

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 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, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt

ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATION: Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; Kevin Markel, Department of Public Works; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy; City Clerk

AUDIENCE: There were 11 people in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA-** Kuffa moved, LaPorte seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda items A., B. and C. as presented.

- A. City Council Minutes of October 2, 2023 Special & Regular Meetings: Approved
- B. Housing Commission Minutes of August 15, 2023 Meeting: Received
- C. Cemetery Board of Trustees Minutes of September 5, 2023: Received

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Ordinance Adoption (2023-04) Cats- **TO AMEND CHAPTER 10 “ANIMALS,” BY REVISING ARTICLE I, SECTION 4 “LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OF DOGS” TO ADD “CATS “ AND ADDING ARTICLE III “CATS.” THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR ORDAINS: SECTION 1.AMENDMENT.** Chapter 10 of the City Code is hereby amended to read as follows: **ARTICLE I.—IN GENERAL. Sec. 10-4—LIMITATIONS ON NUMBERS OF DOGS AND CATS** (a) No person who resides within the city shall own, possess, shelter, harbor, keep, or have custody of more than three dogs and ~~of~~ **three** cats, which are over six months old on the same premises, except where a person has obtained a kennel license from the state as provided for in Act. No. 339 of Public Acts of 1919, as amended, and conforms to all applicable zoning regulations of the city. (b) Enforcement of subsection (a) shall not apply to any animals registered pursuant to Section 10-29 on, or before, October 1, 2016. **ARTICLE III.—CATS** Sec. 10-36. - Keeping or harboring cat, interpretation. Any person allowing any cat habitually to remain and to be lodged or fed at his house, store building, enclosure or premises shall be considered as harboring or keeping the cat within the meaning of this article. Sec. 10-37. - Officers designated for enforcement of article; investigation of complaints. All members of the city police force and sworn officers, are charged with the enforcement of this article. It shall be the duty of the police officers to investigate complaints made and to determine whether or not such complaints are founded upon fact. Sec. 10-38. - Penalty for violations of article. A violation of this article shall be a misdemeanor as set forth by [section 1-12](#)(b) of the City Code; however, in the discretion of the investigating officer, a first offense under this article may be deemed a municipal civil infraction. Sec. 10-39. - Running at-large prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person owning, possessing or harboring any cat to allow or permit such cat to run at-large within the limits of the city Sec. 10-40. - Certain duties imposed on owner. (a) No person owning or having custody or control of a cat shall knowingly, or through failure to exercise due care or control, permit the cat to defecate on public property or on private property without the consent of the property owner or occupant thereof. (b) A person owning or having custody or control of a cat shall

be responsible for the removal of any excrement eliminated by such cat on public property or private property of another without consent of the property owner or occupant thereof, and it shall be a violation of this section for the person owning or having custody or control of the cat to fail to remove or provide for the removal in a sanitary manner of such excrement before taking the cat from the immediate area where such excretion occurred. **SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.** This Ordinance and each of the various parts, sections, subsections, sentences, phrases, and clauses hereof are declared to be severable. If any part, section, subsection, sentence, phrase, or clause is determined to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is hereby provided that the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect. **SECTION 3. REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.** Any and all Ordinances of the City of St. Clair or any parts or provisions thereof, to the extent that they are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of the within Ordinance, are hereby expressly repealed. **SECTION 4. RATIFICATION.** All other provisions of the code of Ordinances of the City of St. Clair, Michigan except as herein modified or amended are hereby expressly ratified and affirmed. **SECTION 5. PUBLICATION.** This Ordinance shall be published in accordance with the terms, provisions, and requirements of the City Charter of the City of St. Clair, Michigan, and in accordance with and to the extent required by the statutes of the State of Michigan. **SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall take immediate effect upon publication in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the City Charter of the City of St. Clair.

Kuffa moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to table the Ordinance (2023-04) as presented. Discussion included whether or not to include a specific number of cats allowed in custody and who would enforce the new rule.

Ayes: Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Cedar  
Nays: None

#### **ORDINANCE TABLED**

Resolution (23-24) Support TAP grant application for Cox Road Sidewalk- **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT COX ROAD SIDEWALK TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT APPLICATION LOCAL MATCH FUNDING WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair plans to apply to the Michigan Department of Transportation for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant to construct a sidewalk along Cox Road from Clinton Avenue to Vine Street at an 80% grant and 20% local match; and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair has identified Cox Road as a critical gap connection within the City's pedestrian infrastructure network due to the close proximity of St. Clair High School; and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair Council supports proceeding with the TAP grant application for funding of the Cox Road Sidewalk; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of St. Clair does hereby authorize \$59,860.00 toward a 20% grant local match of the construction costs; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of St. Clair would be responsible for all costs related to engineering design, construction observation and administration, permit fees and any franchise utility relocations required to construct this project; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the funds will be payable out of the City of St. Clair 2023-2024 General Fund Budget, and other sources of funding as available, upon the project engineer's certification that the project has been completed to Transportation Alternatives Program grant specifications.

Volz moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-24) as presented.

Ayes: Volz, Watt, Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Cedar  
Nays: None

#### **RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

#### **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**City Superintendent** – None  
**City Attorney**- None

**City Departments-** Special meeting of the Planning Commission 10/18/23 @7pm regarding a special use request for 1100 S. Carney.

**Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative-** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS** – October 5 & October 12, 2023

Check register listing the bills for the period ending October 5, 2023 (check numbers 57766-57829) in the amount of \$3,217,068.58 and for the period ending October 12, 2023 (check numbers 57830-57887) in the amount of \$160,545.68 were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of October 5 & October 12, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** – Question asked on M29 road closure update. Per MDOT, lane shifts should occur next week. Project should be done by mid-November. There will be striping on M29 once the entire MDOT project is over.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Special events can be found on [stclairontheriver.com](http://stclairontheriver.com).

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:38pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor