

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

JULY 13, 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, July 13, 2023 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Stevens, Fritch, Cornwell, Greene, Brewer, Waldrop, Volkman and Goins.

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

Kayla Campbell asked to speak to the Council.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of June 8, 2023. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of June, 2023. Brewer 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 June. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop made a motion to approve paying the bills for June. Cornwell seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Cornwell, Brewer, Greene, Fritch, Stevens, Waldrop, Volkman and Goins.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget stood at 15.7%. Mayor Courtney praised all City employees for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Courtney presented the second reading of Ordinance #1590 to the Council. Ordinance #1590 purposed the approval of the Annual Appropriation for 2023-2024. The Annual Appropriation would be \$6,226,000.00. Mayor Courtney explained this is the most that the city could spend. It does not mean the City has to spend it all, but the City needs to have the amount high if the City faces an unplanned issue.

Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Fritch made a motion to approve Ordinance #1590. Greene seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Blacketer, Volkman, Waldrop, Fritch, Cornwell, Brewer, Stevens and Greene.

Mayor Courtney presented Resolution #7-13-23 to the Council which would authorize the use of Rebuild Illinois funds (\$22,000.00) through Illinois Department of Transportation. The proposed improvement shall consist of preliminary (P.E.) and construction (C.E.) engineering costs for ADA sidewalks and curb replacement, storm sewer, HMA overlay and other items to complete on Lexington Avenue between 12th and 15th Streets, utilizing Rebuild Illinois funds. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Volkman made a motion to accept Resolution #7-13-23. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Goins, Brewer, Waldrop, Stevens, Volkman, Fritch, Greene and Cornwell. Nays: None.

Joshua K. Layer, consultant from Burbach Aquatics, updated the Council. Burbach and the City have been considering several plans for the pool. The cost for just refurbishing the pool to a new city pool range from \$2 million to \$4 million. Both entities agreed that a new bathhouse is needed. An ADA standard bathhouse and concession stand would be designed into one building and used as a storm shelter in emergencies. Grant writers from GWRPC and Drew Lane consultants advise that the city could apply for a grant toward just the bathhouse at this time and apply for a larger grant to renovate the city pool when the money is available. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to apply for a grant towards just the bathhouse at this time. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 6-2. Yeas: Goins, Brewer, Waldrop, Stevens, Fritch, Greene. Nays: Volkman and Cornwell. Cornwell and Volkman want it on the record that they both are for applying for grants for both the bathhouse and renovate the city pool.

Mayor reported to the Council that HSC Pavement has provided an estimate for the asphalt repair, sealing and seal coating of the parking lot behind the City Hall. The total cost estimate is \$12,663.10 The Street Committee Had already met and recommended the work. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop made a motion to approved \$12,663.10 for asphalt work. Cornwell seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Goins, Brewer, Waldrop, Stevens, Volkman, Fritch, Greene and Cornwell. Nays: None.

An application for a class “A” liquor license was requested by Ali Salhani with a location of 907 15th Street. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop made a motion to approve the class “A” liquor license to Ali Salhani with the requirement that the south side parking lot is for patron only and the north side parking lot is for employees only. Cornwell seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 5-2-1. Yeas: Cornwell, Brewer, Waldrop, Volkman and Fritch. Nays: Goins and Greene. Abstain: Stevens.

An application for a class “D” liquor license was requested by a group Noah Davis, Brett Bobe and Brady Schultz to the Off the Square restaurant at 810 12th Street in downtown Lawrenceville. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve the class “D” liquor license to Noah Davis, Brett Bobe and Brady Schultz to the Off the Square restaurant at 810 12th Street. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-1. Yeas: Cornwell, Brewer, Waldrop, Goins, Greene, Volkman and Fritch. Nays: Stevens.

Kayla Campbell asked the City could put a 4-way stop at 1300 Jefferson.

Mayor reported Governor J.B Pritzker has formally signed the legislation to transfer the National Guard Armory located in Lawrenceville to the City. Governor completed the action Friday, June 30 in Springfield. The armory was dedicated in October, 1939 and had served as a training facility until 2022. This move left the building vacant. Because the structure was kept in good condition, the city expressed an interest in taking it over. Mayor Courtney formed an advisory committee to help come up with uses for the building. The final step in the process was the formal acquisition of the property.

Robinson Signs is negotiating with the owner of the vacant lot located at 15th and State streets. There are no city ordinances that would prevent Robinson Signs from erecting an advertising sign at that location. Robinson Signs’ intent is to have the 8-foot by 16-foot sign and be fully compliant with all IDOT regulations. Prior to any construction on that site, Robinson Signs must obtain a building permit from the City Clerk.

Greene made a motion to adjourn. Fritch seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 8:10 p.m. The next city council meeting is August 10, 2023.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk