

Regular Meeting Minutes: January 24, 2022

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022, AT CITY HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS, CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, MAYOR RIVARA, ATTORNEY BARRY AND CITY CLERK EITUTIS. Mayor Rivara states that Commissioners Argubright and Cullinan are absent.

Mayor Rivara state that there are technical difficulties, and the Council Meeting is not being live streamed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve the regular meeting minutes from January 10, 2022, AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

Public comments on agenda items only: none

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve bills as presented for payment. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

AMEREN ILLINOIS \$153.16; AMERICAN EXPRESS \$ 31.90; ANIXTER \$ 2603.75; BHMGE ENGINEERS \$ 3297.04; BOKUS, TIM \$ 132.19; CARD SERVICE CENTER \$ 2814.08; CARD SERVICE CENTER-PD \$ 454.55; CASTILLO, EDGAR \$ 105.81; CENTRAL MILLWRIGHT \$ 952.20; COLLECTION PROFESSIONALS \$ 420.88; COMCAST BUSINESS \$ 115.90; COMMUNICATIONS DIRECT \$ 845.00; CONNECTING POINT \$ 458.00; CONWAY SHIELD \$ 213.61; DE LAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL SERVICES \$ 349.89; DEBO ACE HARDWARE \$ 114.56; EAGLE ENGRAVING \$ 14.60; EDENS, CATHIE \$ 289.58; ELECTRONIC SUPPLY INC. \$ 365.00; EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS \$ 306.81; EMMETT, CODY \$ 1.07; FEECE OIL CO. \$ 4173.93; FOSTER COACH SALES \$ 581.64; GRAY, SHAYANNI \$ 216.19; GROSENBACH'S AUTO REPAIR \$ 73.11; HALM'S AUTO PARTS \$ 17.99; HAWKINS, INC \$ 498.87; HOLLOWAY'S PORTABLE RESTROOMS \$ 650.00; IL FIBER RESOURCES GROUP \$ 3300.00; IL PUBLIC RISK FUND \$ 5511.00; IVRD \$ 2.00; INTERNATIONAL ASSOC. OF CHIEF OF POLICE \$ 190.00; ITRON INC \$ 5210.00; JD'S LOCK & KEY \$ 712.00; JOHN SENICA JR. \$ 350.80; JULIE INC \$ 1167.94; KESSEL, KYLE \$ 250.00; KING TIRE \$ 30.00; KITTILSON'S GARAGE \$ 679.30; LASALLE OFFICE SUPPLY \$ 116.66; LAUTERBACH & AMEN \$ 60.00; MARINCIC, MARK \$ 388.15; MARTIN EQUIP OF IL INC. \$ 121.83; MAUTINO DISTRIBUTING \$ 26.00; MENARDS \$ 420.10; MERTEL GRAVEL CO. \$ 1197.00; MOTION INDUSTRIES \$ 332.80; MUNOZ, PAUL \$ 900.00; NEWS-TRIB \$ 1838.00; NICK'S EMERGENCY LIGHTING \$ 200.00; NORTHERN IL AMBULANCE \$ 1950.82; QUICK, ERIN \$ 95.96; RO PROS \$ 5.50; SEDLACKE, STEPHANIE \$ 48.17; SENICA INTERSTATE TOWING \$ 350.00; SMART SOURCE LLC \$ 3901.13; ST. MARGARET'S HEALTH \$ 890.00; STRYKER SALES CORPORATION \$ 196.57; TREGONING, HOLLY \$ 94.61; UNIVERSAL UTILITY SUPPLY \$ 10841.81; VALLE, BRETT \$ 600.00; VERIZON \$36.00

TOTALS: \$ 579,482.78

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 2021 fourth quarter building permits in the amount of \$51,710.00. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIJEWSKI, SECONDED BY CURRAN to approve raffle license for Illinois Valley Community College. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIJEWSKI, SECONDED BY CURRAN to approve raffle license for Holy Family School. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIJEWSKI, SECONDED BY CURRAN to approve raffle license for Oglesby American Legion Post #237. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIJEWSKI, SECONDED BY CURRAN to approve 1181-011022 an Ordinance Amending the Composition of the Committee for the Oglesby Building Improvement Grant Program for the City of Oglesby, Illinois, LaSalle County. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN. Commissioner Lijewski asks that verbiage be added to Section 3, Statement 3 regarding that the Chairman would provide a written recommendation or presentation to the Council at a public council meeting, that all elements of the application have been met. Commissioner Curran has no issue with that verbiage. Commissioners Curran and Lijewski discuss past practices. Attorney Barry states he wrote down the requested change and will amend the ordinance. Commissioner Lijewski wants to be certain that all elements of the application process were met.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to appoint members to the 2022 Façade Committee. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN. Mayor Rivara states the committee members are as follows: Ken Ficek, Chairman; Bob Mente, Tom Argubright, Dan Gregorich, Jim Clinard, Brian Spelich and Kathy Knoblauch.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1182-012422 an ordinance granting a request for variance filed by Ameren Illinois Company. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1183-012422 an ordinance granting a request for zoning map amendment filed by Hometown National Bank. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1184-012422 an ordinance granting a request for zoning map amendment filed by RJD Investments, LLC. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1185-012422 an ordinance granting a request for variance filed by Ameren Illinois Company. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1186-012422 an ordinance granting a special use permit filed by Ameren Illinois Company. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve 1187-012422 an ordinance granting a request for variance filed by Glenn T. Johnson. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve the appointing of members of the Ambulance Board. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN. Mayor Rivara states the members will be Daryk Brayton, Jim Knoblauch, Terry Eutis, Lorraine Munson, Carrie Lijewski, Cathie Edens and Ron Popurella.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve seeking bids for Clark Street underground repairs. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN. Commissioner Curran states he wishes the meeting was live streamed as it effects 235 homes. Commissioner Curran gives a background on the underground in that there are 3 bad phases that need to be repaired. Commissioner Curran discusses an incident that occurred last summer where the underground line was hit by a contractor installing a fence. Commissioner Curran states that even the cost is large, the engineers advise we may not receive bids on the project. Mayor Rivara asks if will create a problem for switch gear and the transformer located on Clark Street? Commissioner Curran states it will affect multiple homes. Commissioner Curran says if the bids are returned and are too high, they can be rejected, and the city can explore other options.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to approve an Intergovernmental agreement for seal coating various streets within the City of Oglesby. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN. Commissioner Curran states this agreement is specifically for 309th Road and that the street has some form of ownership to the City of Oglesby. Commissioner Curran states there are water lines under this road and that the total portion of the City's costs is around \$1200.00.

Commissioner Lijewski states she has been fielding questions between City employees and feels it is past time to establish a COVID 19 policy. Commissioner Lijewski reads the guidelines set forth by the CDC and reads a quote from the CDC Director, Rochelle Walensky. Commissioner Lijewski asks if there are questions? Commissioner Curran states he does not feel we have been doing a good job wearing masks. Commissioner Curran feels that the City has a right and a responsibility to wear masks, since City Hall has been closed because of this issue. Commissioner Curran feels employees should be mandated to wear masks inside City Hall. Commissioner Lijewski agrees. Commissioner Lijewski states a home COVID test is not always accurate and states it is important to have communication with your primary care physician. Mayor Rivara states City Hall has been closed to thru traffic in an attempt to provide a safe work environment to our employees. Mayor Rivara thinks we are doing a good job and can continue to do better. Mayor Rivara states most of the employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Commissioner Curran states he was under the impression that mandating masks does not have to be bargained for. Commissioner Curran appreciates the stance the mayor took in offering paid administrative leave to the employees. Mayor Rivara says he looked into the matter and 1/3 of them have no sick time. Mayor Rivara does not want people coming to work if they feel sick. Mayor Rivara states the matter can be looked at down the road. Commissioner Lijewski states the mayor has good points but feels she should have been made aware that the employees were not being required to use their sick time to COVID

