

**OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 4, 2025**

The Oglesby City Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Curran on August 4, 2025, at 6 p.m.

ROLLCALL: Commissioners Rich Baldrige, Austin Cullinan, Greg McDermott, Hilary Moyle, Mayor Jason Curran were present. City Attorney Pat Barry and City Clerk Becky Clinard were present as well.

Public Comments

Pat Flecker addressed the council about her request for the city to consider a dual metering ordinance that would allow her to have a second water meter for watering her lawn that would not be subject to sewer fees. Curran asked her if she could provide expected usage information. Flecker said she would ask her contractor.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** Moyle to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2025, regular city council meeting. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve bills presented for payment in the amount of \$170,128.39. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT: A & B Garage, \$1,496.08; Ameren Illinois-7419559858, \$38.62; Ameren Illinois-8218382099, \$395.57; Ameren Ip-01159-82892, \$837.63; Amrize Mid-America Inc, \$848.91; Bound Tree Medical Llc, \$1,172.06; Chamlin & Associates Inc, \$336.00; Comcast Business, \$667.87; Comcast Business, \$1,094.61; Conway Shield, \$742.50; Cosgrove Distributors, \$388.22; De Lage Landen Financial Services, \$196.50; Dresbach Distributing, \$147.75; Dzik, Leah, \$250.00;; Echo Electric, \$356.45; Eichelkraut, Patty, \$75.91; Feece Oil Co, \$2,375.25; First Impression, \$4,067.75; Foster Coach Sales Inc., \$239.80; Foster Coach Sales Inc., -\$464.18; Gleason,; Bryan, \$126.85; Halm's Auto Parts, \$397.93; Hawkins, Inc, \$4,631.87; Hy-Vee, Inc, \$176.57; Il Public Risk Fund, \$8,817.00; ; Jcm Uniforms Inc, \$49.85; John's Service & Sales, \$525.00; Knoblauch Advertising, \$1,302.00; Korte And Turpen Tree Service, \$12,800.00; Martin, Eileen, \$50.00; Mautino Distributing Co Inc, \$57.50; Menards, \$1,203.87; Mertel Gravel Co, \$2,214.63; Midwest Salt, \$2,727.06; Morton Salt, Inc, \$35,256.13; Ncpers Group Life Ins, \$16.00; News-Trib, \$535.89; Peerless Network, Inc., \$1,447.29; Republic Services -- Allied Waste, \$34,104.34; Smith's Sales And Service, -\$1,000.00; Subsurface Solutions, \$376.32; Surf Internet, \$1,591.96; T.E.S.T Inc., \$3,563.90; United Healthcare Insurance, \$37,805.9; United States Postal Service, \$1,040.06; Vollmer, Sarah, \$50.00; Wex Bank, \$4,997.08;
TOTAL: \$170,128.39

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED BY** Moyle to approve the August 1, 2025, payroll in the amount of \$83,585.94. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to table the request to approve the proposal from Test, Inc., to add a VFD pump to Well No. 3 at a cost of \$60,649.09. McDermott asked for more time to consider the request. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Attorney Barry told the council that he needed to correct a previously passed ordinance allowing Keno in local establishments. This change will allow the city's ordinance to allow the same type of games as the state does without changing the ordinance again.

The council clarified that bingo and other games of chance requiring raffle licenses are still subject to local regulation. Concerns about potential limits on the number of licenses and the ability to object to new games introduced by the state were addressed, concluding that the city has limited control over state-authorized gaming.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1294-080425, which corrects the previous ordinance allowing for Keno in local establishments. **AYES:** Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **ABSTAIN:** Baldrige. **MOTION CARRIED.**

McDermott then told the council he needed to table the vote on the purchase of a new Vactor Truck. McDermott told the council he'd learned:

