

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

MARCH 14, 2024

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, March 14, 2024 at the hour of 7 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Brewer, Waldrop, Goins, Stevens, Cornwell, Greene, Volkman.

Marla Taylor and Tammy Hill asked to speak to the Council.

Mayor Courtney added the discussion of grease interceptors within the city to the agenda.

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 February 8, 2024. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of February, 2024. Cornwell seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

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

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget is on budget after 10 months of the 23-24 fiscal year.

Marla Taylor relayed that she heard the Methodist Village has been sold and will be accepting illegal migrants because the State of Illinois will be forcing the city to house illegal migrants. Mayor Courtney said the information going around is false. The Methodist Village has been sold, and current owners don't intend to house illegal migrants.

Tammy Hill of 10925 Sand Ridge Rd asked the city to move her water meter closer to her house. The water main line is about 400 feet north of her house. To run the water meter closer to the house, the expense will be on the resident.

Mayor Courtney announced the appointment of Tandy Hughes to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Hughes is employed with Edward Jones and has served on the Armory advisory committee.

With Alderperson Heather Cornwell from Ward IV moving out of the area, a vacancy on the council is created. The mayor is required to name a replacement with Council approval. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Fritch made a motion. Greene seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The city received a quote from Heartland Heating and Air Conditioning, from Murphysboro, to fix to issues with the HVAC units at the Armory. The quote is \$41,150.00, and the City will use ARPA funds. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion; Stevens seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Goins, Brewer, Cornwell, Stevens, Volkman, Greene. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney said the Utilities Department would like to purchase a 2024 Ford F250 pickup at \$49,687.76 from Faulkner Automotive in Mt. Carmel, IL. The city will use funds through Motor Fuel Tax. Mayor Courtney

asked for questions or comments. Stevens made a motion. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Fritch, Brewer, Goins, Stevens, Cornwell, Greene, Waldrop, Volkman. Absent: none.

Mayor Courtney presented to the Council Ordinance #1602 regarding the paid leave for all workers act for the city. Effective January 1, 2024, the “Paid Leave for All Workers Act” requires an employer to provide certain paid leave to employees, unless the employer is subject to an existing municipal or county ordinance that requires the employer to provide any form of paid leave to employees – workers earn one (1) hour of paid leave for every 40 hours the employee works. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop made a motion to approve ordinance #1602. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Goins, Brewer, Cornwell, Stevens, Volkman, Greene. Nays: none.

Mayor Courtney presented to the Council Resolution #3-14-2024, which would declare the City of Lawrenceville with non-sanctuary status and opposition to the systematic transportation of illegal migrants and supported asylum seekers. Mayor Courtney stated a resolution is a non-binding declaration to make the municipality and public aware. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve resolution #3-14-2024. Volkman seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Goins, Brewer, Cornwell, Stevens, Volkman, Greene. Nays: none.

Brewer made a motion to go into Executive Session. Stevens seconded the motion. It passed on voice vote. Time was 7:30 p.m.

Goins made a motion to reconvene. Stevens seconded the motion. It passed on voice vote at 7:49 p.m.

Kieffer Brothers Construction, of Mount Carmel, continued to work on the main line in the 10th Street water project, resulting in a boost of water pressure to those homes. Kieffer Brothers will address the yard, street and sidewalk repairs will be ongoing the next few weeks. Kieffer Brothers Construction, with HLR Engineering, will begin work on the Lexington Avenue-12th Street upgrades in late April or early May.

Farm Credit anticipates beginning construction on July 1 for its facility at the State Street-West Haven Road intersection. Civil engineering work has begun, as well as preliminary efforts on utility line identification, survey work and dirt work.

Courtney informed the Council that Cemetery Superintendent Jack Campbell is off work until the end of March. Tom Helderma tendered his resignation, effective March 20. Grant McDonald is handling the cemetery department until Campbell returns to work. Mark Griggs is evaluating road improvements, including areas such as Ladner Lane and Village Estates subdivision.

Mayor and the Council understand that the ordinance on grease interceptors within the city is stricter than the State’s guideline on grease interceptors for restaurants. The city will decide to either amend the ordinance or go with the State guideline on grease interceptors. Whatever the end decision, the ordinance must be enforced for all restaurants the same way within the corporate limits. The Council decided to table the discussion until next meeting.

Lawrence County C.E.O will have their “Trade show” on May 1 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the high school in Lawrenceville. The Downtown Revitalization group event will be on June 8.

The second Annual Legacy Gala for the Lawrence County Memorial Hospital (LCMH) Endowment and Development Foundation will be hosted at the Armory, a date to be determined. The gala’s goal is to raise money for the Master Facilities Upgrade Project being undertaken by the medical facility located in Lawrenceville.

The Armory will host the Fish and Loaves event on April 23 and the Health Fair event by 4-H on April 28.

Applications for summer work are available through City Hall.

City Hall will be closed on March 29 for Good Friday.

Waldrop made a motion to adjourn. Goins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 8:21 p.m. The next city council meeting is April 11, 2024.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk