

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL  
Or Via WebEx Conference Call  
December 14, 2020**

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois was held Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Jeff Grove presiding with proper notices being duly and continuously posted.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**Present**-Mayor Grove, Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane

**Remote Attendance:** Alderman Demes, Alderman Herndon

**Excused Absence:** None

A quorum was present.

Note: City Clerk Carrie Brown and Attorney Jim McPhedran attended remotely.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held November 30, 2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

**PETITIONS**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to grant the request from Ameren Illinois to break ground at 902 Second Street to change failed underground cable in alley. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to grant the request of Trinity Catholic Academy for a 2021 Raffle License. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to grant the request of the Better Fishing Association of Northern Illinois for a 2021 Raffle License. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL: AYE:** Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Jeppson, Crane

**NAY:** None **Absent:** Alderman Herndon **Abstain:** Alderman Lavieri

**Motion Carried 6-0 (one abstention)**

**For the record, Alderman Herndon was present remotely at the time of the roll call, but was unable to be heard for some of the agenda items in the early portion of the meeting.**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to grant the request of the La Salle Promotional and Advisory Committee for a 2021 Raffle License. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL: AYE:** Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane

NAY: None Absent: Alderman Herndon Abstain: Alderman Reynolds

**Motion Carried 6-0 (one abstention)**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to grant the request of Borderline DNS, LLC for a 2021 Raffle License. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL:** AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane

**NAY:** None Absent: Alderman Herndon Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 7-0**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to refer the request of Brian Bergeron for a "No Trucks Allowed" road sign on Fourth Street near Central Street to the Streets, Alleys and Traffic Committee. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Bacidore asked if the petitioner was present and they were not. In Alderman Bacidore's opinion, he could not see how a semi-truck could get through there if they wanted to. Brief discussion followed with Alderman Bacidore indicating that it is even difficult for a pick-up truck to get through that location as it is similar to an alley. Mayor Grove stated that since a concern was brought forward, the request should be referred.

In regard to the next petition on the agenda, Alderman Reynolds stated that this location is at the furthest end of Rockwell Road to the west. He said there are some street lights on Rockwell Road, but near this location it is very dark. He was in favor of installing a light.

Petitioner Jim Jakse stated that there are street lights except on the last two blocks of the west end of the street and the roadway is very dark. Keegan Jakse confirmed he owns the last house on the west end of Rockwell Road just east of I-39 and stated that there is an existing pole at the location. Mayor thanked the petitioners for being present.

It was moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to refer the request of Lynn, Jim and Keegan Jakse for a street light across from 2084 Rockwell Road to the Streets, Alleys and Traffic Committee. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to refer the request from Tammie Treadway to convert the intersection of 24<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Vincent Avenue from a two-way stop to a four-way stop. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Lavieri asked Chief Smudzinski how many accidents we have had at the intersection under consideration. Chief Smudzinski stated that he mainly receives complaints about the obstructed view from vehicles heading east when edging out to see if there is on-coming traffic from the north. He said there is a telephone pole, signs for the Paramount Club and in the summer high grass that affects the view. Chief Smudzinski stated that accidents do not seem to be the problem as people are cautious as they edge forward before moving on to St. Vincent Avenue, but the obstructed view account for most of the complaints he has received. Deputy Clerk Bader said in the IDOT correspondence included in the aldermen's packets this issue is addressed to some degree as well. Alderman Crane said there were a couple of complaints about the east side of the intersection facing north concerning cars parked in the right-of-way, Chief said if they get calls of that nature, they address them and resolve them.

**Chairman Bacidore announced a meeting of the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee on December 28, 2020 immediately following the 6 p.m. Finance Meeting at which time all three of the above petitions will be considered.**

### **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Monthly Police Income Report for October 2020 showing total fees collected of \$6,292.65. Each and every alderman has a copy.  
Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept and place on file the Treasurer's Report for October 2020 showing total cash balances in La Salle State Bank of \$9,853,406.89 and in Hometown National Bank of \$4,342,976.61. Each and every alderman has a copy.  
Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Grove thanked Mrs. Pierson for her time and service on the Library Board as well as running Pierson's Bakery for many years. He also commented that Mary Pryde is an influential person in the community and good volunteer. She and her husband own La Salle Body and Fender. He said that Mary comes with a finance background which will be helpful to the board.

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to appoint Mary Pryde to the La Salle Public Library board to replace Carolyn Pierson until May 2022.

**ROLL CALL:** AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Crane  
NAY: None Absent: Alderman Herndon Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 7-0**

**Appointments: Mary Pryde until May 2022.**

Mayor thanked Alderman Jeppson who is the council's liaison to the Library Board. Mayor Grove said he and the rest of the board did a nice job trying to find good fits for the board.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Grove reminded the public that leaf, yard waste, and branch pick-ups have ended for the season and will resume in the spring.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Note: Alderman Herndon was able to regain audio and vote remotely for the remainder of the meeting.**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept the 2021 Schedule of Regular Meetings of the La Salle City Council and its Committees. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL:** AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 8-0**

December 14, 2020

4

Mayor Grove expressed his appreciation to all who have shown support for the Celebration of Lights. He thanked Chief Smudzinski and his department for assistance with traffic control, as well as Superintendent Jeff Bumgarner, Park Director Lynda Kasik, Beth Ketter, Brian Brown, the public works staff as well as the community. Mayor Grove indicated there has already been interest shown for 50 new displays for next year.

Mayor also thanked the community for their support of our La Salle businesses.

Mayor also thanked our Police Department for their hard work and dedication to the Officer Santa program.

### **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

Alderman Ptak pointed out that the following three Resolutions are done as a housekeeping measure to remove the bonds from the tax levy. The Library Bond will come off next year. He continued by saying that the City should be proud that they have not taken out a bond since 2012. The bond list is getting shorter and that was a goal that was set eight years ago that we are achieving. With that in mind it was moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve and place on file **Resolution 202015**: A Resolution Abating principal and interest on \$695,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2010 (Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds) of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax year 2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL**: AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 8-0**

**Resolution 202015: A resolution abating principal and interest on \$695,000 Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2010, (Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds) of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax year 2020.**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve and place on file **Resolution 202016**: A Resolution abating principal and interest on \$1,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012A, of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax levy year 2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL**: AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 8-0**

**Resolution 202016: A resolution abating principal and interest of \$1,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2012A, of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax levy year 2020.**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve and place on file **Resolution 202017**: A Resolution abating principal and interest of \$1,875,000 General

December 14, 2020

5

Obligation Bonds, Series 2010B, of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax levy year 2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL:** AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 8-0**

**Resolution 202017: A Resolution abating principal and interest of \$1,875,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2010B, of the City of La Salle, La Salle County, Illinois for the tax levy year 2020.**

Mayor thanked the council and Finance Director Duncan for their efforts to continue to make wise decisions that prevent additional tax burden on the taxpayers.

### **COMMENTS**

Alderman Lavieri pointed out the passing of Attorney Gary Gearhart just over a week ago. Alderman Lavieri stated that he was the Chairman of the Rotary Park Development Committee and believed he also served as City Attorney in the 1970's.

Mayor Grove asked that we keep his family in our thoughts and prayers. Mayor said he was a driving force in the development of Rotary Park with Mayor Art Washkowiak and that group. We are now seeing the results of their efforts with a beautiful park which gives great exposure to the City with its access off of Interstate 39. Mayor said Attorney Gearhart was also involved with La Salle Rotary for many years and was active with La Salle Little League. Mayor thanked Alderman Lavieri for pointing this out.

Leah Inman formally announced that the City of La Salle has been awarded \$298,819 in immediate funding for the local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Support Program. This is on top of the Cares Act funding already received as a municipality. This will allow the city to give grants up to \$5,000 to businesses for qualifying expenses. The city will begin rolling out the program tomorrow and applications are already available on the website. She said this was very exciting news for our businesses.

Mayor Grove said that was great news and thanked Leah for her efforts putting this together and applying for this funding. Mayor also recognized Alderman Ptak and Alderman Jeppson who worked with Leah to develop a score card so we can fairly distribute the monies.

Leah said there will be a webinar on Monday that will show businesses how to apply.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept, pay and place on file bills for December 14, 2020 with Total Submitted: \$477,363.81 (Total Payroll \$176,784.37, Bills to be Paid \$143,121.52) Total Bills Paid \$157,457.92. Each and every alderman has a copy.

**ROLL CALL:** AYE: Aldermen Demes, Bacidore, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAY: None Absent: None Abstain: None

**Motion Carried 8-0**

December 14, 2020

6

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to adjourn the meeting.  
Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Mayor Grove wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**ADJOURNED 6:54 p.m.**

---

Carrie Brown, City Clerk