

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 17, 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.

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

ABSENT: Member Kuffa (excused)

ADMINISTRATION: Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; James T. Downey, Kane, Clemons, Joachim and Downey; Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk.

AUDIENCE: There were 16 people in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA – LaPorte moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda items A., B., C. and D. as presented.

- A. City Council Minutes of April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approved
- B. Cemetery Board of Trustees Minutes of January 24 & March 7, 2023 Special and Regular meetings: Received
- C. Recreation Commission Minutes of January 16 & February 20, 2023: Received
- D. Housing Commission Minutes of February 21, 2023 Meeting: Received

PROCLAMATION

Proclamation Designating April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day- Mayor Cedar declared April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day in the City of St. Clair.

PRESENTATION

Water Rate Study-Municipal Analytics-John Kaczor, Municipal Analytics, presented the project goals and objectives of the study, introduced new rate setting software, explained operating and capital expenditures, including the current water treatment plant improvements project and how to cover those expenses and customer growth impacts. Township contracts are currently under review and are not part of the model. The current rate schedule is a perfectly acceptable structure for both water and sewer rates however a 3% increase for sewer and a 5% increase for water rates were recommended to cover forecasted usage and operating expenses. Overall, despite substantial new debt service associated with water treatment plant and anticipated sewer treatment plant improvements, those recommended rate increases are modest.

2021--2022 Annual Audit Presentation-Maner Costerisan- Jordan Smith, Maner Costerisan, summarized audit findings with a review of revenues, expenditures and current fund balance. Several fThe auditor concluded that all financial statements were presented fairly and in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework with a clean, unmodified opinion. The city has a healthy fund balance. General Fund, Proprietary funds (sewer, water, harbor) and Debt Service were reviewed. The management letter included proposed journal entries for OPEB and Pensions. The audit was submitted to the state in a timely manner. The full audit is available upon request.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution (23-12) Inches Drain expenditures- AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS IN EXCESS OF STATUTORY MAINTENANCE LIMIT INCHES DRAIN WHEREAS, the St. Clair County Drain Commissioner has advised the City of St. Clair City Council that, pursuant to Section 196 of the Michigan Drain Code (MCL 280.196), an inspection has been made of the Inches Drain and it has been determined, as a result of the inspection, that certain maintenance must be performed upon the drain; and WHEREAS, the Drain Commissioner has the authority to expend Five Thousand and no/100 (\$5000.00) dollars per mile in any one (1) year for the maintenance of the drain, and where it is estimated that expenditures in excess of Five Thousand and no/100 (\$5000.00) dollars per mile are necessary, those amounts may not be expended until approved by Resolution of the governing body of each township, city and village affected by more than twenty (20%) percent of the cost; and WHEREAS, the Drainage Board estimates that the cost of the maintenance of the Inches Drain will be approximately One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and no/100 (\$149,900.00) dollars, which constitutes One Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred and no/100 dollars (\$144,900.00) in excess of the authorized Five Thousand and no/100 (\$5000.00) per mile. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City of St. Clair, pursuant to Section 196(5) of the Drain Code, authorizes the Drain Commissioner to expend funds for the maintenance and repair of the Inches Drain in excess of Five Thousand and no/100 (\$5000.00) dollars per mile for a two year period, to the extent that the drain fund for the Drain contains insufficient funds for the payment of costs incurred for the maintenance or repair of the Drain, the Drain Commissioner is authorized to levy a special assessment, as allowed by law.

Volz moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to adopt the Resolution as presented.

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

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

City Superintendent – Report heard on new employees, Water Treatment Plant project update, new Cross Connection Plan, Carney Drive resurfacing schedule & interest in City owned property.

City Attorney- None

City Departments- Report heard on annual Joint meeting of City Council, Planning Commission and ZBA was held 4/12/23, Tree giveaway 4/20-4/21 and expected Election supply purchases.

Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative- Recreation Commission Council representative Watt and Recreation Director, Trice Hawkins, invite the public for a town hall to Recreate Klecha Park April 18 @ 6:30pm at Pine Shores Golf Club.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS

Award bid for 3rd street intersection- This project is a reconstruct of the 3rd and Adams intersection. LaPorte moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to approve proposal from Murray Underground in the amount of \$53,380.00.

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

Nays: None

Award bid for 2023 local road resurfacing- This project includes resurfacing of Robinson (6th-10th), N 10th Waterloo (9th-10th), Baird, Royal, 2nd Street, N. Delano, S. Delano and Victoria Court.

Paul moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to table awarding the proposal in order to hold a special meeting to discuss road projects.

Ayes; Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler

Nays: LaPorte, Cedar

Paul moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED (voice vote), to schedule a special meeting Tuesday, April 25 @6pm to discuss road projects.

Award bid for Municipal Building roof repair-

Gottler moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve proposal from Reasonable Roofing in the amount of \$88,168.00.

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

Nays: None

Award bid for Historical Museum roof repair-

Volz moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve proposal from Reasonable Roofing in the amount of \$34,455.00.

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

Nays: None

Award bid for Palmer Park Boardwalk maintenance

Cedar moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to approve proposal from Maynard & Sons in the amount of \$8,000.00

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

Nays: None

Approve St. Clair Recreation Department Summer Event schedule- Council received a memorandum from Police Chief Raker requesting that Council approve a special event permit from St. Clair Recreation Department for their summer concerts and events.

The applicant has complied with the necessary requirements of the Special Events Ordinance and issuance of the permit is respectfully recommended.

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

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – April 6 & April 13, 2023

Check register listing the bills for the period ending April 6, 2023 (check numbers 56340-56599) in the amount of \$234,537.53 for the period ending April 13, 2023 (check numbers 56600-56649) in the amount of \$192,538.96 were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of April 6 & April 13, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Comments heard from Dana Corp representatives to request CBH be put on the list for repair.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

ADJOURNMENT at 8:42pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor