

**CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, ILLINOIS**

**JULY 14, 2022**

**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 14, 2022 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. The following Aldermen were present on roll call: Stevens, Fritch, Hayes, Greene, Brewer, Waldrop, Volkman and Blacketer.

Mayor Courtney called the meeting to order. Holcomb 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 June 09, 2022. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Waldrop made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 2022. 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. Brewer made a motion to approve paying the bills for June. Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Hayes, Brewer, Greene, Fritch, Stevens, Waldrop, Volkman and Blacketer.

Mayor Courtney reported the City's accounts to the Council. The city working budget stood at 15.7%, 1% over budget after 2 months of the 21-22 fiscal year due to the work in the park and the Pool. Mayor Courtney praised all City employees for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Courtney presented the second reading of Ordinance #1574 to the Council. Ordinance #1574 purposed the approval of the Annual Appropriation for 2022-2023. Mayor stated the Annual Appropriation will not increase with a projected amount of \$6,191,000.00. 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. Waldrop made a motion to approve Ordinance #1574. Stevens seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Blacketer, Volkman, Waldrop, Fritch, Hayes, Brewer Stevens and Greene.

Mayor Courtney presented to the Council Ordinance #1575 concerning an option agreement for the sale and conveyance of real estate in the Lawrenceville Industrial Park. Allison Township, was asking for an option to purchase a tract of 3.16 acres at the industrial park for \$11,000.00. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Fritch made a motion to approve the sale of land in the industrial park. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Waldrop, Brewer, Greene, Hayes, Volkman and Blacketer. Nays: None.

Mayor Courtney presented to the Council Ordinance #1576 concerning the City of Lawrenceville to regulate the development and use of solar energy systems within the city limits. Solar energy systems are increasing throughout the state, the city has established a zoning plan to regulate the use of land and buildings within its corporate boundaries. Mayor Courtney asked for questions or comments. Fritch made a motion to approve the regulation of solar energy systems within city limits. Fritch seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote 8-0. Yeas: Fritch, Stevens, Waldrop, Brewer, Greene, Hayes, Volkman and Blacketer. Nays: None.

The Council discuss to acquire seven burn-out houses that are still standing in the city. The reasoning for the city to acquire properties and to demolish them are: take down the 2 story houses to keep neighboring properties safe; take down houses near Wishnick Park and take down houses near city entrances. The city attorney will begin the process of contacting land and property owners to notify them of the intervention. Property owners

have 30 days to respond before the city can take action. The properties will go up for bid once they are cleaned up by the city which must be done within 120 days of the city taking ownership of the properties.

Courtney asked the Insurance Committee to meet to discuss some specific issues on August 2.

A car show will be held in memory of Melissa Volkman on August 28 from 1-6 p.m.

Hayes made a motion to adjourn. Fritch seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. Time: 7:49 p.m. The next city council meeting is August 11, 2022.

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Rodney Nolan, City Clerk