

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA SALLE CITY COUNCIL

August 3, 2026

**A regular meeting of the La Salle City Council of La Salle, Illinois, was held
Monday, August 3, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jeff Grove
with proper notices being duly and continuously posted.
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Jeff Grove, Aldermen Demes, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

Excused Absence: Alderman Thompson

Others Present: Deputy Clerk Brent Bader, Finance Director John Duncan, Economic Development Director Curt Bedei, City Engineer Brian Brown, Police Chief Jason Stubler, Fire Chief Jerry Janick, and City Attorney James McPhedran

A quorum was present.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:31 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Lavieri and seconded by Alderman Jeppson to open the Public Hearing regarding a proposed application for Community Development Block Grant and in connection therewith authorizing an agreement for administration & coordination services with NCICG for the CDBG regarding City of La Salle Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation and Related Matters.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

City Attorney James McPhedran clarified that since it is a public hearing anyone from the public may speak.

Mr. Calvin Croy, Grant Administrator for North Central Illinois Council of Governments (NCICG), explained the purpose of the hearing and the details of grant application through

the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) for \$1,499,926 to reline sanitary sewers in La Salle's Second Ward.

Mr. Croy stated application records for the project are available and may be reviewed at the NCICG office, 613 W. Marquette Street, Ottawa which is open Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and at La Salle City Hall, 745 Second Street, La Salle which is open Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Demes to close the Public Hearing regarding proposed application for a Community Development Block Grant.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

The Public Hearing regarding proposed Sanitary Sewer Relining Project was closed at 6:39 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to invite representatives of the Rotary Park Foundation to step forward and make a presentation.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Mr. Chris Vaske, Treasurer of the Foundation, Mr. Steve Westerman, and Mr. Dan Burke presented a check for \$4,000 to the City from the proceeds of the recent Music & Art in the Park festival in Pulaski Park in May. The Foundation has now donated over \$21,000 to the City.

COMMENTS

Mayor Grove opened the floor for public comment, inviting residents to share their thoughts and concerns.

Ms. Arleace Green from the Office of Disaster Recovery, Resilience of Fuel Operation East of the U.S. Small Business Administration explained that the ODRR has two programs - one for survivors of physical damages including homeowners, renters, business owners, and nonprofit organizations. The other program is for economic injury (i.e., loss of revenue). She explained terms available on various types of loans available through the program. Additional information is available at Disaster Customer Service at SBA.gov or by calling (800) 659-2955.

La Salle resident, Mr. Nikolas Muzzarelli came forward to express concerns regarding the recent fire at Batteries & Things on 24th Street. He sympathized with the owners and employees of Batteries & Things and thanked the firefighters and first responders for their

efforts. He asked a number of questions regarding safety inspections, cleanup efforts and monitoring, and measures to help prevent future fires.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Demes to accept and place on file minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held July 20, 2026. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

PRESENTATION

The scheduled presentation from NewCarbon regarding Illinois Energy Storage Grant Opportunity was not made.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to approve the request from Stratus Networks to break ground in the sidewalk on the east side of parking lot at Marquette and Second Streets to install vault and inner duct with fiber cable and related matters.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to refer the Petition and Application of La Salle-Peru High School for Special Use Permit Related to Education including the providing of Practical Hands-On Learning Environment in the Animal and Veterinary Sciences, including the Keeping of Livestock and Certain Other Animals on the Premises, and Related Matters (in the Vicinity of the Southeast Corner of Sixth Street and Creve Coeur Street in the City of La Salle) to the Planning Commission for review.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept the Treasurer's Report for June 2026 showing total cash balances in La Salle State Bank of \$6,352,178.46 and in Hometown National Bank of \$6,800,853.07.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

BIDS

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Crane to appoint Bart Hartauer, Dean Tieman, and Larry Happ to the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Demes, Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Moved by Alderman Jeppson and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to appoint Kathy Sarver-Eldridge to the La Salle Public Library Board of Trustees.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Ptak, Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Demes

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

Moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Crane to accept the resignation of McKenzie Smith as Records Manager/Dispatcher of the La Salle Police Department.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Demes and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to approve the recommendation of the Streets, Alleys & Traffic Committee not to remove the “No Parking Here to Corner” sign at 1432 La Harpe Street and related matters.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Grove expressed appreciation for the tremendous response to the fire Friday night at Batteries & Things (16 agencies were on scene) and gratitude that no one was injured or killed.

Fire Chief Jerry Janick reported air and water quality were monitored at the scene by the MABAS Division 25 Hazards and Materials Response Team. All readings were within normal range. There was a slight elevation of the pH in the water as it entered the sewer system.

The La Salle Wastewater Department monitored the water at the City's wastewater plant and there was no elevation in the pH there, indicating it had been diluted on its way to the plant. Illinois EPA Emergency Response personnel were also on site. They collaborated with the MABAS team and concurred with the findings.

Mayor Grove thanks Police Chief Jason Stubler and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Fay for their roles in traffic control and making sure there was an adequate water supply on scene.

Mayor Grove mentioned that the local Senior League Baseball Team has qualified for the World Series and will be competing in South Carolina. Over \$14,000 has been collected throughout the community in support of the team's travel expenses.

He also reported the local girls' minor league softball team, La Salle 10-Year-Old All-Stars, finished the season second in the state.

The last day for the Veterans Pool in La Salle to be open to the general public is August 11, as lifeguards head back to school and there won't be adequate staff; adult swim time may still be available.

Alderman Ptak reported attending the recent meeting at the La Salle Public Library regarding the tree inventory being taken. The meeting was informative and arborist Steve Lane estimated 3,000-3,500 trees will be part of the inventory.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Chief Jason Stubler reminded everyone tomorrow night is La Salle's first National Night Out in Hegeler Park from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Activities include the OSF helicopter landing at 5:00, a vehicle extrication demonstration by the La Salle Fire Department, giveaways, food trucks, and an opportunity to meet our first responders.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

STANDING COMMITTEES

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Demes to approve Resolution of Authorization and Support regarding application for State of Illinois community development block grant and related matters. Each and every alderman has a copy.

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Reynolds, Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Demes, Ptak

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Grove stated there was no need for an executive session.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Lavieri to accept, pay, and file the bills: Total Submitted: \$888,020.89 (Total Payroll \$257,244.49 Bills to be Paid \$282,248.80 Total Bills Paid \$348,527.60).

ROLL CALL

AYES: Aldermen Lavieri, Jeppson, Herndon, Crane, Demes, Ptak, Reynolds

NAYS: NONE **Absent:** Alderman Thompson **Abstain:** NONE

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Crane to adjourn the meeting.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion is carried.

ADJOURNED 7:02 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Liz Bishop".

Liz Bishop, City Clerk