

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 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: Bob Bieth, DPW Supervisor; Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; Kevin Markel, Department of Public Works; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy; City Clerk

AUDIENCE: There were 10 people in attendance.

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

A. City Council Minutes of October 16, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approved

B. Golf Commission Minutes of September 12, 2023 Meeting: Received

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution (23-35) Early Voting Site- **A RESOLUTION OF THE EARLY VOTING PLAN FOR STATEWIDE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH THE EARLY VOTING SITE FOR THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR WHEREAS**, Michigan electors adopted Proposal 2022-2 to amend the Michigan Constitution on November 8, 2022 which in part requires each municipality to have at least one early voting site for statewide and federal elections to accommodate early voting; and **WHEREAS**, early voting must consist of a minimum of nine consecutive days of in-person voting starting the second Saturday before the election up to and including the Sunday prior to the election, with eight hours of in-person voting each day; and **WHEREAS**, the Michigan Secretary of State offers three options to municipalities to accommodate voters for the nine consecutive days of early voting including to enter into a County agreement and authorize the County to conduct early voting, enter into a municipal agreement and jointly conduct early voting with one or more other municipalities in the same County or offer early voting as a single municipality; and **WHEREAS**, St. Clair County is not currently offering to administer early voting with an Early Voting Center, and as the 2024 election season will be the first implementation of Early Voting in the State of Michigan, the St. Clair Election Commission determined the best practice for City of St. Clair will be to conduct early voting as a single municipality; and **WHEREAS**, on September 27, 2023 the Early Voting Plan for the City of St. Clair was approved by the Election Commission and filed with the County Clerk; and **WHEREAS**, the Early Voting Plan includes all required items listed in MCL 168.720e as amended by PA 81 of 2023; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of St. Clair City Council authorizes the City Clerk and authorized assistants to implement the Early Voting Plan and establish the Early Voting Site which includes nine consecutive days of early voting starting the second Saturday before the election to the Sunday prior to the election and establishes one Early Voting site for all 3 wards at the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive and sets the standard time on each day to be 7:30am-4:30pm.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-35) as presented.

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

Nays: None

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

## REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

**City Superintendent** – Report heard to acknowledge staff accomplishments and inform of emergency valve repair.

**City Attorney**- Report heard on Cat Ordinance revision update.

**City Departments**- Report heard on election dates, early voting implementation, business license renewals, intent to participate with Wreaths Across America in Hillside Cemetery and 2024 meeting schedule. Offices closed 11/10/23.

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -None

## NEW BUSINESS

Approve special events application for St. Clair Chamber of Commerce winter events- Council received a memorandum from Police Chief Raker requesting that Council approve a special event permit for the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce to host several winter events including the Celebration of Lights 11/17/23-1/31/24, Christmas Market TBD and the Icy Bazaar 1/17/24-1/22/24 which includes a fireworks display 1/20/24. Included with the application is the lease for the north end of Palmer Park where the fireworks display will be conducted and the public fireworks display local government permit application. 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 special event permit application, lease and permit as recommended.

Approve purchase of CAT 926 3RQ+ Front Loader-

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve purchase of CAT 926 3RQ+ front loader from Michigan CAT in the amount of \$203,664.81.

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

Nays: None

**CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS** – October 19, October 25 & November 2, 2023

Check register listing the bills for the period ending October 19, 2023 (check numbers 57888-57943) in the amount of \$359,676.96, for the period ending October 25, 2023 (check numbers 57944-57986) in the amount of \$363,837.17, for the period ending November 2, 2023 (check numbers 57987-58021) in the amount of \$99,845.02 and the credit card register were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of October 19, October 25 and November 2, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** – Questions asked about location of industrial park water tower and update requested on Goffe street water lines. Questions asked on bid timeline for Goffe water main.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Special events: Arts, Crafts and Vendor show 11/11/23 9am-3pm at Pine Shores Golf Course; Lighted Santa Parade 11/17/23 @6pm. Talking points included Hampton Manor, Clinton Ave bikepath and 2024 meeting schedule.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:24pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor