

CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS
DECEMBER 12, 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, December 12, 2024 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Brewer, Waldrop, Dunn, Fritch, Greene, Stevens, 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.

The Council had earlier received copies of the minutes of the regular Council meeting of November 14, 2024. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of November, 2024. Waldrop 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 November. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Dunn made a motion to approve paying the bills for November, 2024. Goins seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Greene, Dunn, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget is on line after 8 months of the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Mayor Courtney noted several employees have taken flagger training and received wage increases per the contract. Also, several employees have taken first aid classes and received wage increases per the contract. Utilities Department employee Michael Hardiman is a journeyman machinist and received a wage increase to \$26.42 per hour. Utilities Department employee Stacy Tipword received a wage increase to \$25.00 per hour because of added responsibilities with computer software. These raises are retroactive to the date earned. Numerous employees cashed in accumulated compensatory time earned throughout the year.

Mitch Hardiek, Engineer in Training from Milano & Grunloh Engineers, informed the City about business activity eligible for Economic Development Programs (EDP) funding. EDP funding provides state assistance for roadway improvements or new construction that is necessary for access to new or expanding industrial, manufacturing or distribution companies. The Mayor said the City Council will review the information before making a future decision.

Mayor Courtney presented Ordinance 1608 to the Council. It would approve the final plat and restrictive covenant of River Run Estates subdivision, Phase II. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Brewer motioned to pass Ordinance 1608. Stevens seconded. It passed by roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Greene, Dunn, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney presented Ordinance 1609 to the Council. It would approve the sale and conveyance of certain municipal properties in the River Run Estates subdivision. The Mayor asked for any comments or questions. Dunn motioned to approve the ordinance. Goins seconded. It passed by roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Stevens, Brewer, Greene, Dunn, Volkman and Goins. Nays: None.

Builders of the Farm Credit would like move to utility poles on the south side of the property on West Haven Road to a more secure place on the property, essentially moving them away from the sidewalk. Farm Credit is asking the City to pay \$20,000 for each of the two poles moved. The City will use Motor Fuel Tax money. In return, Farm Credit would pay for the sidewalk on its property. The Mayor asked for any comments or questions. Goins motioned to approve the request. Fritch. It passed by roll call vote 7-1. Yeas: Waldrop, Fritch, Brewer, Greene, Dunn, Volkman and Goins. Nays: Stevens.

Volkman reported to the Council he's been in touch with residents of who would like to see golf carts allowed within the city limits. Mayor Courtney had concerns in the congested areas of James Street, 15th Street, State Street and West Haven Road. Stevens cited the Illinois Public Act 90-0683, saying no person operating a golf cart shall cross any highway, under the jurisdiction of the state. Stevens also cited Illinois state code, saying a golf cart may not be operated on a road without approvals of all units of government in control of the roadway. Volkman said the City could set limits on areas of use, speed and age of golf cart operators and passengers. Mayor Courtney assigned discussion to the Street and Alley Committee for further research.

Volkman also brought to discussion the idea of the return of city-wide cleanup. If the cleanup process would be instituted, Stevens said the City needs to enforce the guidelines of city-wide cleanup schedule. Volkman made a motion for city-wide cleanup, as has been done in the past. The Mayor refused to accept the motion and moved to Legislative Committee for further research and recommendation, research and possible action.

The general consensus of the Council was for the Mayor to work toward the transfer of the Lawrence County Sheriff K-9 to the Lawrenceville Police Department, pending the necessary agreements and union memorandum. The Mayor also said the South Lawrence Water District would like to work with the City for in a mutual backup plan. Details haven't yet been finalized.

Greene reminded the Council of the Wreaths Across America ceremony on Saturday, December 14 at the Lawrenceville Cemetery. She also made a call for volunteer help in laying the wreaths.

Volkman asked about status of City CD accounts. Clerk Nolan said he would diligently work to keep the CD rates at competitive levels.

Greene motioned to adjourn. Goins seconded. Time: 7:35 p.m. The next meeting is January 9, 2025.

Rodney Nolan, City Clerk