**OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 6, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Oglesby City Council was held On Monday, November 6, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Jason Curran.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Jason Curran, Commissioners Richard Baldridge, Terry Eutis, Gregory McDermott, Tony

Stefanelli, City Clerk Becky Clinard and Attorney Pat Barry.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:**

There was no comment from the public on agenda items.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott**, SECONDED by** Baldridge to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2023, meeting. **AYES:** Eutis, Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli. **NAYS:** Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermot**t, SECONDED by** Baldridge to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2023, meeting. **AYES:** Eutis, Baldridge, McDermott, Stefanelli. **NAYS:** Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the bills presented for payment in the amount of $190,216.51. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:** A & B Garage, $378.72; Air One Equipment Inc., $165.00; Ameren Illinois-1129536811, $9.00; Ameren Illinois-8218382099, $46.39: Ameren Ip-01159-82892, $798.15: American Express, $647.45: Anixter Inc, $4,730.87: Apple Press, $461.75: Arrow Sales & Service Inc, $138.00: Bezely, Jeff, $139.69: Black, Wes, $633.04; Blue Cardinal Chemical, $2,248.47; Boggio's Orchard And Produce, $450.00’ Carretto, Mario, $397.35; Cintas First Aid & Safety, $217.53; City Of Oglesby, $87.39; City Of Oglesby, $70.14; Columbia Pipe & Supply Co, $2,051.83; Comcast Business, $790.01; Connecting Point, $139.00; Core & Main, $4,719.54; Country Life Insurance, $381.53; Curran, Jason, $166.40; Danner, Wesley, $81.46; De Lage Landen Financial Services, $192.83; De'vine Floral Designs & Gifts, $175.00; Doug Abbott, $194.47; Edens, Cathie, $44.67; Eichelkraut, Patty, $232.99; Emergency Medical Products Inc, $660.60; Emergency Services Marketing C, Inc, $735.00; Feece Oil Co, $3,633.89; Flags Usa, $1,266.00; Frantzen, Steve, $106.83; Garzanelli's Supper Club, $1,792.00; Gasvoda & Associates, $360.94; Gehrt, Shelly, $230.00; Gordon Electric Supply, $1,553.40; Grainger, $58.38; Grosenbach's Auto Repair, $611.59; Hawkins, Inc, $4,475.23; Holloway's Portable Restrooms, $330.00; Il Department Of Innovation And Tech, $518.49; Il Public Risk Fund, $5,748.00; Il Valley Cellular, $511.02; Il Valley Regional Dispatch, $14,421.12; Il Valley Regional Dispatch, $7,210.56; Illinois Valley Fire And Safety, $425.00; Jacob & Klein, Ltd., $4,000.00; John's Service & Sales, $1,609.96; Kendrick Pest Control Inc., $180.00; Kittilson's Garage, $447.20; Lasalle Veterens Home, $300.00; Lukach, Daniel, $175.00; Mabas Division 25, $600.00; Mautino Distributing Co Inc, $78.00; Medicare Part B, $2,974.87; Menards, $465.18; Midwest Operating Engineers, $377.36; Morrow Brothers, $54,007.00; MP Automotive Repair, $870.61; Ncpers Group Life Ins, $16.00; Northern Illinois Ambulance Bi, Inc, $25.50; Ottawa Office Supply, $305.59; Ottosen Dinolfo, $935.00; Police And Sheriffs Press, $143.25; Ponce, Mckayla, $50.00; Proud, Rose, $50.00; Quilbain, Kathy, $200.54; Republic Services -- Allied Waste, $31,451.10; Root Beer Stand, $300.00; Rose, J.P., $288.85; Salisbury Online, $1,899.27; Santiago, Irene, $32.38; SBC Partners, $3,065.82; Secretary Of State, -$151.00; Smart Source Llc, $6,936.00; Standard Insurance-Life, $819.63; Std Farms, $268.24; Strehl, James, $230.00; Strehl, Mary, $290.00; T.E.S.T Inc., $200.00; The Economic Development Group, $4,000.00; United States Postal Service, $870.43; University Of Illinois, $1,000.00; Verizon, $166.02; Wex Bank, $4,996.13; Witek, Todd, $225.00

**TOTAL: $190,216.51.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the October 27, 2023, payroll in the amount of $105,933.22 **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli, to move the No. 11 agenda item (presentation by Gerg Vaccaro on Digiticket) before the audit presentation. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

Greg Vaccaro then told the council about his department’s move to digital tickets, which he expects to be mandatory in the future. He talked about the benefits of the system to both the city and the county and said that his office was willing to pick up the first-year cost, approximately $7,500, if the city would agree to join the program. The program allows officers to write and file tickets with the county in real time, eliminating the need for an officer to have to take the tickets to the county each week and it allows the officers to scan a driver’s license for the information, eliminating errors. There was some question about the cost of the second year and beyond, and Vaccaro said that he expected increases, but it depended upon how many municipalities signed up and other factors.

Samantha Casey, Hopkins and Associates, then gave the Mayor and each council member a copy of the FY2023 audit. Stefanelli asked Casey if it was standard practice to hand out copies of the audit and related correspondence from the auditor to each member of the council and the mayor. Casey confirmed that it was. She then went over the audit findings in detail. Casey told the council that the city was continuing to build reserves and appeared to be headed in the right direction.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY Eutis** to accept and place on file the Fiscal Year 2023 Audit **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve R-110623, an intergovernmental agreement with other emergency services. Attorney Barry noted that there was very little change in the new agreement. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Baldridge, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to place the bids for equipment for the Mallick Substation on file. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve Ordinance No. 1240-110623, which addresses abandoned vehicles in the city. The changes allow the police to remove vehicles from private property, which wasn’t addressed in the current ordinance. Barry told the council that after reviewing other similar ordinances, he found it necessary to rewrite the ordinance rather than “tweak” it. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott, to adopt R-110623-1 which accepts the Strong Communities Grant from the IHDA. Curran explained that this is just another required step for the #120,000 grant. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council then discussed a letter from the Illinois Attorney General’s office concerning a claim by Mayor Curran that the four commissioners had violated the Open Meetings Act when they sent a letter to the city’s attorneys. Attorney Barry said he thought it best if he prepared the letter on the council’s behalf. Stefanelli asked that if Barry’s letter was not successful in getting the charge dismissed, that all of the information he had prepared in response be submitted to the AG’s office. The initial letter was addressed to Stefanelli. Barry agreed, but said he did not believe it would be needed.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** McDermott, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to instruct Attorney Barry to prepare a response to the Attorney General’s office. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

Eutis then told the council that due to staffing issues and both the long-time fire chief and ambulance director retiring in the next year, the city needed to start exploring its options to address the issues. Eutis had provided the council with several proposals, including one from McGrath, which looks at all of the options available (fulltime fire/EMS, utilizing ambulance staffing services, etc.) and presents the city with a feasibility study outlining the options. The study would be $26,900, but would be comprehensive in scope, including discussions with staff, residents and city officials. Eutis asked to send the information to the ambulance board for their opinion on how to proceed.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli,to refer the matter to the Ambulance Board.

**AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

* There were no comments by the public.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

**Tony Stefanelli, Accounts and Finance**

* + Apologized for last meeting’s contentious nature.
	+ Thanked the volunteers and the clerk office’s staff for a successful Harvest Fest
	+ Thanked Jacqueline Smith for her work in updating the city’s cellphones and the council’s tablets.
	+ Thanked both the treasurer and auditor for their work in getting the city’s financials in order.

**Terry Eutis, Public Safety**

* Reported on two recent fires with $70,000 and $65,000 in damages, but fortunately, no injuries.
* Announced the tender truck would be delivered early next month.

**Gregory McDermott, Streets, Water and Sewer**

* + Urged residents to fill out the lead line survey
	+ Said the leaf vac program was underway
	+ Encouraged the council to look into the information they were provided on the IML’s mediation services, saying he felt the service could help the council.

**Rich Baldridge, Public Property**

* + Asked JP Rose, Parks Director, to talk about how he recently saved the city several thousand dollars on covers for the swimming pool drains.
	+ Announced BB Gun Club was starting soon
	+ Said the Electric department was working with Surf Internet to clean up and finish the project in Oglesby.
	+ Expressed his thanks to the clerk’s office, fellow commissioners and volunteers who made Harvest Fest a success.
	+ Told the council that the disc golf course is already seeing action, with both locals and out of town golfers.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

* Encouraged residents to attend Saturday’s Veterans Day services
* Announced the Christmas event would be Dec. 9 from 2 to 4 pm with the We Are Oglesby parade at 4:30
* Told the council that a church homily on Sunday encouraged persons to not lose sight of “the main thing is the main thing.” He said that the arguing between the council and mayor is “petty in nature” and urged the council to move on and get back to the “main thing.”

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli **, SECONDED BY** McDermottto enter into executive session to discuss “the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body” and “pending or probable litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body” at 7:50 PM. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Eutis **, SECONDED BY** Stefanellito resume the regular council meeting at 8:13 PM. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Baldridge to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. **AYES:** Baldridge, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**