

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan
April 4, 2023

Swearing in of Officer Patrick Kenneth Herson. City Clerk, Jamie Long administered the Oath of Office.

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas L. Reed on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 6:02 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mayor Thomas L. Reed, Roger L. Collison, George T. Kubin, William R. Leonard, Elizabeth A. Upton

Council Members Absent: None

City Manager: Kurt Giles
City Clerk: Jamie Long
Police Chief: Richard Ramereiz, Jr.

Others in Attendance:

Keith Risdon-Public Services Director, Bobbie Marr-Finance Director, Lou Fleury-OHM, Jan Bunting, and four students.

Mayor Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Council Minutes.

Moved by Collison, supported by Upton, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 21, 2023. All ayes carried the motion.

Claims & Accounts.

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$294,865.37. All ayes carried the motion.

Monthly Board Minutes.

Members discussed the March 2023 Monthly Board Minutes.

Moved by Collison, supported by Leonard, to receive the March 2023 Monthly Board Minutes and place on file. All ayes carried the motion.

Audience Recognition.

There were no comments.

Consent Agenda.

Mayor Reed requested approval/receipt of Consent Agenda items “a” through “b” as shown below:

- a. Payment to Spicer Group for Professional Services-Orchard Hills Well Water Disconnect.
- b. Payment to Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce for St. Louis Farmers Market Manager Contribution/DDA.

Moved by Upton, supported by Collison, to approve Consent Agenda items “a” through “b.” All ayes carried the motion.

New Business.

Purchase of WWTP Lab and Field Testing Equipment.

Manager Giles requested members approve the purchase of WWTP Lab and field-testing equipment for the WWTP in the amount of \$14,123.79.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Collison, supported by Kubin to approve the purchase of WWTP Lab and field-testing equipment for the WWTP in the amount of \$14,123.79. All ayes carried the motion.

Purchase of Parts and Materials Needed for the Grit Chamber Rebuild Project for WWTP.

Manager Giles requested members to approve the purchase of parts and materials needed for the Grit Chamber Rebuild Project for the WWTP in the amount of \$10,047.91.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the purchase of parts and materials needed for the Grit Chamber Rebuild Project for the WWTP in the amount of \$10,047.91. All ayes carried the motion.

GEI Proposal.

Manager Giles requested members to approve the GEI proposal in the amount of \$18,700 to review Documentation to assist the city in obtaining a reclassification of the dam to a lower hazard level.

Discussion was held.

Council members questioned the benefits of having the reclassification done. Risdon informed members that there is missing documentation and without that documentation, this could cost the city both time and financially in the future. A reclassification would update and complete the documentation needed for future issues that may arise. Member Kubin expressed concerns of requirements to completely remove the dam in the future.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the GEI proposal in the amount of \$18,700 to review Documentation to assist the city in obtaining a reclassification of the dam to a lower hazard level. All ayes carried the motion.

Pine and Center Reconstruction Project Approvals.

Manager Giles requested members to consider adoption of Resolution 2023-06 Revenue Bonds for sewage disposal system improvements.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis, County of Gratiot, State of Michigan (the “City”), intends to issue and sell bonds, pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, in an amount not to exceed Two Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,200,000) for the purpose of paying all or part of the cost to acquire, construct, furnish and equip improvements to the City’s sewage disposal system, together with interests in land and all related sites, structures, equipment, appurtenances and attachments thereto (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, a notice of intent to issue bonds must be published before the issuance of the aforesaid bonds in order to comply with the requirements of Section 33 of Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City intends at this time to state its intentions to be reimbursed from proceeds of the bonds for any expenditures undertaken by the City for the Project prior to issuance of the bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish a notice of intent to issue bonds in either the *Gratiot County Herald or Morning Sun*, each a newspaper of general circulation in the City.
2. The notice of intent shall be published as a display advertisement not less than one- quarter (1/4) page in size in substantially the form attached to this resolution as Exhibit A.
3. The City Council of the City does hereby determine that the foregoing form of Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds and the manner of publication directed is the method best calculated to give notice to the sewage disposal system’s users and the electors residing in the boundaries of the City of this City’s intent to issue the bonds, the purpose of the bonds, the security for the bonds and the right of referendum relating thereto, and the newspapers named for publication are hereby

determined to reach the largest number of persons to whom the notice is directed.

4. The City makes the following declarations for the purpose of complying with the reimbursement rules of Treas. Reg. § 1.150-2 pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended:

- (a) As of the date hereof, the City reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the expenditures described in (b) below with proceeds of debt to be incurred by the City.
- (b) The expenditures described in this paragraph (b) are for the costs of acquiring and constructing the Project which were paid subsequent to sixty (60) days prior to the date hereof.
- (c) The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Project, including issuance costs, is \$2,200,000.
- (d) A reimbursement allocation of the expenditures described in (b) above with the proceeds of the borrowing described herein will occur not later than 18 months after the later of (i) the date on which the expenditure is paid, or (ii) the date the Project is placed in service or abandoned, but in no event more than three (3) years after the original expenditure is paid. A reimbursement allocation is an allocation in writing that evidences the City's use of the proceeds of the debt to be issued for the Project to reimburse the City for a capital expenditure made pursuant to this resolution.

5. The City confirms the retention of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. as bond counsel in connection with the Bonds.

6. The City confirms the retention of Baker Tilly Municipal Advisor, LLC, as municipal advisor in connection with the Bonds.

7. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

Discussion was held.

Council members did not want to raise rates an average of \$20 per customer to repay the proposed bonds.

Risdon informed members of potential issues if nothing is done with the sewer system, that is already 50 plus years old.

Mayor Reed does not want citizens to feel the burden of an additional \$20 on utility bills.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard to defer the project and to decline adoption of Resolution 2023-6, and reject all construction bids. (An affirmative vote means turning down the project at this time)

AYES: Kubin, Leonard, Collison, Upton, Reed

NAYS: None Resolution-NOT ADOPTED/PROJECT DEFERRED. As a result, no action was taken for Items 9Dii through 9iv.

Set Public Hearing for CWSRF Project for April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Manager Giles requested members to approve setting the public hearing for the CWSRF project for April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Kubin, to approve setting the public hearing for the CWSRF project for April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

City Manager Report.

Manager Giles reported a check was received from Invenergy for a contribution of \$3,500 for the July Celebration. He thanked Councilman Leonard for working with them to get this donation.

Manger Giles reported Tom Alcamo from the USEPA will be coming to the 04/18/23 council meeting to report on upcoming activity. Tom has also requested to meet with the police and first responders.

Manager Giles reported that he should be recommending the award for the Orchard Hills Water Project at the 04/18/23 council meeting.

City Clerk Report

Nothing to report.

Police Chief Report

Nothing to report.

Council Comments

Upton informed the council that she will be out of state and will not be attending the 04/18/23 council meeting.

Kubin thanked everyone for their hard work on the research and studies on the Pine Street Project.

Mayor Reed noticed activity at the Fandell property on M-46.

Public Comments.

Jan Bunting delivered the 2022 Gratiot County Sheriff's Reports.

Adjournment.

Moved by Kubin, supported Upton, to adjourn at 7:08p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, City Clerk