

## CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan  
December 3, 2024

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Ralph R. Echtinaw on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mayor Ralph R. Echtinaw, Fares E. Azzam, Mayor Pro Tem William R. Leonard, Elizabeth A. Upton.

Council Members Absent: Kevin D. Palmer joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

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

Others in Attendance: Three students.

Mayor Echtinaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda.**

Moved by Azzam, supported by Leonard to approve the agenda for December 3, 2024, with the addition of 11B-quote for 2025 Decorative Lamp Expansion Material. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Public Hearing-137 North Mill Street Demolition.**

A brief video presentation was given by Administrative Intern-Josh Leppien.

Mayor Ralph R. Echtinaw opened the Public Hearing at 6:10p.m. and asked for Public Comments.

One student asked if the entire building was going to be torn down, which Manager Giles reported that is what the council is here to discuss.

Mayor Ralph R. Echtinaw closed the Public Hearing at 6:11 p.m.

Motion by Azzam and supported by Upton to approve the use of the \$500,000 State Land Bank Authority BEP Grant for the purchase and demolition of the former bank building at 137 N. Mill Street. All ayes carried the motion.

Motion by Azzam and supported by Leonard to approve demolition of the building at 137 N. Mill Street which is in the St. Louis Downtown Historic District. All ayes carried the motion.

### **City Council Minutes.**

Moved by Upton, supported by Palmer, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 18, 2024. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Claims & Accounts.**

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Upton, supported by Leonard to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$462,302.65. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Monthly Board Minutes.**

City Council discussed the November 2024 Monthly Board Minutes.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Azzam, to receive the November 2024 Monthly Minutes and place them on file. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Audience Recognition.**

There were no comments.

### **Consent Agenda.**

Mayor Echtenaw requested approval/receipt of Consent Agenda items “a” through “e,” as shown below:

- a. Payment to Spicer Group for Drinking Water Asset Management.
- b. Payment to Lazerline for Street Striping.
- c. Payment to Val-Matic for 6” Plug Valves for the WWTP.
- d. Payment to ROWE for Engineering Services for DWSRF Project.
- e. Payment to Etna Supply Company for Sensus Logic Annual Hosting Fee.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Leonard, to approve Consent Agenda item “a” through “e.” All ayes carried the motion.

### **New Business.**

### **Resolution 2024-25-Establishing Regular Council Meeting Schedule.**

Minutes for the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of St. Louis, County of Gratiot, State of Michigan, held in the City Hall Council Chambers on the 3rd day of December, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Ralph Echtenaw, Fares E. Azzam, William R. Leonard, Kevin D. Palmer,  
Elizabeth A. Upton

Absent: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Upton, and supported by Member Palmer:

**WHEREAS**, The City Council of the City of Saint Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan, pursuant to Act 261 Michigan Public Acts of 1968, and in accordance with Section 5.1 of the Saint Louis City Charter, hereby gives notice to the public of the regular meeting schedule for the calendar year 2025.

**WHEREAS**, The City Council, in accordance with Section 5.1 of the Saint Louis City Charter, is required to hold meetings, on the first Monday following the first Sunday of January following the regular City election, for the purpose of installation of newly elected Council Members. Regular meetings shall be held at least twice each month.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the dates for holding said regular meetings shall be as follows:

January 7	April 1	July 1	October 7
January 21	April 15	July 15	October 21
February 4	May 6	August 5	November 4
February 18	May 20	August 19	November 18
March 4	June 3	September 2	December 2
March 18	June 17	September 16	December 16

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Council hereby establishes as its place and time for holding aforesaid regular meetings at the City Council Chambers, City Office Building, 300 North Mill Street, Saint Louis, Michigan at 6:00 o'clock P.M.

Ayes: Upton, Palmer, Azzam, Leonard, Echtenaw

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted this 3rd day of December 2024.

**Addition to Agenda- Quote for 2025 Decorative Lamp Expansion Material.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the Border States quote for 2025 Decorative Lamp Expansion material in the amount of \$20,319.05.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Azzam supported by Palmer, to approve the Border States quote for 2025 Decorative Lamp Expansion material in the amount of \$20,319.05. All ayes carried the motion.

**City Manager Report.**

Manager Giles reported that the closing out of the land bank grant is near and the city is nearly ready to sell the 4 properties where the homes were demolished. Giles reported that John Pavlik suggested listing the properties instead of putting them up for auction, along with an additional land locked parcel.

Manager Giles reminded members of the council that the annual Christmas parade is scheduled for

Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. with the same route as in past years, starting at Frosty Cone.

**Clerk Report.**

None.

**Police Chief Report.**

None.

**Council Comments.**

Mayor Echtenaw commented on the great job Dori Foster did with reporting the minutes from the last Planning Commission meeting.

Mayor Echtenaw once again discussed speaking with Mayor Greg Mapes from the City of Alma. Echtenaw again asked council members if they would like to be a part of a committee that assists in the police merger process.

**Public Comments.** There were none.

**Adjournment.**

Moved by Leonard, supported by Upton to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, Clerk