

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL

August 31, 2026

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois, was held
Monday, August 31, 2026, 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.**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

Excused Absence: Alderman Ptak

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.

La Salle resident and veteran Dale Butkovitz addressed the Council thanking everyone for
the work that has been done on the water on Tonti Street. He also mentioned looking
forward to the upcoming annual Celebration of Lights.

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 August 17, 2026. Each and every
alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

PRESENTATION

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to allow a representative of NewCarbon to address the Council.

Justin Gutknecht of NewCarbon made a presentation regarding an Illinois Energy Storage Grant Opportunity. According to its website, New Carbon is a “clean energy infrastructure company who develops, owns and operates infrastructure that delivers lifecycle carbon intensity reduction for industrial, agricultural and municipal organizations in the Midwest.”

NewCarbon is interested in conducting a feasibility study for an energy storage grant opportunity and would like to enter a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding to conduct the study.

He explained that the amount of the grant would range from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000. The site they are interested in is near the Ameren substation on Canal Street.

Timing, safety, training, pricing, distribution, energy transfers, the flood plain, and substation location were all discussed.

No action was taken since it was a presentation and not a proposal on the agenda, giving Council members and staff the opportunity for further research.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the request of Karli Sarver of Chaos & Curiosities for a Special Event Permit to use the City's Pocket Park at 540 First Street from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, September 18, 2026, to host a workshop with Petals by Peyton; from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, October 23, 2026, for a witches walk vendor market; and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday October 24, 2026, for a Ferns & Fortunes workshop with Petals by Peyton and related matters.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Moved by Alderman Thompson and seconded by Alderman Demes to hold a public hearing regarding the request of Brian Inman and Inman Holdings, LLC, as their interests may appear, that the City of La Salle vacate the 15-foot drainage easement on the west side of the Inman premises at 308 N. 30th Road, La Salle, Illinois 61301, to the Petitioners, as their interests may appear, and for related relief and related matters.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to send to the Zoning Board of Appeals the request for a variance from Gregory Hack regarding construction of 7-foot fencing on premises commonly known as 2102 Rockwell Road and related matters.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

COMMUNICATIONS

BIDS

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the appointment of Edward Godwin to the Planning Commission.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to purchase a 2027 Ford F 150 Responder for the La Salle Police Department at a cost of \$49,813.33 and related matters.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Student Future Farmers of America (FFA) members from La Salle-Peru Township High School were in attendance at the meeting, along with their agriculture teacher Mr. Riley Hintzsche and Superintendent Clayton Theisinger.

Moved by Alderman Crane and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission Regarding the Petition of La Salle-Peru Township High School District #120, through its appropriate representatives, including, but not limited to, Clayton J. Theisinger, Superintendent, regarding the premises commonly known as 536, 546, 548, and 556 Creve Coeur Street, La Salle, Illinois, related to the proposed operation and use related to education, including the providing of practical hands-on learning environment in the animal and veterinary sciences, including, but not limited to, the keeping of livestock and certain other animals on the premises, and related endeavors. Each and every alderman has a copy.

City Attorney James McPhedran pointed out that no objections to this proposal were made at the Planning Commission Meeting.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

OLD BUSINESS

Deputy Clerk Brent Bader advised the Council that in April Special Event Permits were approved for the La Salle Speedway. Late last Friday after the agenda for tonight's meeting had already been finalized, the Speedway indicated they would like to cancel the permits for May 5, 2026, August 14, 2026, and August 15, 2026, since they were not used, and add September 3, 2026, and September 15, 2026.

A straw poll was taken with Aldermen Demes, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, and Crane indicating they had no objection and Alderman Thompson indicating he was not in favor of it.

Deputy Clerk Bader also indicated petition packets are available at City Hall for anyone wishing to run for any of the four aldermanic seats available in the upcoming April 2027 election.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to approve an Ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of a first amendment to the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District Redevelopment Agreement by and between The City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois, and Viakable Manufacturing, LLC and related matters.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Thompson to approve an Ordinance Authorizing The Granting Of A Special Use Permit Within The City Of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois, For Premises Commonly Known As 536, 546, 548, and 556 Creve Coeur Street, La Salle, Illinois (La Salle-Peru Township High School District #120), and related matters.

ROLL CALL

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

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Fire Chief Jerry Janick recognized firefighter Kyle Camatti who was present with his wife and children and has been full-time with the La Salle Fire Department since February of 2025. As a condition of his employment, he was required to obtain paramedic certification. He began the program at IVCC in August of 2025, logging 626 hours of classroom and clinical time, graduating July 23, 2026, and successfully challenging the National Registry Paramedic Exam August 17, 2026. Kyle is La Salle's first in-house firefighter paramedic.

All costs for tuition, books, and fees will be 100% reimbursed by the Business Employment Skills Team.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Herndon to accept, pay, and file the bills: Total Submitted: \$1,771,186.75 (Total Payroll \$249,755.30 Bills to be Paid \$267,797.05 Total Bills Paid \$1,253,634.40)

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Ptak **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 7:08 p.m.



Liz Bishop, City Clerk