

OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024

The Oglesby City Council meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Mayor Jason Curran.

PRESENT: Commissioners Rich Baldridge, Gregory McDermott, Tony Stefanelli and Mayor Jason Curran. City Attorney Pat Barry and City Clerk Becky Clinard were also present.

ABSENT: Commissioner Terry Eutis

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS (none)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott, to approve the April 1, 2024, minutes and the April 1, 2024, executive session minutes. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** McDermott, to approve the revised minutes from the March 18, 2024, city council meeting. A vote record was omitted. **AYES:** Baldridge, 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 \$263,523.88. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT: Altec Industries Inc., \$417.06; Arrow Sales & Service Inc, \$36.00; Bhmg Engineers, \$25,681.36; Central Il Police Training Center Mtu 7, \$1,000.00; Chamlin & Associates Inc, \$116,148.00; Christman, Karon, \$235.55; Cintas First Aid & Safety, \$70.33; City Of Oglesby, \$54.72; Comcast, \$437.75; Conway Shield, \$395.99; De Lage Landen Financial Services, \$192.83; Debo; Ace Hardware, \$463.64; De'vine Floral Designs & Gifts, \$60.00; Dresbach Distributing, \$62.95; Edens, Cathie, \$271.20; Eichelkraut, Patty, \$67.01; Gasvoda & Associates, \$22,511.00; Gordon Electric Supply, \$395.37; Grainger, \$316.43; Graphic Electronics Inc., \$1,590.00; Halm's Auto Parts, \$500.05; Hassler, Laura, \$50.00; Hawkins, Inc, \$859.45; Heartland Bank Visa, \$21,959.23; Holcim-Mamr Inc., \$317.13; Il Fiber Resources Group, Nfp, \$3,300.00; Il Valley Area Chamber Of Commerce, \$105.00; Il Valley Excavating, In, \$16,800.00; Jacob & Klein, Ltd., \$4,334.60; Kendrick Pest Control Inc., \$260.00; Kittilson's Garage, \$676.33; Macqueen Emergency, \$690.61; Mautino Distributing Co Inc, \$15.50; Menards, \$244.79; Merrifield, Jessica, \$188.39; Motorola, \$414.00; Mtco, \$151.87; News-Trib, \$529.34; Northern Illinois Ambulance Bi, Inc, \$2,437.57; Oscepiniski, Austin, \$172.00; Osf Medical Group -- Occupational Health, \$690.00; Petersen, Paul, \$50.00; Police And Sheriffs Press, \$17.60; Porter Lee Corporation, \$710.00; Rieger, Elle, \$115.92; Ro Pros, \$30.50; Sherwin Williams Co, \$327.24; Smith's Sales And Service, \$2,027.00; T.E.S.T Inc., \$20,042.16; The Economic Development Group, \$8,867.58; Thurman Truevalue Hardware, \$469.20; United States Postal Service, \$320.00; Universal; Utility Supply, \$3,195.57; Usa Bluebook, \$1,435.59; Western Aggregates Llc, \$454.40; Yunker, Hannah, \$208.07. **TOTAL: \$263,523.88**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott, to approve the April 12, 2024, payroll in the amount of \$114,859.27. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Connie Buchanan, NCICG, told the council about the Housing Rehab Grant. Buchanan talked about the grant requirements and about other local communities that have been awarded the grant in the past (sometimes more than once). She also told the council what work would be needed to be done to put in a competitive grant. She said that if the city hoped to be awarded the full \$650,000, they would need to have at least 30 homes identified as meeting the grant requirements, with 10 to 12 of those homes being chosen to be repaired. This grant is for individuals who are identified as low to moderate income, disabled, or seniors and is meant to allow them to stay in their homes. Buchanan noted that the grant is good for the city too because it improves the housing stock in a community. The council would need to commit \$5,000 to \$20,000 to the program.

The council then discussed the Behavior and Conduct policy and the proposed policy on how discipline is to be handed out. Stefanelli said that both policies had been reviewed by Barry. Curran expressed his concerns about the ability of certain personnel and elected officials to speak publicly and the attempt to limit an employee's right to participate in activities outside of working hours. Curran agreed with the limitations placed on the workplace, but did not "want to be a part" of telling someone what they can do in their time off. The other council members were not dissuaded, with Stefanelli telling Curran that he could vote against the proposal if he wished.

