

**OGLESBY CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 15, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Oglesby City Council was held on Monday, January 15, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 4:17 pm by Mayor Jason Curran.

PRESENT: Mayor Jason Curran, Commissioners Richard Baldrige, Terry Eutis, Gregory McDermott, Tony Stefanelli, City Clerk Becky Clinard and Attorney Pat Barry.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

- Dom Rivara spoke against renaming Commissioner Baldrige as the IMEA representative.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024, city council meeting. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** Eutis to approve the executive session minutes from the January 2, 2024, city council meeting. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to approve the corrected minutes from the November 6, 2023, city council meeting. The minutes were corrected to reflect a vote on the Illinois Funds. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the invoices presented for payment in the amount of \$445,304.41. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT: Airgas Usa, Llc, \$251.48; Anixter Inc, \$8,009.86; Aplington, Kaufman, McClintock, Steele, \$28,813.00; Batteries & Things, \$15.75; Bhmg Engineers, \$8,405.09; Chamlin & Associates Inc, \$9,697.00; City Of Oglesby, -\$49.84; City Of Peru, \$1,833.00; Civic Systems, Llc, \$3,271.00; Comcast Business, -\$44.80; De Lage Landen Financial Services, \$192.83; Debo Ace Hardware, \$117.86; Dresbach Distributing, -\$31.00; Econo Signs, Llc, \$154.27; Emergency Medical Products Inc, \$215.82; Ficek Electric, \$375.00; Ficek Electric, \$375.00; Foster Coach Sales Inc., \$54.90; Good Shepard, \$133.13; Gordon Electric Supply, \$621.52; Grosenbach's Auto Repair, \$256.95; Halm's Auto Parts, \$1,339.24; Harden, Ashley, \$150.00; Haskell Landscaping, \$525.00; Hawkins, Inc, \$1,094.80; Holloway's Portable Restrooms, \$960.00; Hy-Vee, Inc, \$28.50; Il Department Of Innovation And Tech, \$518.49; Il Fiber Resources Group, Nfp, \$3,300.00; Il Municipal League, \$500.00; Il Valley Cellular, \$99.54; Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, \$361,223.65; International Municipal Signal Assoc, \$100.00; Jacklovich, Morgan, \$300.00; Kendrick Pest Control Inc., \$180.00; Kittilson's Garage, \$489.28; Knoblauch Advertising, \$291.67; Macro Logic, Inc, \$1,060.00; Mautino Distributing Co Inc, \$31.00; Maze Lumber, \$507.81; Menards, \$29.75; Mertel Gravel Co, \$1,326.01; Mississippi Valley Pump, Inc, \$15,275.00; Motorola, \$414.00; Mtco, \$151.87; Northern Illinois Ambulance Bi, Inc, \$2,263.14; Prairie State Tractor, \$220.50; Republic Waste Services, -\$31,635.60; Ro Pros, \$11.20; Rodriguez, Lucas, \$50.00; Seico Inc.,

\$588.00; Smith, Dolores, \$87.02; Springfield Electric Supply, \$229.31; Starved Rock Media, Inc., \$403.20; T.E.S.T Inc., \$20,192.16; Verizon, \$332.04 **TOTAL: \$445,304.41.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** Eutis to approve the January 5, 2024, payroll in the amount of \$89,603.20. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to designate roles for Curran, Clinard and himself with Illinois Funds. This is part of the enrollment process to enable the city to transfer funds into the state's investment account. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Discussion then turned to the FOP Memorandum of Understanding concerning maternity leave and light duty. After several tries, Eutis said the labor attorneys approved the language in the agreement.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to approve the minutes from the January 2, 2024, city council meeting. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli. **NAYS:** Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to approve Ordinance No. 1243-011524, which vacates a portion of Watson Street to the Bellinos, who own property adjacent to the street on both sides. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

McDermott then told the council about the need to remove asbestos from the pipes at the waste water treatment plant.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Baldrige to accept the bid from America Environmental Construction for \$14,700 to remove asbestos from the waste water treatment plant **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The council then discussed naming Baldrige as the representative to the IMEA. Baldrige said that he felt comfortable taking over the role from the mayor. The mayor argued against the move, saying he felt he was more qualified. There was some discussion on whether an ordinance was necessary, Attorney Barry thought it was. However, it was decided to go forward with the vote to rescind the previous ordinance naming Curran the IMEA representative and name Baldrige to the spot.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli, to rescind Ordinance No. 1223-050123, which named Curran the IMEA representative and to name Baldrige as his replacement. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli. **NAYS:** None. **ABSTAIN:** Curran. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** McDermott, to approve raffle license requests by Illinois Valley Community College and Oglesby Elks Lodge. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Stefanelli, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to place on file the 2023 4th Quarter Building permits. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

- McDermott told the council that he'd met with Plumbing Inspector Al Stoudt, who shared information from Ottawa about their ordinance dealing with sewer backflow issues. Stoudt told McDermott that he preferred ejector pits over check valves. McDermott asked to table the matter until he could arrange a presentation to the council by Stoudt. McDermott also wanted more time to clarify and address some of his concerns with the ordinance.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Eutis to table the proposed ordinance until next meeting. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- Curran then told the council that he believed he had found an exception that allowed the council to discuss board appointments in closed session, so he asked if the agenda item "Board Vacancies" could be moved to after executive session.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to move agenda item "Board Vacancies" to after executive session. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

- There were no items to discuss under this topic

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Austin Cullinan addressed the council concerning the recent inquiry into an Open Meetings Act violation by the four commissioners and subsequent investigation by the Attorney General's office. The AG's office ruled in favor of the commissioners. Cullinan thought the Mayor should apologize to the commissioners. Curran responded by saying that he never accused the council of wrongdoing, he only asked a question of the AG's office and he noted that it was Stefanelli who brought the issue up in a meeting, not him.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

❖ Stefanelli, Commissioner of Accounts and Finance

- Applauded the efforts of Commissioner McDermott and the street department's on clearing the streets of ice and snow during the last week.
- Reminded residents to check on their elderly neighbors
- Said he and Commissioner Baldrige were working on improving the audio and sound quality in the council chambers.

❖ Eutis Commissioner of Health and Public Safety

- Told residents that warming centers in both city hall (from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and Fire & Ambulance Building (after hours) were operating during this period of subzero temps.

- Said that after a slight delay, the Fire Department's tender truck would be arriving soon.

❖ **McDermott, Commissioner of Streets, Water and Sewers**

- Also asked residents to check on neighbors during the extreme weather.
- Reminded residents to remove their cars from the streets after 2" of snow to allow for the snowplows to get through.

❖ **Baldrige, Commissioner of Parks and Public Property**

- Updated the council on the disc golf course, telling them that a tracking program shows more than 500 rounds of golf have been played in December with at least 140 unique players. He also once again thanked Wes Black for his work on the course.
- Told the council that the city had received a check from the IMEA for \$15,800 for an efficiency project that replaced older street lights with energy efficient LED lights.
- Read a letter from a resident thanking the electric department for their "quick and efficient" help addressing an issue with an area left in disrepair by SURF internet work and flickering lights.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Thanked all city employees and TEST for their work during the recent snow storms and cold weather.
- Encouraged residents to utilize the warming centers if they needed a place to stay warm.
- Reminded residents that OSF would be opening the Oglesby Medical Clinic on Jan 16.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermott, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to enter into closed session AT 7:36 P.M. to discuss

1. *".... minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the OMA, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated in Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)"* and
2. *"Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (2).*
3. *"The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the OMA, including a vacancy in a public office, when the public body is given the power to appoint under law or ordinance, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office, when the public body is given power to remove the occupant under law or ordinance." 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).*

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Eutis, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli to reenter into regular session at 8:31 p.m

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

Curran said that the council had decided to table filling the board seats and said anyone interested in filling a board seat is encouraged to apply before the next meeting. There are three positions the council needs to fill: one each on the plan commission, police pension board and ambulance board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** McDermott to table filling the board vacancies. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Eutis, SECONDED BY Stefanelli to release the executive session meeting minutes from July 26, 2023, October 2, 2023, and both the written and audio recording of Part 1 of January 2, 2024. T Minutes from November 19, 2021, April 18, 2022, December 19, 2022, February 6, 2023, September 5, 2023, November 6, 2023, and January 2, 2024, Part 2 will remain closed. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Baldrige, **SECONDED BY** Stefanelli, to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. **AYES:** Baldrige, Eutis, McDermott, Stefanelli, Curran. **NAYS:** None. **MEETING ADJOURNED.**