- The truck would require operators with a Class A license.
- Additional training is needed for staff.
- The city currently lacks adequate indoor storage space, necessitating a new building.
- The cost ranges from \$350,000 for an eight-year-old model to \$500,000 for a new one.
- Maintenance costs and building expenses add to the total investment.
- The purchase was not included in the current fiscal year appropriations.
- Leasing versus outright purchase options should be considered.
- The potential savings compared to annual outsourcing fees to Illinois Valley Excavating were discussed, but more information is required.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to table the decision pending further data on long-term costs, usage, storage, and staffing needs. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Baldrige voiced his frustrations with enforcement of the zoning and building codes, particularly the presence of residential units on Main Street which limits business growth. Existing grandfather clauses allow residential use to continue as long as there is no 12-month vacancy. Clinard told the council it is hard to prove vacancies when landlords don't cooperate with reporting or inspections. The council also discussed:

- The need for clear delineation of responsibilities among police, the building inspector, and zoning administrator.
- Current enforcement often relies on complaints rather than proactive measures.
- Police officers are encouraged to notify residents of violations during patrols and follow up with formal letters if issues persist.
- Past incidents where enforcement staff felt “scolded” or unsupported by the council were addressed, with a commitment to support staff going forward.
- The City will be without a zoning administrator when Clinard retires August 18th.
- Challenges exist in enforcing rental property standards and occupancy permits, including difficulty contacting owners for inspections.
- The council discussed the complexities of managing downtown zoning, particularly the presence of residential units on Main Street which limits business growth.
- Existing grandfather clauses allow residential use to continue as long as there is no 12-month vacancy.
- Incentive programs exist to encourage business development and building improvements, but some council members feel stronger incentives are needed to convert residential spaces into commercial use.
- A recommendation was made to refer this topic to the city’s plan commission or related boards for further study and development of additional incentives.

The council then discussed allowing dual metering for irrigation systems. The council agreed that homeowners would be responsible for installation and maintenance of a second meter specifically for irrigation.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to review and propose the necessary ordinance amendments to allow for dual metering. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Austin Cullinan, Accounts and Finance

- ❖ Reported Summer Funfest financials showing a net profit of approximately \$15,000, an improvement over the previous year but lower than historical highs.
- ❖ Attended a regional conference on brownfields and grant opportunities, highlighting potential city benefits.
- ❖ Provided updates on the ongoing revision of the city’s comprehensive plan, encouraging public participation via mailed postcards with QR codes.
- ❖ Enhanced the city’s website boards page to improve transparency by listing board members, vacancies, and term expiration dates.
- ❖ Plans to add historical data on past councils and officials to the website to preserve city heritage.

Hilary Moyle, Public Safety

- ❖ Summarized emergency services activity: ambulance, police, and fire department call volumes for July.
- ❖ Announced a First Responder Night event at the pool with family-friendly activities.

Greg McDermott, Public Works

- ❖ Noted upcoming street and road work scheduled for August, including spray patching and bridge repairs.
- ❖ Announced commencement of phase one of wastewater treatment plant improvements, urging caution around construction zones.

Richard Baldrige, Public Property

- ❖ Highlighted parks department updates: five all-star tournaments intown, a new dog park shelter, 11 summer camps, pool closing date (August 9), playground border improvements, new benches, basketball court completion, and upcoming clearing on Canoe Landing Road.

MAYORS REPORT

Thanked the municipal band and Dickinson House Foundation for hosting the annual ice cream social.

- ❖ Indicated plans to discuss future community events beyond Funfest, including smaller gatherings.
- ❖ Announced the city will sponsor a chair yoga program at Dickinson House starting after Labor Day to encourage elderly fitness.
- ❖ Reminded residents that summer vacation is ending soon and encouraged families to enjoy remaining time.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to enter into executive session at 7:08 p.m. to discuss *“The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)* **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council reentered regular session at 7:59 p.m.

ROLLCALL: Commissioners Rich Baldrige, Austin Cullinan, Greg McDermott, Hilary Moyle, Mayor Jason Curran were present. City Attorney Pat Barry and City Clerk Becky Clinard were present as well.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MEETING ADJOURNED.**

