

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 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, Volz, Watt

ABSENT: Members Kuffa, Paul (both excused)

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

AUDIENCE: There were 8 people in attendance.

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

A. City Council Minutes of December 4, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approved

B. Housing Commission draft Minutes of November 14, 2023 Meetings: Received

PRESENTATION

Rotary Club of St. Clair Klecha Park Storybook Walk Project- Diane Ives, St. Clair Rotary member, presented a proposal to install a storybook project in Klecha Park. Pedestals holding pages of a book will be installed along a walk way. The cost of about \$7000 which is expected to be covered entirely by private donations. It is an activity that allows children to walk and learn at the same time in a fun, educational and active way.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution (23-36) 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 20, 2024 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 18th day of December, 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 approved a special event permit at its November 6, 2023 regular meeting for the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce's Icy Bazaar, to be held on January 19-21, 2024; and **WHEREAS**, the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce's wishes to add a fireworks display as part of its Icy Bazaar on January 20; 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 20, 2024 at dusk.

Volz moved, LaPorte seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-36) as presented.

Ayes: LaPorte, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Cedar

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

City Superintendent – Report heard on Retirement Corrective Action Plan approval, project updates on Clinton Ave bikepath & local roads, Goffe water main replacement design, Belle Maison and Hampton Manor development, Cox sidewalk TAP grant, AEW observation services proposal and upcoming expected Lot/Split in the Industrial Park.

City Attorney- None

City Departments- Report heard on Wreaths Across America 12/16/23 ceremony in Hillside Cemetery & new Absent Voter drop box installed at City Hall. City office closures 12/25, 12/26, 1/1/24 & 1/2/24. The January City Council meetings will be January 8 and 22, 2024.

Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative-

Cemetery Board of Trustees Councilmember Representative Gottler stated the Cemetery Board of Trustees participated in a wreath laying ceremony December 16, 2023. Special thanks to Board members, Logan Mahn, Katherine Huffmaster, Mary Lou Silver, Bob Bieth for wreath delivery and staging assistance and Chuck Currier at Silks Flower Shop for sash donation. For more information visit wreathscrossamerica.org.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Authorities, Boards and Commission appointments-

Mayor Cedar recommended the following reappointments: **Board of Review-Reappoint** Judith Shaune and Elizabeth Schweihofer each to a one- year term to expire December 31, 2024; **DDA-Reappoint** Tim Burns for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2024 and reappoint Bill Kauffman and Roy Klecha each for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026;**Historic District Commission**- Reappoint Edward Neiman, with residency waiver, and Annette Sturdy, each to a three-year term expiring December 31, 2026.

LaPorte moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments, with residency waivers where applicable, as recommended.

Approve award for Wastewater Treatment Plan sludge line replacement-

LaPorte moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to approve award of \$157,300 (\$143,000 w/10% contingency) to Murray Underground Systems as recommended by AEW.

Ayes: Volz, Watt, Gottler, LaPorte, Cedar

Nays: None

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – December 7 & 14, 2023

Check register listing the bills for the period ending December 7, 2023 (check numbers 58147-58204) in the amount of \$274,932.21 and for the period ending December 14, 2023 (check numbers 58205-58261) in the amount of \$332,739.91 were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Gottler seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of December 7 & December 14, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Concerns heard on Clinton Ave bikepath retaining wall.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Waste Management garbage collection delayed to Friday the next 2 weeks due to holiday schedule. January 2024 Council meetings 1/8/24 & 1/22/24. Tony Pergitone, DPW, earned S-3 license.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:41pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor