, and Traffic (SAT) committee from John Eliuk for Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) throughout the City of La Salle including the crosswalk of St. Vincent Avenue and Roosevelt Street.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to send the request to SAT committee from Johannes Bus Service to create a four-way stop intersection at the 5<sup>th</sup> and Crosat Streets intersection.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Alderman Herndon asked to add the streetlight concern, at 5<sup>th</sup> and Crosat, that was mentioned at the last SAT committee meeting tonight to be added to the next SAT agenda in two weeks.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman to approve the request from April Murphy of Hegeler Carus Mansion for a Special Event Permit to allow the use of City-owned property on 7<sup>th</sup> Street in front of 1307 7<sup>th</sup> Street to host Third Thursday Concert Series events with food trucks from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2025, Thursday, June 19, 2025, Thursday, July 17, 2025; Thursday, August 21, 2025; and Thursday, September 18, 2025. Each and every alderman has a copy.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE

**Absent:** Alderman Ptak

**Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the Stephanie Bias on behalf of Camp Aramoni, Inc. for a Mobile Food Vendor Permit. This food truck permit is for "That Guy's Secret Grand Re-Opening".

**ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE

**Absent:** Alderman Ptak

**Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request for a variance and waiver from the requirement of providing a sewer ejector pump pursuant to Ordinance 2157 for premises being constructed at Lot 14 of Vermillionvue Trace subdivision commonly known as 120 Vermillionvue Trace.

City Engineer Brian Brown gave his verbal approval for this. He had recently checked out the project and this property.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE

**Absent:** Alderman Ptak

**Abstain:** Alderman Lavieri

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0**

Mayor Grove mentioned that Alderman Lavieri always abstains to any vote when it pertains to this subdivision since he is part owner of the property.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve and place on file the Building Inspector's Report for February 2025 showing total fees collected of \$2,050 with total value of construction of \$769,337.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve and place on file the monthly police income report for February 2025 showing fees collected of \$4,865.01.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve and place on file the Treasurer's Report for February 2025 showing total cash balances in LaSalle State Bank of \$9,192,773.43 and in Hometown National Bank of \$8,738,754.24.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve and place on file Illinois Department of Revenue report showing sales tax collected for December 2024 of \$110,939.20 and Home Rule Sales Tax of \$99,283.23 for a total of \$210,222.43.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding renewing membership with Heritage Corridor Destinations at a cost of \$9,000.

## **ROLL CALL**

**AYES:** Aldermen Herndon, Thompson, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson

**NAYS:** Alderman Crane, Bacidore **Absent:** NONE **Abstain:** NONE

Mayor Grove expressed his appreciation for the conversation that was had in regard to the renewal of membership with Heritage Corridor. Alderman Herndon and Mayor Grove both agreed that the amount spent on this membership is worth it for the City of La Salle to promote the city in many ways.

## **MOTION CARRIED: 5-0**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding the purchase of a 2025 Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD SUV at a cost of \$41,067 for the La Salle Police Department.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

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

## **MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Mayor Grove wanted to also recognize Chief Mike Smudzinski for purchasing multiple items from the Drug Fund.

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the recommendation of the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee regarding a request to remove "No Parking" signs in the 1100 and 1200 blocks of First Street, originally related to previously removed center island.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to accept the recommendation of the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee regarding a request for “Handicap Parking” in front of 832 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 –0**

Moved by Alderman Bacidore and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept the recommendation of the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee regarding adding “No Outlet” signs for Haley Street and Bartley Street near 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Herndon to authorize Pay Request #24 for Vissering Construction Company totaling \$23,925.40 for work completed to date on Aerobic Digester Conversion project. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

**MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to authorize Pay Request #17 for Vissering Construction Company totaling \$121,460.25 for work completed to date on Water Treatment improvements project.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds approve payment for John Pohar & Sons totaling \$17,763.16 for work completed to date on Pohar Sewer Repairs – 2025 project.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Alderman Bacidore asked any updates or status of the Maytag Building and its need for structural repairs. Mayor Grove stated that the notice has been mailed out to the company and they have 15 days to address the issues that were brought up.

Alderman Herndon addresses the question in regard to the four-way stop at 1<sup>st</sup> and Marquette. It has been a four-way flashing light for many years and has recently been updated to just a single flashing light going East/West.

Mayor Grove acknowledged the great turnout and participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade this year downtown.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

City Engineer Brian Brown announced a public hearing on Thursday at 4pm for the lead line service replacement project. It was also discussed on the potential EPA loan for lead line replacements and the council's decision on homeowner's responsibilities. The council discussed the importance of replacing lead lines and the impact on residents. Brown does believe that since this is a federal program, there is funding available for the resident along with the city to make sure they can get the lead out of all lines.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to accept, pay, and file the bills from March 17, 2025: Total Submitted: \$706,748.81 (Total Payroll \$217,866.56, Bills to be Paid \$162,777.68, Total Bills Paid \$326,104.57). Each and every alderman has a copy.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

**NAYS:** NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak **Abstain:** NONE

### **MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

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

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

**ADJOURNED 7:19 pm**

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

Amy Quinn, City Clerk