

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

JUNE 13, 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, June 13, 2024 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Fritch, Dunn, Greene, Brewer, Volkman, Waldrop and Goins. Absent: Stevens.

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

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of May 9, 2024. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 2024. Greene 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 May. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve paying the bills for May. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0-1. Yeas: Dunn, Goins, Brewer, Waldrop, Fritch, Greene, Volkman. Nays: None. Absent: Stevens.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget stood at 8.3% after 1 month of the 24-25 fiscal year. Mayor Courtney praised all City employees for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Courtney presented the first reading of Annual Appropriation for 2024-2025. Mayor Courtney stated the Annual Appropriation for 2024-2025 with amount of \$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.

There will be an appropriation public hearing at 6:45 p.m. prior to the Council meeting on July 11 at City Hall.

Aaron Mefford presented to the Council with a bid of \$106,055.57 from Ambraw Asphalt for materials to blacktop streets and alleys within the city. The money will be through Motor Fuel Tax. Mayor asked for questions or corrections. Waldrop made a motion to accept the bid from Ambraw Asphalt. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0-1. Yeas: Dunn, Volkman, Fritch, Greene, Brewer, Goins and Waldrop. Nays: None. Absent: Stevens.

Chief White advised the Council the City's police department procedure manual has not been addressed or updated for more than 20 years. The City would need compliant ordinances to use any new cameras. Also, the City would need to have clear procedures to protect the city and the officers. Lexipol is a public safety policy management company that creates procedures and provides computer based continuing education. Lexipol provides services to Mt. Carmel, Fairfield, Sumner, Bridgeport, Newton and others. The initial fee is about \$19,647,00 which will include 2 years of ordinances. This will get us to 2026. It is about \$5,000 per year for this service, and part of this fee is based on the number of officers. The Mayor asked for questions or corrections. Goins made a motion to accept the bid accept the bid from Lexipol. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 7-0-1. Yeas: Dunn, Volkman, Fritch, Greene, Brewer, Goins and Waldrop. Nays: None. Absent: Stevens.

During a meeting between the City Park Committee and the Park Board, it was suggested to construct a new park barn to replace the current structure that has surpassed its useful life. The preliminary plans call for a 50' x 50' building with a concrete floor, work station, office area and bathroom with rough estimates at \$80,000. The city has about \$129,000 left in the ARPA fund account, with approximately \$72,000 being appropriated for the

HMG engineering of the sewer plant. That leaves us around \$57,000. If the city uses those funds, the park board will pay the balance or up to \$25,000. If this is agreeable, the Park Board and Park Committee will need to meet next month to review and be prepared to recommend a design to the City Council for the July meeting.

The lawsuit to declare the old high school is ongoing. City attorney Mike Neal will update the council at the meeting. Junk man Fred Honaker said he made contract with the building owner to tear it down. It is unclear if this action will have an impact on our efforts to obtain that site.

A list of thirteen properties for building remediation/demolition; six houses has completed title searches and will be given notices. After that, a certified letter of notice to remediate will be sent to all owners and lien holder on record. A notice of city's intention must then be posted in the local newspaper for 3 consecutive weeks.

Kieffer Brothers Construction, with HLR Engineering, has completed work on the Lexington Avenue-12th Street upgrades. On Lexington, strips will be added along with contractor will return to repair yards and plant grass.

Sydni Harper, of the Lawrence County Health Department, was sent copies of a letter and our new grease trap interceptor ordinance. Once she completes a review, information will be sent to those impacted businesses.

Fireworks will be held on July 5 at the high school. Fireworks will be paid from gambling proceeds. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce will host an Independence Day parade earlier in the evening. Chief White noted the police department will adhere to all City and local ordinances towards illegal private fireworks within the city limits.

Wreaths across America will hold a car wash 10-2 on June 15.

City Hall will be closed on July 4th for Independence Day.

LHS cheerleaders will have a pickle ball tournament at the City Park on July 13.

Brewer made a motion to adjourn. Dunn seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 7:35 p.m. The next city council meeting is July 11, 2024.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk