

Agenda City of Salem
Regular City Council Meeting January 16, 2017
6:00 PM Regular Session

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call**
 - II. **Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
 - III. **Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
 - IV. **Mayor's Report and Presentations**
 - V. **City Council Action**
 - 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes – January 3, 2017
 - 2. Approval of Bills Payable
 - 3. Discussion on Pool Management Proposals
 - VI. **City Manager Report**
 - VII. **City Attorney Report**
 - VIII. **Finance Director Report**
 - IX. **City Council Report**
 - X. **Executive Session**
 - 1. 5 ILC 120/2(c)(1) – Employment
 - 2. 5 ILCS 120/2©(2) – Collective Bargaining
 - 3. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) – Executive Session Minutes
 - XI. **City Council Action**
 - 4. Approval of 2016 Executive Session Minutes: 9/19, 11/21, 12/05, 12/19
 - XII. **Adjournment**

Bill Gruen
City Manager
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MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular January 16, 2017 meeting of the City Council was convened at 6:00 p.m. and called to order by Mayor Rex Barbee.

Council members present:

Councilman Tim Hudspeth
Councilman Nic Farley
Councilman Craig Morton
Councilwoman Sue Morgan
Mayor Rex Barbee

Council members absent:

None

Others Present:

City Manager Bill Gruen	City Clerk Bev Quinn
Finance Director Ben Stratemeyer	Chief of Police Sean Reynolds
Public Works Director John Pruden	Animal Control Officer Paul Wimberly
City Attorney Mike Jones	Deputy Chief of Police Susan Miller
Economic Development Dir. Jeanne Gustafson	Members of the Media and Public
Asst. Public Works Director Annette Brushwitz	

II. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Opening prayer was given by Councilwoman Sue Morgan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Daniel Dice of Security Alarm indicated he was present on behalf of Rosa Roma, Manager of El Rancherito Restaurant, who has been billed \$2,000 by the Salem Police Department for false alarms made by her business. Mr. Dice indicated most of the false alarms were caused by user error, and Security Alarm has now simplified the system so that it will automatically disarm. Mr. Dice indicated Ms. Roma had faxed the City's bill to him, which was \$2,000, even with the late fees dropped. Mr. Dice asked if the City has waived these fees in the past and if so, what the process is.

City Manager Gruen responded that the City has only waived fees for other taxing bodies, not for businesses in the private sector. Mr. Gruen indicated the ordinance was originally adopted in 2014, revised in 2015, and the City Council still feels this is a good ordinance and they want the City to continue using it. Mr. Dice responded that he understands the need for the ordinance, and he supports it, but since El Rancherito's system was installed in February of 2016, they have had 18 false alarms, and the PD has waived five of those. Ms. Roma added that there have been multiple issues with the system, some of which were user error. Ms. Roma indicated she thought she was receiving a bill in the amount of \$100, and instead it was \$100 or more for each false alarm.

Councilwoman Morgan indicated the fee is \$100 for the 8th instance, \$200 for the 9th, \$300 for the 10th, and the fees go up incrementally to \$750.00. Mr. Gruen added that the only entity he has waived fees for was a school.

Mayor Barbee indicated he understands Ms. Roma's concern, but wishes El Rancherito had grasped the situation sooner. Mayor Barbee added that he did not think Council would object to Ms. Roma setting up a payment plan for the fines. Mr. Gruen concurred, and added that he would provide Security Alarm with a copy of the policy to share with their customers.

Councilman Farley noted that there have been 18 false alarms at El Rancherito, 5 were waived, 7 more were free, and the restaurant was charged for 6 calls. Both Councilman Farley and Councilwoman Morgan agreed that the charges were fair. Mayor Barbee advised Ms. Roma to meet with City Manager Gruen in the next few days to set up a payment plan.

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Barbee reminded those present of the ribbon cutting at Bryan Bennett Library Tuesday evening at 5:30 pm and the retirement party for City Mechanic Bruce Lane at City Hall on Thursday at 4:30 pm.

V. CITY COUNCIL ACTION

1. **Consent Agenda**

a. Approval of Minutes – January 3, 2017

Chief Reynolds noted that the January 3rd minutes indicated Brian Hunt was present, and he was not. ***Motion was made by Councilman Farley and seconded by Councilwoman Morgan to approve the Consent Agenda with the noted amendment to the January 3, 2017 minutes. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

2. **Bills Payable**

Following discussion, ***motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Hudspeth to approve the Bills Payable as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

3. **Discussion on Pool Management Proposals**

City Manager Gruen indicated that in discussing the pool management proposals with Council members individually, there was no unity in what the Council wanted. Mr. Gruen added that the consensus seemed to be for the Salem Family Aquatic Center management to remain status quo. Mr. Gruen added that most of the pool managers are coming back, and the main manager, Randall Knaak, is definitely coming back. Mr. Gruen added that he feels confident that with his oversight, current managers can work with the contractors to get the pool open, hire employees, get concessions up and running, and sell passes and lessons.

Councilman Farley indicated one of his concerns with going with a third-party was negotiation of chemical prices. Mayor Barbee indicated the only distinct advantage he saw was both groups' marketing resources, but he doesn't know how much more market there is in this area. Councilwoman Morgan suggested the possibility of Salem joining with other pool facilities in the area to purchase chemicals as a larger buying group. Mr. Gruen responded that he would check into her suggestion.

Asst. Public Works Director Brushwitz indicated the City purchases pool chemicals from Speer now, and receives a discount for buying up front. The amount of chemicals used depends on the weather. Additionally, we only pay a one-time charge for Speer to open the pool and deliver the chemicals. As the pool chemicals are very toxic, you would not want an excess amount of chemicals on the grounds.

VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Gruen asked Council if they would like the alarm ordinance to be on the next agenda for further discussion. Consensus was that the ordinance is working as is, and to allow the City Manager to work with those receiving fines, as he feels appropriate.

VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – No report.

VIII. FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT – No report.

IX. CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Councilwoman Morgan expressed disappointment with the amount of coverage the City of Salem received in the Illinois South Visitors' Guide. Mr. Gruen responded that the Tourism Board makes decisions on the ads that are submitted for the Guide. The Tourism Board had been away from the Illinois South group for a while, and may just be easing back in. Councilwoman Morgan indicated there should have been some reference to the William Jennings Bryan and the Aquatics Center, and they need to do a little better. Mayor Barbee added that Council should do what it can to help make it better.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Councilman Farley and seconded by Councilman Hudspeth to enter into Executive Session at 6:32 pm (after a brief break) for the purpose of discussing Employment, Collective Bargaining and Executive Session Minutes. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Return to open session at 7:37 pm

XI. CITY COUNCIL ACTION

4. Approval of 2016 Executive Session Minutes: 9/19, 11/21, 12/05, 12/19

Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve the executive session minutes for 9/19, 11/21, 12/05, and 12/19 2016, and for them to remain closed. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Hudspeth, Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, upon **motion by Councilman Hudspeth and second by Councilwoman Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm. Roll call vote: Councilman Farley, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Hudspeth, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

Bev Quinn, CMC
City Clerk

Minutes approved: _____