related illness. Commissioner Lijewski does not fault the questioning of why but feels something needs to be done going forward. Commissioner Curran states if free administrative leave is to be given to employees there is a disparity between those who are vaccinated versus those that are not. Commissioner Curran respects those in their vaccination choices. Commissioner Curran thinks that having an administrative leave policy unilaterally offered to everyone is not a fair practice. Mayor Rivara disagrees with Commission Curran. Mayor Rivara states he didn't expect the rapid spread and states we were/are behind the curve. Mayor Rivara states people stayed home when they were sick, and we were able to keep business moving within the city. Mayor Rivara states that at some point in time that may have to be addressed. Commissioner Lijewski asks at what point in time will that be? Mayor Rivara states that when cases start to drop. Commissioner Lijewski gives figures as to how the cases are not dropping. Mayor Rivara asks how is it helping anyone if the employees are off not getting paid? Commissioner Lijewski states she is not asking employees to not get paid. She is asking that they use their PTO. Commissioner Lijewski assumes that some people may come up short in regard to running out of PTO. Commissioner Lijewski states the city cannot have people not be expected to use the PTO and then have the city complain when those people leave and the City is then forced to pay them for PTO not used during their employment. Commissioner Curran asks what the difference is between OMNIBRON and the flu and having to use their time? Commissioner Curran believes there are very few organizations that are giving their employees free time off and feels that if residents knew that they would be upset. Mayor Rivara asks if he said this policy would go on forever? Commissioner Curran states no he did not. Commissioner Lijewski states "you did say when it drops" and she does not believe that will be anytime soon. Commissioner Curran suggests putting it in as an item for bargaining. Mayor Rivara brings up what the teachers have done. Commissioner Curran feels the policy should be adopted right now. Commissioner Lijewski states people are looking for guidelines to follow. Commissioner Curran states there are items that can be bargained for, citing vaccinations as an example. Commissioner Curran feels the city would be getting more safety from the employees. Mayor Rivara disagrees with Commissioner Curran. Mayor Rivara states City Hall was closed to try and stop the spread of the virus. Mayor Rivara says he is trying to protect the employees and the citizens and says at some point a policy will be adopted and we will not look at dollars and cents. Commissioner Lijewski states the guidelines are from the CDJ who does not look at dollars and cents and it is all about safety and takes exception to comments that are made. Commissioner Curran thinks as a general policy there needs to be something in place and wants to adopt the current policy before the Council. Mayor Rivara recommends tabling the policy. Commissioner Lijewski asks if he has a second for tabling the proposed policy? Mayor Rivara states he cannot do that. Commissioner Curran states he disagrees with the mayor. Commissioner Lijewski makes the motion to adopt the policy regarding COVID 19 as put forth by the Department of Public Health and the CDC Guidelines for general public issued January 4, 2022. Commissioner Curran seconds that motion. Attorney Barry asks for clarification of some of the verbiage in the policy and spelling errors. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI. NAYS: RIVARA ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

Old Business: Commissioner Curran states there is motor fuel tax money available will continue to meet with department heads to go over the streets that need to be repaired.

Mayor Rivara asks if there was an accident at the Mallick substation? Commissioner Curran states there was and assumes someone tried to turn around in that area and damaged the fence. Mayor Rivara also asks if cement blocks will be put up there? To which Commissioner Curran states yes, they will be.

Public Comments: none

Commissioner Reports:

Argubright: absent

Lijewski: Ambulance Department had 70 calls outs, 22 were transfers. The Fire Department had 16 calls and a total of 187 for the year 2021. The Police Department had 31 case reports and an accident with one of the trucks and no one was hurt. Sergeant Valle was chosen to be the officer of the month. A meeting was held with Republic Services and complaints were addressed in regard to complaints and a logging system.

Curran: thanks residents for parking off the street during snowfall.

Cullinan: absent

Mayor's report: reminds that the IMEA scholarship is available and to contact City Hall. Contact has been made with Kevin Gaden in regard to getting a second feed to the city, Mayor Rivara state Ameren has taken the position that the city has to sign for it to get squared away. Ameren has also stated they will come and take a look at the road by Illini Bank for necessary repairs.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to enter into closed session. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURRAN, SECONDED BY LIJEWSKI to return to regular session. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA. ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY LIJEWSKI, SECONDED BY CURRAN to adjourn regular session. AYES: CURRAN, LIJEWSKI, RIVARA ABSENT: ARGUBRIGHT, CULLINAN

Amy Eitutis,

City Clerk