

**CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS**  
**NOVEMBER 9, 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, November 9, 2023 at the hour of 7 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Brewer, Cornwell, Fritch, Stevens, Waldrop, Volkman and Goins. Absent: Greene.

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

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of October 12, 2023. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of October, 2023. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Council had earlier received copies of the bills of the City's Sewer and Water Departments for October. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve paying the bills for October, 2023. Cornwell seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget is on line after 6 months of the 23-24 fiscal year.

Aaron Mefford from the Lawrence County Highway Department spoke to the Council about the Motor Fuel Tax program. Essentially, the City receives money from the State of Illinois for equipment provided for street maintenance. The City currently has roughly \$155,000 in an account. The plan allows the City to use the funds when necessary. Fritch motioned to accept the report concerning the Motor Fuel Tax program. Goins seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

The Council meeting went into Executive Session to review Executive Session minutes from the previous year and to discuss a potential land transfer. Time: 7:06 p.m. Upon the Council's return to the Chambers, Brewer motioned to bring the meeting back from Executive Session. Waldrop seconded. The motion passed on a voice vote. Time 7:34 p.m.

Mayor Courtney presented the Council with Ordinance 1593, which would set levy and assessments for corporate purposes of the City of Lawrenceville for the fiscal year from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024. The total appropriation would be \$6,226,000 with \$589,250 from the total amount collected from the tax levy. That amount is 4.8 percent higher than a year ago, with the increase going to the Police Pension Fund, according to requirements set by the State of Illinois. The remainder of the pension fund coverage would come from other funds. Brewer motioned to pass Ordinance 1593. Cornwell seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

Courtney presented Ordinance 1594, which would authorize the execution of the Illinois Municipal League/Risk Management Association minimum/maximum agreement in the pursuit of liability insurance for the City from Dec. 31, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2024. Waldrop motioned to pass Ordinance 1594 for the IML/RMA program. Goins seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

Mayor Courtney asked for a resolution to appropriate \$120,000 to HMG Engineering for a preliminary report as the City continues to proceed with a plan to build a new wastewater plant. The cost of the preliminary study was

\$120,000. Waldrop motioned to appropriate \$120,000 to HMG. Cornwell seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

Courtney informed the Council the cost of the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Water Project increased because of inflation during the long process of moving the project forward. He asked for \$138,916 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover the gap. Goins motioned to spend the ARPA funds. Fritch seconded. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Waldrop, Cornwell, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None. Absent: Greene.

Stevens spoke about a termite problem at the Lawrenceville City Park barn. An upright support on a door on the building's west side was in bad shape, he said. The cost of a new building could reach \$30,000, not including heating/cooling or plumbing. Also, a sink was a problem needing immediate upgrades. Courtney said the Council would take it under advisement.

Utilities Superintendent Tipsword reported Kieffer Bros. Construction had already made significant progress in the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Water Project after little more than a week. The project is expected to take nearly four months to complete. Tipsword also said K&M Pump would be on site to install a second pump at Toyota Boshoku on Nov. 10. By mid-November, Brotcke Well and Pump would be on site to initiate servicing on Well 15 and a smaller treatment on Well 12. Expectations were that Brotcke would complete the work within one week of arrival. Brotcke would also install a motor in Well 14.

Tipsword also reminded the Council about the audit report the previous month, which revealed a need to increase sewer rates. Those rates haven't been increased since 2007. An increase would assist the City in qualifying for federal grants concerning the project.

Chief White informed the Council he met with Mayor Courtney concerning stiffer penalties for ordinances violations. Essentially, White will meet with the Mayor and City Attorney Neal to develop a new approach to deal with nuisance violations.

City Hall is closed Nov. 10 for Veterans Day. The Veterans Day ceremony was scheduled for Nov. 11 at the memorial at Lawrence County Court House.

Courtney read a thank you note from Gay Kavanaugh concerning the Crop Walk in late September.

Waldrop motioned to adjourn. Stevens seconded. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Time: 8:01 p.m. The next meeting is December 14, 2023.

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Rodney Nolan, City Clerk