

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023- 7:00 P.M.**

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00pm by Mayor Cedar in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, Michigan, 48079.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

OATH OF OFFICE was administered to newly elected officials by Clerk Sturdy.

PRESENT: Mayor Cedar, Members Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATION: James T. Downey, Kane, Clemons, Joachim and Downey; Morgan Hustek, Deputy Clerk; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk/Interim City Superintendent.

AUDIENCE: There were 9 people in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA – Laporte moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda item A. as presented.

A. City Council Minutes of December 19, 2022 Regular & Closed Meetings: Approved

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution (23-01) Fireworks Suspension- A RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND ENFORCEMENT OF CITY CODE SECTION 30-103(B) WITH RESPECT TO THE IGNITION, DISCHARGE, OR USE OF COMMERCIAL FIREWORKS IN PALMER PARK ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2023 AT DUSK PURSUANT TO A ST. CLAIR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT. A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of St. Clair adopted at a regular meeting of said Council held at City Hall located at 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, Michigan, on the 3rd day of January, 2023 at 7:00 PM. **WHEREAS**, Public Act 256 of 2011, the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, MCL Section 28.451, as amended, allows municipal governments to legislate restrictions concerning the ignition, discharge, and use of commercial fireworks within their limits; and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair has availed itself of the right established by MCL Section 28.451 *et seq.* to limit the ignition, discharge, and use of commercial fireworks by the adoption of Code Section 30-103(b); and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair reserves the right to suspend the provisions of Code Section 30-103(b) by resolution of City Council when it determines that doing so is in the public interest; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council will approve a special event permit at its January 3, 2023 regular meeting for the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce's Icy Bazaar, to be held on January 19-22, 2023; and **WHEREAS**, the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce's wishes to add a fireworks display as part of its Icy Bazaar on January 21; and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair determines that a temporary suspension of the limitations established by Code Section 30-103(b) as to the ignition, discharge, and use of commercial fireworks in Palmer Park for this St. Clair Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event is in the public interest and serves an important civic purpose in encouraging commerce in the City so affected by the Coronavirus outbreak; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of St. Clair **RESOLVES** to suspend enforcement of Code Section 30-103(b) as to the ignition, discharge, and use of commercial fireworks in Palmer Park on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at dusk.

Kuffa moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-01) as presented.

Ayes: Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt, Cedar

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

City Superintendent – Update provided on 2nd street review and reported on major 2022 projects, roads and grants.

City Attorney- None

City Departments- Report heard from Chief Raker on the Citizens Police Academy program. Applications are now available for this new free program. Report heard from Deputy Clerk Hustek on Business license renewals and thanked Interim City Superintendent Sturdy on her leadership. Mayor Cedar thanked Deputy Clerk Hustek for her extra administrative services.

Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS

Selection of Mayor Pro Tem- The City Council was asked to select from amongst its members the Mayor Pro Tem, who will act in the absence, disability or unavailability of the mayor as required under Section 2.02 of the City Charter. The Mayor nominated Mike LaPorte. There were no other nominations for the position.

Volz moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to declare nominations closed for the office of Mayor Pro Tem, and cast a unanimous ballot for Member LaPorte to fill the position.

Approve 2023 Boards and Commissions Appointments- Mayor Cedar reported recommendations for appointments of residents to various city authorities, boards, and commissions as follows:

Building Commission- Reappoint Chris Fisher for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2025.

Dangerous Buildings- Reappoint Rick Jefferson and Phil Porte both to a one-year term expiring December 31, 2023. **Planning Maintenance Board of Appeals**- Reappoint Delos Boulier to a one-year term expiring December 31, 2023. **Historic District Commission**- Reappoint Dan Lockwood and Delos Boulier both for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2025. **Historical Commission**

– Reappoint Carol Buogenoy, Chrissy Gorzen and Chuck Homberg each for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Library Board** – Reappoint Mary Ellen Dingeman for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025 and Kathy McConnell, Friends of the St. Clair Library Representative, for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2023. **Planning Commission**- Reappoint Terry Beier and Dan McCartney both for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Recreation Commission**-

Lisa Whittlesey for three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **St. Clair Area Fire Authority**- Appoint Butch Kindsvater for a six-year term expiring December 31, 2028 and Mike LaPorte for a one-year term as Council Representative. **Zoning Board of Appeals**- Reappoint Jim Bier, Diane Ives and JoAnn Westrick each for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments as recommended.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments as recommended.

Approve Special Event Permit for St. Clair Chamber of Commerce- Council received a memorandum from Police Chief Raker requesting that Council approve a special event permit for the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce Icy Bazaar event January 19-22, including a Fireworks display January 21, 2023. The applicant has complied with the necessary requirements of the Special Events Ordinance and issuance of the permit is respectfully recommended. A Lease of Palmer Park to conduct the fireworks display and local approval of the public fireworks display is included in the approval request.

Kuffa moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve the special event permit as recommended.

Ayes: Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Cedar

Nays: None

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – December 21, 2022

Check register listing the bills for the period ending December 21, 2022 (check numbers 55995-56046) in the amount of \$411,420.05 was presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payment of December 21, 2022 Claims and Accounts as presented.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – None

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Cedar and Council recognized Interim City Superintendent Sturdy for her extra administrative responsibilities & announced Quentin Bishop's first day is January 9, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:14pm.

Morgan Hustek, Deputy Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor