5 February 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Charles City Council met at City Hall on Monday, 2/5/2024, for a regular meeting. Mayor Dennis Smith called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

Council members Tom Blomme, Whitney Hutton, Megan Allison, Dan Kozak, and Travis Brockett were present along with 5 guests.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Megan Allison/Dan Kozak to approve the agenda. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes for Council Meetings 1/8/2024 and 1/16/2024: Motion made by Dan Kozak/Travis Brockett to approve the minutes. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of January Treasurer and Budget Reports: Motion made by Megan Allison/Tom Blomme to approve the treasurer and budget reports for January. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of February Bills: Motion made by Dan Kozak/Tom Blomme to approve the February bills. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Sheriff's Report: During January there were 48.02 patrol hours, 8 calls, and 4 traffic stops in St. Charles.

City Boards/Committees:

* Sewer Report: No report submitted.
* Maintenance Report: A backup plow driver has been contacted for future needs. Motion by Travis Brockett/Whitney Hutton to purchase a pallet of cold patch. Voice vote was unanimous. The gutter on the south side of City Hall/Library needs to be replaced. The City will take bids for this.
* Fire/Rescue Department: January minutes were submitted. The new fire truck is scheduled to be delivered by April 1.
* Library Board: Margaret Blair presented January minutes.
* Welcome Center: The smell inside the building is getting worse. Plumbers will be contacted.
* Clerk's Report: Mayor Dennis Smith will attend a meeting to discuss SICOG projects on February 15th. Clean-up day is scheduled for June 8th. A Warren Water project map was given to the Council.

Annexation Inquiry: The landowners were not able to attend the meeting. The project will be discussed in the future.

Public Hearing Budget Amendment FY24 Published 1/24/2024: Motion to open the hearing at 7:11 pm. No public wished to speak. The hearing was closed at 7:14 pm.

Resolution 2A-2024 Adoption of Budget Amendment 1 FY24: Motion by Megan Allison/Tom Blomme to approve Budget Amendment 1 FY 24. R/C vote passed unanimously.

Sewer Rates: Motion by Tom Blomme/Megan Allison to approve an annual 3 percent increase in sewer rates. Voice vote was unanimous. An Ordinance will be written and a notice of the increase will be published. No tax monies are used for sewer. The sewer is self-funded. The City is planning for future sewer expansion along with increased costs of operating a sewer.

Casey’s Liquor License Renewal: Motion by Megan Allison/Travis Brockett to approve the renewal of Casey’s Liquor License. Voice vote was unanimous.

City Limit Boundaries West Main Street: The City will table this pending a discussion with Madison County.

Tax Abatement 215 E Sycamore St.: Motion by Dan Kozak/Whitney Hutton to approve the submission of the tax abatement to Madison County. Voice vote was unanimous.

Application of Occupancy: Motion by Dan Kozak/Travis Brockett to approve the Application of Occupancy for fiber optic work in the Right of Ways. Voice vote was unanimous.

Budget Discussion: Three options concerning the Fiscal Year 25 tax rate were given to the Council. A date for a public hearing concerning the tax rate will be set at the March 4th Council Meeting. The public meeting will take place after a mailing from the County is sent to property owners.

Public Forum: No public asked to speak.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: No new business

Motion made by Tom Blomme to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm.

The next City Council meeting will be on March 4, 2024, at City Hall.

Dennis Smith, Mayor Attest: Tracy Kozak, City Clerk

Posted at: City Hall, Post Office, Montross, and Library