Curran then questioned the need for the discipline procedures policy, noting that they (the council) have agreed that commissioners have the sole authority to hire, fire and discipline employees under their supervision. Curran said he did not believe it was right to then "dictate" what the process was. Stefanelli disagreed, saying that commissioners have the authority, but that a process needs to be in place. Curran said that he was most concerned with the portion that talked about actions against elected officials. The discussion between Curran and Stefanelli became heated, with Stefanelli telling Curran if he didn't like the policy, he could vote against it.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott that the proposed Behavior and Conduct policy and Discipline Procedures be sent to labor counsel for review. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli. **NAYS:** Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to place the 2024 First Quarter Building permits totaling \$270,334.00 on file. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1246-041524, which Executes a New Power Sales Contract through 2055. Baldridge explained that this put in ordinance form a motion that was made at the last meeting. **AYES:** Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council then voted on two matters that they had already approved. Barry explained that this put the requests in ordinance form. Barry also briefed the council on negotiations with Kelly Waters on the city paying for bringing water and sewer service to the proposed site of Bab's Brew. Waters objected to the city's last proposal. Barry was seeking direction on another offer. After some discussion which did not produce clear direction for Barry, the matter was dropped.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to approve Ordinance No. 1247-041524, which grants variances to KNZB-Wesbecker Properties. These variances are granted for the future site of

Bab's Brew on the corner of Walnut and Columbia. **AYES:** Baldrige, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1248-041524, which grants a special use permit to Midwest Storage. The special use allows the property on S. Columbia to be used for mini warehouses. The variances, which were denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals, are also noted in the ordinance. **AYES:** Baldrige, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to accept bid package No. 5 for the Mallick Substation. The package totals \$78,324.00. **AYES:** Baldrige, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Barry updated the council on the agreement with Kaylee Sienza-Duncan and Ryan Duncan, noting that he had drafted an agreement after the last council meeting with the council's terms. The Duncans have agreed to the terms of the agreement and the city is prepared to lift the stop work order and issue a building permit for Lot 67 in the same subdivision. The agreement will compensate the Duncans for the cost of filling in the existing foundation and allows them to transfer the building permit fees they paid for Lot 63 to the new lot. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the agreement. **AYES:** Baldrige, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

Curran said that after giving the proposed sign at Courtyard Court some additional thought, he thought it best to wait until plans were finalized for improvements at the basketball/tennis courts.

NEW BUSINESS (None)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Drew Merriman complained about neighbors who are parking on the sidewalk.
- Greg Stein asked about the viewing the Behavior and Conduct policy and the Discipline policy, he was told that the document would be accessible to the public when it is in its final form. Stein also wanted to go on record that he was against an OSLAD grant for LeHigh Park if it meant losing the ability to have alcohol on the grounds.
- Austion Cullinan gave the council his opinions on the Behavior and Conduct and Personnel Discipline policies, noting that he thought that public officials giving product testimonials was "ethically dubious" and that an ordinance wasn't needed to censure a public official.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

Tony Stefanelli, Accounts and Finance

- The IMIC risk assessment is complete and it's now up to the city to address any findings.
- Mandated workplace training is almost complete.
- Recycling event is Saturday, April 27.

Gregory McDermott, Streets, Water and Sewer

- Wood chipping starts the week of April 29.
- Hydrant flushing is the first week in June.
- Reminded residents to call JULIE for locates before digging.

Rich Baldrige, Public Property

- Announced that the bucket truck is now in the hands of JJ King Auctions in South Beloit and the online auction will close on May 8.
- Reminded residents of the We are Oglesby open house, with special presentation by CASA.
- Is working with JP Rose, Parks Director, on signage for the canoe landing.
- Said that SURF is back in town finishing up work.
- Thanked residents, members of the park board and NCICG for their participation in the April 11 public hearing on LeHigh Park improvements OSLAD grant.
- Talked about members of the electric department meeting training milestones.

Mayor's Report

- Gave the audience a preview of Summer Fun Fest entertainment lineup which includes the Sharpe Family Singers, a country night and a throwback to the late Commissioner Gary Carey with "Butch's Blast from the Past." He also said the organizers were bringing back more entertainment with shows by Timberworks Lumberjacks and a reptile show and Party in the Park.
- Said that there was still a need for sponsors for Summer Fun Fest.
- Noted his appreciation for the Park Board and their work.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. **AYES:** Baldrige, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** Curran. **MEETING ADJOURNED.**

