

## CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan  
October 21, 2025

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw on Tuesday October 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw, Fares E. Azzam, Robin W. Hart, Mayor Pro Tem William R. Leonard, Kevin D. Palmer.

Council Members Absent: None

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

Others in Attendance: Josh Leppien- Economic Development Coordinator and one student.

Mayor Echtenaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda.**

Moved by Azzam, supported by Leonard to approve the agenda for October 21, 2025. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Public Hearing-Ordinance B-244 Amendment.**

Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw opened the Public Hearing at 6:01 p.m. and asked for public comments.

There were none.

Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw closed the Public Hearing at 6:01 p.m.

### **City Council Minutes.**

Moved by Hart, supported by Azzam to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2025. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Claims & Accounts.**

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Palmer, supported by Leonard, to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$1,566,813.60. All ayes carried the motion.

## **Monthly Reports.**

City Council discussed the September 2025 Monthly Reports.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Palmer, to receive the September 2025 Monthly Reports and place on file. All ayes carried the motion.

## **Audience Recognition.**

There were no comments.

## **Consent Agenda.**

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

- a. Payment to DuBois-Cooper for replacement pump at Michigan Avenue Pump Station.
- b. Payment to Fox Sealcoating, LLC for Seal Coating City Hall, Library and Downtown Parking Lots.
- c. Payment to Fox Sealcoating, LLC for Sealing and Painting rear parking lots in the 100 & 200 blocks of North Mill Street.
- d. Payment to Malley Construction, Inc. for the DWSRF Grant Construction Project.
- e. Payment to OHM for Consultant Construction Engineering Services for the DWSRF Grant Construction Project I, Phase II.
- f. Payment to OH for Design Phase Services for North Main Street.

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

## **Quote for the Repairs of the 2012 Digger Derrick Truck.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the quote from Altec for repairs of the 2012 Digger Derrick Truck, in the amount of \$6044.97.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Hart, to approve the quote from Altec for repairs of the 2012 Digger Derrick Truck, in the amount of \$6044.97. All ayes carried the motion.

## **Resignation of Mary Reed from the Parks & Recreation Committee.**

Manager Giles requested members to accept the resignation of Mary Reed from the Parks & Recreation Committee effective immediately.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Leonard supported by Hart, to accept the resignation of Mary Reed from the Parks & Recreation Committee effective immediately.

**Adoption of Ordinance Amendment for Noxious Weeds Cost Recovery.**

**ORDINANCE NO. B-244**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 70, ARTICLE II – DANGEROUS TREES AND NOXIOUS WEEDS**

An ordinance to amend Sections 70-22 through 70-29 of the Code of Ordinances, City of St. Louis, Michigan, to provide for the direct certification of costs incurred by the City in the cutting and removal of noxious weeds and vegetation to the property tax roll, and to clarify lien procedures.

THE CITY ORDAINS:

**Section 1. Amendment of Section 70-22 through 70-29.**

Sections 70-22 through 70-29 are hereby repealed in their entirety and replaced with the following:

**Sec. 70-22. Abatement of noxious weeds by City; lien.**

- (a) If the owner, occupant, or party in control of any lot or parcel of land fails to destroy or cut noxious weeds or grass in violation of this article, the City Manager or designee may cause such weeds or grass to be cut or destroyed.
- (b) The costs incurred by the City in performing this work, together with any administrative fee established by City Council resolution, shall be billed to the owner of record of the property.

**Sec. 70-23. Notice of delinquent charges.**

- (a) A statement of charges shall be mailed by first-class mail to the owner of record at the address shown on the last City tax roll.
- (b) Such statement shall notify the owner that the charges must be paid within 30 days of the mailing date, and that if not paid, the amount due shall be certified to the City Assessor and entered upon the next property tax roll as a lien against the premises, collectible in the same manner as City taxes.

**Sec. 70-24. Lien for costs.**

Any costs and charges not paid within 30 days of notice shall become a lien upon the property benefitted or serviced, and the City Clerk shall certify such delinquent charges to the City Assessor, who shall enter them upon the next tax roll against the property. Such lien shall have the same priority and be collected in the same manner as general property taxes, subject to all applicable interest and penalties.

**Sec. 70-25. Alternative collection.**

In addition to the lien authorized in this article, the City may seek collection of such costs through civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction.

**Section 2. Severability.**

If any portion of this ordinance is found invalid, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

### **Section 3. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall become effective [30] days after publication as provided by the City Charter.

Moved by Palmer, supported by Leonard, to amend Sections 70-22 through 70-29 of the Code of Ordinances.

Yeas: Palmer, Leonard, Azzam, Hart, Echtenaw

Nays: None

Abstain: None Absent: None

Ordinance Amendment Approved.

### **City Manager Report.**

Manager Giles reported that there was some inquiry about the city owned property near Seely Auto. The ideas presented would fit into the C2 Zoning requirements.

### **City Clerk Report.**

Nothing to report.

### **Police Chief Report:**

Nothing to report.

### **Council Comments.**

Member Azzam thanked the DPW and Josh Leppien for making the Lions Park Project possible. Azzam stated that it has become a very popular play area for the kids.

Member Palmer also commended the people involved with the Lions Park Project.

### **Public Comments.**

There were none.

### **Adjournment.**

Moved by Leonard, supported by Azzam, to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, Clerk