

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

JANUARY 12, 2023

MINUTES

The Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Lawrence County, Illinois met in regular session in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall Building on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Greene, Blacketer, Waldrop, Volkman and Hayes.

Mayor Courtney called the meeting to order. Waldrop gave the prayer. All present then recited the Pledge of Allegiance while facing the flag.

Candace Joles asked to be added on to the agenda.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of December 8, 2022. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 8, 2022. Waldrop seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The Council had earlier received copies of the bills of the city, Sewer and Water Departments for December. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve paying the bills for December. Greene seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Blacketer, Stevens, Volkman, Hayes, Greene and Brewer. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget stood at 68.5% after 8 months of the 22-23 fiscal year.

Candace Joles addressed the Council. Ms. Joles husband is a volunteer member of the Lawrence-Allison Fire Department, and she felt there was unprofessionalism of the Lawrenceville Police Department on the radio, when referencing the fire department. LPD was awaiting the fire department to arrive on a scene of a recent fire. A police officer was asking dispatch where the firemen were. Ms. Joles did not like the tone of the LPD radio correspondence. The Council said the city was thankful for the firemen and the service the fire department does for the community and also acknowledged the community would be in a real bind if there was no volunteer fire department. Mayor Courtney added he would set up a meeting with the police and fire chiefs.

Tara Davis addressed the Council. Ms. Davis conveyed alleged misconduct involving police officers Nick Earnest and Jacob Seed, such as not reporting or not investigating the situations that involve her in the past and both officers does not supporting Chief White. Mayor Courtney and the Council thanked Ms. Davis for bringing the matter forward.

HLR Engineering has completed most of the preliminary work on the 12th Street and Lexington Avenue project. HLR expect to let bids in June or August, work should begin in August or September.

The sewer department anticipated the variable drivers for the air blowers to be delivered next week. Most of the electric work and installation of the blowers has been completed.

From the original list of eight properties for remediation, two properties have not been addressed: 904 8th Street and 1206 12th Street. Demolition of those houses is expected to begin the week of January 23.

Council received word from the Department of Military Affairs that the city has been granted approval from the Governor to transfer the armory to the city. Both houses of the General Assembly, House and Senate, will have to approve the transfer. A citizens advisory committee has toured the armory. The mayor and council will take ideas from the advisory committee under consideration and begin to operate the armory for the use of the community.

The Zoning Board of Review will meet at City Hall on January 27 at 10:00 am to evaluate a change in zoning request for 401 West Haven Road. The request is to change that location from residential to highway business.

City Hall will be closed on January 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Fritch made a motion to adjourn. Hayes seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 7:30 p.m. The next city council meeting is February 9, 2023.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk