

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan
September 19, 2023

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Thomas L. Reed on Tuesday, September 19, 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, Elizabeth A. Upton.

Council Members Absent: None

City Manager: Kurt Giles
City Clerk: Jamie Long
Police Sergeant: Kristi Forshee

Others in Attendance: Keith Risdon-Public Services Director, Ralph Echtenaw-St. Louis Sentinel, Bobbie Marr-Finance Director, Tom Alcamo, Gary Smith, Max Clever, Chuck Sandro, Kevin Palmer, Murray Borrello, Courtney McPhail, Jack Vervka.

Mayor Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Reed gave a presentation in honor of George Kubin.

City Council Minutes.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 5, 2023. All ayes carried the motion.

Claims & Accounts.

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Upton, supported by Collison, to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$657,161.15. All ayes carried the motion.

Monthly Reports.

Members discussed the August 2023 Monthly Reports.

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

Audience Recognition.

Presentation by Alma College-Area Pine River Update.

Presentation by Chuck Sandro-Healthy Pine River Update.

Presentation by Tom Alcamo-Superfund Update.

Consent Agenda.

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

- a. Payment to Worthy for salt shed electrical work.
- b. Change order #5 from The Isabella Corporation for Well #12 Project.
- c. Payment to Fishbeck for Well # 12 services.
- d. Payment to LaFontaine Chrysler for patrol vehicle purchases (Dodge Durango & Dodge Charger).
- e. Payment to The Isabella Corporation for Well #12 Project.
- f. Change order #2 from Malley Construction for the Orchard Hills Water Main Project.

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

New Business.

Resolution 2023-22-Gratiot County Early Voting Center.

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE GRATIOT COUNTY VOTE CENTER AS AN EARLY VOTING SITE FOR ALL ELECTIONS HELD WITHIN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS.

At a Regular Meeting of the City Council Board of the City of St. Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan, held at the City of St. Louis, 300 North Mill, on September 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Reed, Collison, Kubin, Leonard, Upton.

Members Absent: None.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Upton and supported by Leonard.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis Clerk is responsible for administering early voting in this municipality, pursuant to MI Constitution Sec. 4 and Public Act 81 (2023); and,

WHEREAS, the Gratiot County Early Vote Center is centrally located within the County, and fulfills additional security requirements of being a public building and its proximity to law enforcement,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, City of St. Louis shall partner with Gratiot County to conduct the constitutionally mandated early voting for all future elections beginning with the 2024 Presidential Primary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the sole early voting site for the City of St. Louis voters shall be the Gratiot County Early Vote Center, located at the Gratiot Commission on Aging, 515 S. Pine River Street, Ithaca MI 48847; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the hours of operation of the early voting site shall be 9 am to 5 pm daily, from the first Saturday of the required nine days to the second Sunday with one exception, the first Wednesday of the required nine days will run 11 am to 7 pm; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Clerk is authorized to expend necessary funds budgeted to ensure the City of St. Louis can cover their shared costs in utilizing the Gratiot County Early Vote Center.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YES: Upton, Leonard, Collison, Kubin, Reed.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Appointment of Kevin Palmer.

Manager Giles introduced the item of the appointment of Kevin Palmer to City Council to fill the vacancy of the seat held by George Kubin, through December 31, 2023

Discussion was held.

Moved by Collison supported by Upton to appoint Kevin Palmer to City Council to fill the vacancy of the seat held by George Kubin.

Yes: Collison, Upton, Leonard, Reed.

No: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Kubin

Request to Host Annual Homecoming Parade.

City Manager Giles explained the parade route and road closures and recommended members approve the Annual Homecoming Parade and temporary road closures to be held Friday, October 6, 2023 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Leonard, to approve the Annual Homecoming Parade and temporary road closures to be held Friday, October 6, 2023 beginning at 5:00 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

City Manager Report.

Manager Giles reported there is an Open House in honor of George Kubin on September 27, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of City Hall.

City Clerk Report.

Jamie Long reported that ballots have arrived for the November election and absentee ballots will be mailed over the next few days to those who have requested one.

Police Report.

Sergeant Forshee reported the new police cruisers have arrived and are waiting on equipment from Chrouch Communications. The 2016 Charger will go to auction after new vehicles are road ready.

Council Comments.

Kubin reported a resident complaint that a home in the 500 block of Center Street is in violation of having inoperable vehicles and needed to be addressed.

Kubin suggested a Westgate Subdivision sign be put back in the subdivision near the park.

Kubin thanked the city staff members along with council and congratulated Kevin Palmer on his appointment to the council.

Public Comments.

There were none.

Adjournment.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Upton, to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, City Clerk