

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL

October 27, 2025

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois, was held
Monday, October 27, 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 6:32 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy City Clerk Brent Bader advised Council members and viewers at home that there had been issues with the Internet at City Hall during the day which might affect the livestreaming of the Council meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jeff Grove, Aldermen Demes, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, and Crane

Excused Absence: Alderman Herndon

Others Present: Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Economic Development Director Curt Bedei, City Engineer Brian Brown, Police Chief Jason Stubler, Fire Chief Jerry Janick, and City Attorney James McPhedran

A quorum was present.

COMMENTS

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

Dena Hicks complained about air quality near her home displaying four blackened furnace filters and a potted plant that she said grew irregularly this summer.

Dawn Hicks advocated for having banners for veterans and first responders throughout the City from Memorial Day through Veterans' Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Demes to accept and place on file minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held October 13, 2025. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the request from Ameren Illinois to break ground at:

- 1121 Fifth Street to retire gas service for demolition.
- Pulaski Park, Fifth and Crosat Streets to repair bad underground electric and related matters.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Andrew Lamboley was invited forward to speak about his proposal for a UTV ride-through of the Celebration of Lights. He is requiring participants to provide proof of insurance, anticipates approximately 40 riders, would like this to become an annual family-friendly event (possibly to benefit a charity), and has worked out appropriate police presence and escort with Police Chief Jason Stubler.

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request from Andrew Lamboley for a Special Event Permit for use of City-owned property in the parking lot on Second and Wright Streets, Veteran's Memorial Pool parking lot, the parking lot adjacent to pickleball courts at Hegeler Park, and the sidewalk in front of 500 Second Street for staging of vehicles and Porta Potties for a UTV ride-through of Celebration of Lights from 5 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2025, and related matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Demes, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Stephanie Bias was invited forward to speak about her proposal for the upcoming Black Friday and Small Business Saturday events.

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request from Stephanie Bias for a Special Event Permit for use of City-owned property in front of 552 First Street from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, November 28, 2025, and Saturday, November 29, 2025, for a food truck in conjunction with downtown Black Friday and Small Business Saturday and related matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane, Demes

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

COMMUNICATIONS

BIDS

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the bid from Kirsch & Co. for \$18,415 for the demolition of 716 Bucklin Street and related matters.

City Attorney James McPhedran advised the Council that a super majority of aldermen (six) would be required to approve the bid of Kirsch & Co. since the bid is not fully responsive to the recently-passed bidding ordinance.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Demes

NAYS: Crane, Thompson **NONE** **Absent:** Herndon **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION FAILED: 5-2-0

Mayor Grove indicated he would vote aye; however, Attorney McPhedran clarified that only aldermen's votes count toward the supermajority.

Discussion followed regarding the ordinance. Alderman Demes reiterated his concern that the ordinance discourages smaller businesses from placing bids and this situation is an example of that. Alderman Crane countered that larger businesses have additional expenses which are necessary to ensure work is completed correctly, proficiently, and most importantly, safely. Mayor Grove pointed out that while the dollar difference in this instance is \$6,000, the percentage difference between the lower and higher bids is one-third, so in instances of larger projects the difference in the expense would become more distinct. Alderman Reynolds stated his preference for the lower bid.

Alderman Crane indicated his preference for the bid from Gillan Construction stating the City had used them previously for a project on Fifth Street and that job was completed professionally and within a reasonable timeframe.

Moved by Alderman Crane and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the bid from Gillan Construction for \$24,800 for the demolition of 716 Bucklin Street and related matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Jeppson, Crane, Thompson, Ptak,

NAYS: Reynolds, Lavieri, Demes **NONE Absent:** Herndon **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 4-3-0

Alderman Thompson requested clarification on the required number of votes for this motion to pass.

Attorney McPhedran stated that a simple majority vote of aldermen present was adequate since the bidder (Gillan Construction) meets the requirements of the ordinance. Following comment by Alderman Demes, further clarification was provided by Attorney McPhedran regarding a box that wasn't checked "yes" on the Gillan bidder form: that box contained two choices regarding drug testing: either there has to be a written policy in place or there has to be a union contract that provides the same provisions. Economic Director Curt Bedei stated Gillan has a union contract as part of their collective bargaining agreement. So that box has two different ways to indicate "yes," and Gillan met the criteria.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to appoint Jason Stubler as Police Department representative to Illinois Valley Regional Dispatch and related matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane, Demes, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee regarding the RMA (Risk Management Agency) Minimum/Maximum Contribution Agreement and related matters.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Jeppson, Crane, Demes, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

OLD BUSINESS

Alderman Demes asked Police Chief Stubler for an update on patrols on Garfield and Prospect. The Chief indicated the speed trailer had been used there both east- and westbound. In the course of approximately 13 hours, 260 vehicles were observed crossing the intersection. Seven vehicles were pulled over after red and blue lights were turned on them; six stop sign violations and one speeding violation were reported for a total rate of approximately 3%. The Chief reported the neighborhood was pleased to see the police presence. Speed bumps were discussed.

Alderman Thompson reminded everyone about the prevalence of scam Medicare/Medicaid phone calls and that there would be more because of AI.

Alderman Ptak spoke regarding veterans mentioned earlier in the meeting. He believes no one on the Council opposes honoring veterans. He pointed out that in Peru the CSO handles that project and suggested that a banner project is not a city responsibility but rather a third-party project. Alderman Demes suggested approaching the VFW. Mayor Grove pointed out banners do not act like flags in the wind; because of the way they are affixed they act more like sails which puts pressure on the poles; the cooperation of Ameren is needed.

Alderman Ptak asked about details for the City's upcoming Frosty on First event. Deputy City Clerk Bader indicated a full schedule of activities is available on liveituplasalle.com under Upcoming Events.

Mayor Grove thanked the downtown merchants for putting on Ghouls Night Out this past Friday evening.

Hometown Halloween was also successful.

The Leaf Vac is travelling throughout the City; and the Yard Waste is still open.

Alderman Demes asked about the status of the new well. City Engineer Brian Brown stated that test pumping indicates 1,500-1,700 gallons of water per minute will be generated, at least 50% more than was originally expected.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Lavieri asked for confirmation of the trick-or-treating time; it will be Friday, October 31 from 5-7p.m.

Mayor Grove discussed Frosty on First.

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

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Thompson to authorize the execution of the IMLRMA (Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association)

Minimum/Maximum Contribution Agreement and related matters. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Crane, Demes, Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Herndon **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Grove stated there was no need for an executive session.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept, pay, and file the bills.

Total Submitted: \$1,379,369.73 (Total Payroll \$363,021.08, Bills to be Paid \$386,822.14,

Total Bills Paid \$629,526.51)

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Thompson, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane, Demes,

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Herndon **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

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

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNED 7:09 p.m.

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

Liz Bishop, City Clerk