

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 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 as led by Cub Scout Troop 261.

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 21 people in attendance.

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

A. City Council Minutes of November 20, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approved

B. Recreation Commission Minutes of October 16, 2023 Meeting: Received

PRESENTATION

East China School District Operating Mills Renewal -Suzanne Cybulla and Angie Gleason presented information on the proposal to be placed on the 2/27/24 ballot. It only affects 2nd homes, agriculture and businesses but per Proposal A all voters must vote on it. The millage equates to about 30% of operating revenue. It is a 9-year renewal.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS- None

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

City Superintendent – Update provided on the CRE revocation process for 301 N. 6th Street. Discussion expected 12/18 to update and confirm how much, if any, exempted taxes can be recouped. The City entered a contract for an audit on telecommunications services. Update provided on storm and sewer investigation on Vine and N. Riverside. Recently a smoke test was conducted that indicated suspected illegal hookups. Letters will be mailed to applicable properties of those results and stating a remedy is required.

City Attorney- None

City Departments- Chief Raker reiterated snow emergencies can be called by the Chief, DPW Supervisor or City Superintendent but, per Ordinance, is automatic when there is an accumulation of 4 or more inches of snow or ice.

Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative- Councilmember Watt, Recreation Representative, announced County Parks and Recreation approved a grant of \$30k towards the ReCreate Klecha Park project and another exciting announcement is coming soon. The project hopes to break ground in Spring 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Purchase Agreement for property in the Industrial Park-

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve purchase agreement contingent of an approved lot/split, in the amount of \$30,000. All the fees are reimbursable via the St. Clair LDFA.
Ayes: Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Cedar
Nays: None

Approve Authorities, Boards and Commission appointments-

Mayor Cedar recommended the following reappointments: **Board of Cemetery Trustees-** Reappoint Betty Fryer, Nancy Germain and Larry Silver, with a residency waiver, each for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Board of Review-** Reappoint Blake Eitniew and Thomas Jalosky each to a one year term expiring December 31, 2024. **Building Commission-** Reappoint Delos Boulier, Richard Jefferson and Chad Muldermans each for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. Appoint Paul Wade for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Dangerous Buildings-** Reappoint Rick Jefferson and Phil Porte each to a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024 and Mitchell Kuffa, Jr for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Golf Commission-** Reappoint Peter Tinsey, St. Clair Lions Representative, for a one- year term expiring December 31, 2024. **Harbor Commission-** Reappoint James Harkins and Mike Meredith each for a three year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Historical Commission** – Reappoint Timothy Backhurst and Frederick Miller, both with residency waivers, each to a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Library Board** – Reappoint Ruth Bauer for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Planning Commission-** Reappoint Butch Kindsvater for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026. **Recreation Commission-** Reappoint Dolores Toepel and Douglas Vernier each for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
Kuffa moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments, with residency waivers where applicable, as recommended.

Approve State and Local Representation appointments-

Mayor Cedar recommended the following appointments: Quentin Bishop, for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024, as the official representative to EDA, SEMCOG, MNDC and to attend the MML Annual Convention; Annette Sturdy for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024, as the alternate to EDA and for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024, as the alternate to attend the MML Annual Convention; Mike LaPorte for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024, as the alternate to SEMCOG and Dan Casey, for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024, as the MNDC alternate.

Volz moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments as recommended.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – November 22 & 30, 2023

Check register listing the bills for the period ending November 22, 2023 (check numbers 58083-58094) in the amount of \$172,145.82 and for the period ending November 30, 2023 (check numbers 58095-58146) in the amount of \$170,479.03 & credit card register were presented for Council review. LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of November 22, November 30, 2023 Claims and Accounts and credit card register as presented.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Comments heard on the Clinton Ave bikepath retaining wall, service line locations and driveway concerns.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Cedar thanked Sue Daniels for Santa parade. Special events: Santa visits 12/9 & 12/10 11a-4p @War Water Brewery

ADJOURNMENT at 7:30pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor