**OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 16, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Oglesby City Council was held on Monday, October 16, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Jason Curran.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Jason Curran, Commissioners Richard Baldridge, Terry Eutis, Gregory McDermott, Tony

Stefanelli, City Clerk Becky Clinard and Attorney Pat Barry.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

Kaylee Duncan and her husband, Ryan, read from a prepared statement concerning their request for a variance for their home on Kaitlyn Court.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED by** Eutis, to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2023, meeting. **AYES:** Eutis **NAYS:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **MOTION DENIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2023, city council meeting. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2023, executive session. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED by** Baldridge to approve the bills presented for payment in the amount of $575,008.07. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:** A&J Lawncare, $90.00; Airgas Usa, Llc, $82.50; Ambrose, Lori, $449.60; Apple Press, $148.90; Blue Cardinal Chemical, $1,573.77; Chamlin & Associates Inc, $16,812.93; Cleavenger, Marjean, $170.22; Complete Integration & Service, $217.50; Connecting Point, $8,770.87; Core & Main, $3,117.18; De Lage Landen Financial Services, $192.83; Debo Ace Hardware, $790.75; Edens, Cathie, $54.00; Emling Canvas Products, $1,875.00; Evans, Destiney, $108.41; Fletcher-Reinhardt Co, $6,570.00; Grainger, $139.88; Grosenbach's Auto Repair, $60.00; Guttierrez, Josefina, $50.00; Hawkins, Inc, $1,669.98; Heartland Bank Visa, $16,390.72; Hopkins & Associates, $13,000.00; Il Association Of Chiefs, $130.00; Il Department Of Innovation And Tech, $518.49; Il Labor Law, $99.50; Il Valley Woodworking, $225.00; Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, $422,754.06; Jacob & Klein, Ltd., $3,354.20; John Senica Jr., $446.63; Kendrick Pest Control Inc., $260.00; Kittilson's Garage, $14,079.02; Lauterbach & Amen, Llp, $2,410.00; Mautino Distributing Co Inc, $8.25; Maze Lumber, $15.59; Menards, $213.72; Mertel Gravel Co, $879.88; Motorola, $414.00; Mp Automotive Repair, $73.00; News-Trib, $1,552.51; Northern Illinois Ambulance Bi, Inc, $3,286.23; Ocsepinski, Austin, $2,460.81; Pikula, Julia, $180.90; Ro Pros, $11.20; Rodney Emling, $1,875.00; Smith's Sales And Service, $85.00; Snyder, Craig, $174.71; Springfield Electric Supply, $3,333.31; T.E.S.T Inc., $19,870.97; Talty Polaris, $348.02; Target Solutions Learning, $4,114.96; Tesco-The Eastern Speciality Company, $4,000.00; The Economic Development Group, $1,280.80; Universal Utility Supply, $10,870.03; Water Products Company, $5,497.24; Wright Excavating, $1,600.00. **TOTAL: $575,008.07.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to approve the October 13, 2023, payroll in the amount of $84,708.46. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1238-101623, which approves the termination of TIF 1 on December 31, 2023. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Eutis, to approve Ordinance No. 1239-101623, an professional services agreement with Jacob and Klein and the Economic Development Group for the first Amendment to TIF VI. The city recently agreed to expand TIF VI to include the downtown business district to ensure that TIF funds could be used for improvements to the downtown area. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY**  McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to approve Resolution No. 100223, an agreement with North Central Illinois Council of Governments to administer the Strong Communities grant. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott, seconded by Stefanelli, to approve the Funding Agreement for the Strong Communities grant. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Fraternal Order of Police, which increases police pay. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to send a request for annexation from Illinois Valley Community College to the Plan Commission. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** Eutis to approve the variance request from Elizabeth Mettille for 0’ setback. The Plan Commission found in favor of Mettille’s request. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to table action on the Duncan variance request because the Plan Commission had recommended that the city and the Duncan’s continue talks to reach a resolution. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to place the third quarter building permits on file. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to send Ordinance No. 1214-032023 to the Plan Commission for revisions. The ordinance covers letters of occupancy and deposits. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Curran read a prepared statement concerning the proposed personnel policy, which sparked a long and contentious discussion amongst the council. Stefanelli shared an email from the labor attorneys which appeared to agree with the commissioners’ belief that they are already invested with the power to hire and fire in their respective departments. McDermott suggested that the city attorney review the labor attorney’s opinion, as suggested in the email, and report back to the council.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to table discussion on the personnel policy. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to table discussion on modifications to Section 2.03.10 of the Municipal Code. . **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council then discussed departmental budgets and spending caps at some length. They council agreed that some sort of control mechanism was needed. Curran said he would amend the current purchasing policy and share it with the other members before the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

* Kaylee Duncan responded to Commissioner Stefanelli’s comments.
* Al Sienza, Kaylee Duncan’s father, also responded to Stefanelli’s comments and took the council to task for not being able to work together.
* Cathy Sienza, Kaylee Duncan’s mother, told the council about the many roadblocks her daughter has encountered while trying to build their home.
* Dom Rivara, former mayor, read off a long resume of union positions he has held and then urged the council to use “common sense” when hiring and/or firing employees.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

**Tony Stefanelli, Accounts and Finance**

* + Talked about his efforts to set up compliance training for the clerk’s office staff
  + Announced that the Ipads for commissioner had come in and were in the process of being set up for each commissioner.

**Terry Eutis, Public Safety**

* Said he felt the council needed to “do away with the circus” and find a way to work together.

**Gregory McDermott, Streets, Water and Sewer**

* + Encouraged his fellow commissioners and mayor to be “more professional”
  + Said branch removal is taking place this week
  + Read the leaf vacuum schedule

**Rich Baldridge, Public Property**

* + Announced that Austin Ocespinski had completed his training
  + Encouraged residents to attend Harvest Fest on Oct. 21 and to participate in the We Are Oglesby Scarecrow Contest

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

* Announced trick or treating would from 5 to 7 p.m. on October 31st.
* Echoed Baldridge’s announcement about Harvest Fest and the WAO Scarecrow Contest
* Responded to critics, saying he had no issues with disagreements, but did have issues with dishonest people or those who attempt to do dishonest things.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**