

## CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan  
September 5, 2023

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas L. Reed on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

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

Council Members Absent: Elizabeth Upton (Excused)

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

Others in Attendance: Keith Risdon-Public Services Director, Ralph Echtenaw-St. Louis Sentinel,  
2 students, Victoria Bobzien, Kevin Palmer-resident, and Fares Azzam-resident.

Member Leonard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **City Council Minutes.**

Moved by Collison, supported by Leonard, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 15, 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 \$501,913.04. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Monthly Board Minutes.**

Members discussed the August 2023 Monthly Board Minutes.

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

### **Audience Recognition.**

Fares Azzam inquired about the recent power outage.

Kevin Palmer inquired about George Kubin stepping down from the council and expressed his interest in filling the position. Mr. Palmer reported that he has been on several other city boards going back to 2005 and would like to be a part of the council.

## **Consent Agenda.**

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

- a. Payment to UFS for 2022 Electric PC & Rate Study Progress Billing.
- b. Payment to Fishbeck for Well #12 Services.
- c. Payment to NHMS for Annual Crack Sealing Program.
- d. Payment to Spicer for Orchard Hills Well Water Disconnect/Water Main Extension.

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

## **New Business.**

### **Estimate for 2023/2024 Sidewalk Replacement Program.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the estimate for the 2023/2024 Sidewalk Replacement Program from Siefert Concrete not to exceed \$80,000.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Collison, supported by Kubin to approve the estimate for the 2023/2024 Sidewalk Replacement Program from Siefert Concrete not to exceed \$80,000. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Purchase of Methane Gas Meters.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the purchase of four-3” Methane Gas Meters for the Wastewater Treatment Plant from Holland Supply Company in the amount of \$8,813.04.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Kubin, to approve the purchase of four-3” Methane Gas Meters for the Wastewater Treatment Plant from Holland Supply Company in the amount of \$8,813.04. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Resignation of George Kubin.**

Manager Giles requested members to accept the resignation of member George Kubin, effective September 30, 2023.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Collison, supported by Leonard, to accept the resignation of member George Kubin, with regrets, effective September 30, 2023. All ayes carried the motion.

### **County Agreement for Early Voting Center.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the agreement with Gratiot County for an Early Voting Center to conduct the Nine Day Early Voting.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Collison, to approve the agreement with Gratiot County for an Early Voting Center to conduct the Nine Day Early Voting. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Patrol Car Purchase.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the purchase of new patrol vehicles, a 2023 Dodge Durango and a 2023 Dodge Charger from Lafontaine of Lansing.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the purchase of new patrol vehicles, a 2023 Dodge Durango and a 2023 Dodge Charger from Lafontaine of Lansing. All ayes carried the motion.

### **City Manager Report.**

Manager Giles reported the new emergency siren pole is supposed to arrive and be installed later in the week.

### **City Clerk Report.**

Nothing to report.

### **Police Chief Report.**

Chief Ramereiz reported that calls to assist the county continue to occur, especially on the weekends. The past weekend St. Louis officers were called to Wheeler for a high priority assist. Both cars were pulled for the assist, and Alma was called to cover calls in St. Louis.

### **Council Comments.**

Member Leonard reported that the merger seems to be a huge deal to community members. He reported that he has been approached by several community members with concerns.

Member Collison reported that he has had common experiences with community members and they seem to be against the merger.

Member Collison thanked George Kubin for his help and for all the years of service.

Member Kubin reported that he has had a few talks with community members as well, regarding the merger, including the question if the city has ever considered a county wide police force.

Mayor Reed reported he has had a few community members approach him regarding the merger and they seem to have positive thoughts on it.

**Public Comments.**

There were none.

**Adjournment.**

Moved by Leonard, supported by Kubin, to adjourn at 6:51 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, City Clerk