

OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 7, 2025

The April 7, 2025, meeting of the Oglesby City Council was called to order by Mayor Jason Curran at 6 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public on agenda items.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Moyle, **SECONDED By** McDermott to approve the March 17, 2025, meeting minutes. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldridge, **SECONDED By** Moyle to approve the March 17, 2025, executive session meeting minutes. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED By** Baldridge to approve the bills presented for payment in the amount of \$589,784.84. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED By** McDermott to approve the March 28, 2025, payroll in the amount of \$65,935.53. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council then addressed the service agreement with TEST, Inc., for providing water and waste water plant services for \$280,730.50 for the year beginning April 1, 2025. For each year thereafter, the cost will increase by 3 percent. Cullinan asked if approving the agreement with TEST would “close the door” on the option to sell the water and sewer utilities to American Water. Curran said he thought it would.

A MOTION WAS MADE By McDermott, **SECONDED By** Cullinan to approve the service agreement with TEST, Inc. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council discussed Ordinance 1829-040725, which concerned the rezoning of a property at 335 North Kenosha from R2 to R3 to allow for a short-term rental apartment over a garage. The recommendation from the plan commission was noted, Barry confirmed that adequate notification had been given to surrounding residents.

A MOTION WAS MADE By McDermott, **SECONDED By** Moyle to approve Ordinance No. 1829-040725, which Rezones 335 N. Kenosha Ave. from R-S, Single Family to R-3, General Residential. to approve the service agreement with TEST, Inc. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Additionally, Barry told the council about Ordinance 1830-040725, which corrected certain building codes in a previous ordinance due to errors identified when the codes were submitted to the state as required.

A MOTION WAS MADE By Moyle, **SECONDED By** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1830-040725, Corrects List of Building Codes Adopted previously. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

After thanking the persons who applied for the opening on the Plan Commission, Curran asked that Mark Duttlinger be appointed for the position. Several council members expressed their confidence in his contributions and engagement within the community.

A MOTION WAS MADE By Cullinan, **SECONDED By** McDermott to appoint Mark Duttlinger to the Plan Commission. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Before another solicitor permit could be approved for SURF, McDermott said he wanted to see some of the lingering service issues addressed in the community. Baldrige told McDermott that he was working with SURF to address the issues. Curran expressed concerns regarding the number of solicitors permits that have been approved for SURF and noted that at some point that could end.

A MOTION WAS MADE By Baldrige, **SECONDED By** McDermott to approve the solicitor permit for SURF Internet. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE By McDermott, **SECONDED By** Baldrige to approve the list of tag day requests from area organizations. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

At the request of Curran, the council revisited the idea of holding working meetings to foster more in-depth discussion on various topics including economic development and city planning initiatives. Different council members shared their thoughts, indicating a collective interest in open discussions that fall outside regular business agendas.

The council then heard of local businessman Dave Weiden's proposal for a Farmer's Market starting June 5. Weiden asked the council for permission to use city property that is adjacent to his business for loading and unloading of vehicles. He also asked for permission to use the same area for parking golf carts during a future event. The council expressed their support for such endeavors.

A MOTION WAS MADE By McDermott, **SECONDED By** Cullinan to approve the use of city property for loading/unloading access to a weekly farmers market at Cortileno's. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE By Baldrige, **SECONDED By** Moyle to approve the use of city property for golf cart parking for a drive-in event. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Moyle then asked the council for permission to replace five sets of turnout gear for the Oglesby Fire Department. Moyle explained that five sets of gear had been replaced this year due to contamination, but another five sets needed replacement.

A MOTION WAS MADE By Moyle, **SECONDED By** Baldrige to replace five sets of turnout gear for the Oglesby Fire Department from Conway Shield at a cost of \$19,915.00. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The next item, reimbursement of mileage for the Mayor to attend the IMEA Annual Conference and Trade Show, became contentious when Baldrige questioned why Curran would need to attend when he (as the IMEA representative) and the Electric Department foreman Mark Marincic were already planning to attend. Baldrige noted that he would not be asking for reimbursement. Curran noted that the initial agenda had included other requests for reimbursement, but that they had been pulled off the agenda. Cullinan voiced his support for the Mayor's attendance at the event, while Moyle said that in light of recent comments by the Mayor, she found it hard to support the request.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to table the request for travel expenses. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION TABLED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to place the First Quarter Building Permits on file. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION TABLED.**

The Mayor then talked about how he is often asked to make proclamations by various organizations, but has adopted a policy of only making such proclamations he feels are "rise about the rest." He then proclaimed the month of April as National Child Abuse Prevention

Month in Oglesby.

Moyle then told the council that Fire Chief Ron Popurella would be officially resigning April 30, 2025. Popurella has served on the fire department from 1979, in various roles. The council expressed gratitude for his service. Moyle said she saw his retirement as both an end and a celebration of his career.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Moyle, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to accept the resignation of Fire Chief Ron Popurella effective April 30, 2025. **AYES:** Baldridge, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Austin Cullinan, Commissioner of Accounts and Finance

- ❖ Reminded residents that dog tags, contractor and other business licenses are due May 1.
- ❖ Update the council on changes to the city's website
- ❖ Discussed Facebook's plan to remove live videos from their site on June 29, 2025, and ways the city might move them to the website or YouTube platform.

Hilary Moyle, Commissioner of Public Safety

- ❖ Updated the council on activities by the police, fire, and ambulance departments, highlighting numerous checks, calls, and incidents handled in March. This led to observations on public safety and the necessity to maintain resource allocation within public safety services.

Greg McDermott, Commissioner of Streets, Water and Sewer

- ❖ Announced Hydrant flushing will be the week of April 21-25
- ❖ Expressed his appreciation for those who took time to vote on the April 2 election and expressed his approval of the outcome of the vote against a move to a city manager form of government.
- ❖ Said he had met with a representative of the governor's office to discuss the city's need for funding for the waste water treatment plant, noting that the City was willing to assist the state with its parks expansion plans.
- ❖ Said that the city had received word that the East End watermain project did not make the final cut in the federal appropriations bill, but that he had been encouraged by Sen. Underwood's staff to reapply.

Richard Baldridge, Commissioner of Public Property

- ❖ Announced a May 3, 2025, ribbon cutting ceremony for the IMEA solar farm.

- ❖ Updated the council on the Mallick Road substation project, saying that the project was 50 percent complete.

Mayor's Report

- ❖ Announced the Oglesby Elks Egg Hunt and talked about how appreciative he was of We Are Oglesby and others, like Dave Weiden, who have taken the initiative to host events in the city.
- ❖ Added commentary to the discussion about Facebook deleting videos of city council meetings, saying he felt it was important to preserve them.
- ❖ Said he wasn't necessarily happy about the election results, but acknowledged that a large majority of residents did not want a change to the city manager form of government.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Cullinan to enter into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss *"the operation by a municipality of a municipal utility or the operation of a municipal power agency or municipal natural gas agency when the discussion involves (i) contracts relating to the purchase, sale, or delivery of electricity or natural gas ... 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(23), "the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees...." 5 ILCS 120/(2c Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).* **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council reentered the regular meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Cullinan, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to place the Annexation Agreement with IVCC on file pending approval at a required public hearing. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Moyle, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to table the School Resource Officer agreement with IVCC in order to sort out some concerns the council needs to sort out. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, SECONDED BY Moyle to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. **AYES:** Baldrige, Cullinan, McDermott, Moyle, Curran. **MEETING ADJOURNED.**