

CITY OF SALEM IL  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
August 15, 2022 – 6:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- 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 – August 1, 2022
  - 2. Resolution #2022-05 - Request to close roadways for a period of time on October 1, 2022 from noon to 5:00 pm for the Little Egypt Festival, Inc. to host a parade.
  - 3. Discussion on the possible acceptance of an aerial drone gift to the City of Salem for use with the Police Department or other agencies.
  - 4. Review and approval of accounts payable for the time period of July 16 to August 12, 2022.
  - \*Amendment to agenda**
  - 5. Opening of bid for real estate.
  
- VI. City Manager and Dept Head Reports
- VII. City Attorney Report
- VIII. City Council Member Reports
  
- IX. Executive Session
  - a. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) – Sale of Real Estate
  
- X. Return to Open Session
  - a. Action on Possible Sale of Real Estate
  
- XI. Motion to Adjourn

Rex A. Barbee  
City Manager  
*RAB*

*Quote of the day –*

**“Love is not only something you feel, it is something you do.”**

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CITY OF SALEM IL  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 15, 2022

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular August 1, 2022, meeting of the Salem City Council was convened in the Council Chambers of Salem City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nic Farley at 6:00 pm.

**Council members present:**

Councilman Jim Koehler  
Councilman Royce Bringwald  
Councilman Craig Morton (*arrived at 6:02 pm*)  
Mayor Nicolas Farley

**Council members absent:** Councilwoman Amy Troutt

**Others present:**

City Manager Rex Barbee	City Attorney Mike Jones
Public Works Director Annette Sola	Asst. to the Public Works Director Courtney Mitchell
Chief of Police Sean Reynolds	Finance Director Keli Roth
City Clerk Bev Quinn	Economic Development Director Tabitha Meador
Sgt. Kyle Ambuehl	DOEM Director Terry Mulvany
DOEM Asst. Dir. Andrew Strong	Little Egypt Festival Chairman Jay Henke
Dug and Brandy Drenckpohl, ABC Pub	Members of the Media and Public

**Amendment to Agenda** – Mayor Farley indicated there are agenda items for Executive Session - Sale of Real Estate and action on possible real estate after the executive session, but he is requesting that the agenda be amended to include “Opening of Bid for Real Estate”. **Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to amend the agenda to add item 5. Opening of Bid for Real Estate to V. City Council Action. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (see sec. V. above)**

(Councilman Morton arrived at 6:02 pm.)

**II. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilman Koehler offered the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.**

**IV. MAYOR’S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Farley thanked Chief Reynolds for his 27 years of service, and indicated it has been an honor to work with him. Mayor Farley indicated he is a better Mayor, the Council is a better Council, and the Police Department is a better PD because of him, and wished him well in his retirement.

**V. CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

**1. Consent Agenda**

a) Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2022

**Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Koehler to approve the minutes of as written. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

**2. Resolution 2022-05 - Request to close roads for a period of time on October 1, 2022 from noon to 5:00 pm for the Little Egypt Festival, Inc. to host a parade.**

Little Egypt Festival Chairman Jay Henke indicated the event will be using the same roads as previously used, and nothing has changed. Chief Reynolds cautioned Mr. Henke and Council that there is work being done on I-57, and we may need to come up with a better detour plan. **Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to approve Resolution 2022-05, authorizing that a request be sent to IDOT for the closure of US Rt. 50 and IL-37 on October 1, 2022, from noon to 5:00 pm. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

**3. Discussion on the possible acceptance of an aerial drone gift to the City of Salem for use with the Police Department or other agencies.**

Mayor Farley indicated he appreciated Andrew Strong of the DOEM bringing the drone project to Council’s attention, and invited Mr. Strong to speak.

Mr. Strong indicated drone programs are becoming popular with emergency management and law enforcement. The drones can be used to assist in locating missing people, public works projects, police situations involving active shooters and natural disasters. The drones have thermal capabilities, and would be a good asset for the City. Additionally, it’s a good way to draw volunteers to emergency management.

Strong indicated he has approached several businesses, and has received a substantial amount in donations towards the purchase of a drone, although there are still many legal steps to go through. Mr. Strong talked about FAA Certification, and indicated an Emergency Response Drone does not have to have a licensed pilot, which is a big money saver. Franklin County, who has a

drone program, has shared its regulations with him, and has been very helpful. Strong indicated a drone has a lifespan of 3-5 years and costs \$6,000 to \$10,000 per system.

City Manager Barbee indicated he had approached Dan Luttrell of ICRMC regarding the liability coverage for a drone program, and Mr. Luttrell indicated the drone would just need to be added to the equipment list. Chief Reynolds added that there is some liability associated with misuse of a drone – even flying over private yards raises an issue for the Police Department, as they would need a search warrant. Reynolds added that as long as there was policy and procedure in place from ICMT, he wouldn't have an issue with their use. Reynolds asked if DOEM would take on the roll as operators for the system. Mr. Strong responded that the DOEM is a volunteer organization, and if the volunteers are unavailable, he'd like to see some actual City employees trained to operate the drone system. Reynolds indicated drones are great tools, and the Police Department has access to use of a drone through the Illinois State Police, but there is always an issue on how soon they can get here. Mr. Strong indicated Franklin County agreed to do a demonstration for Salem. City Manager Barbee indicated he would like to see Franklin County's procedures. Councilman Morton indicated he would like to see a budget. Mr. Strong indicated he would prepare a budget, provide Franklin County's Policy and Procedures, determine how the drone would interact as an agency of the PD, and what the training process is. Mayor Farley requested that this item be tabled until more information is available. **Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to table moving forward with a drone program until more information is available. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

**4. Review and approval of Accounts Payable for the time period of July 16 to August 12.**

Following review, ***motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve the accounts payable as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

**5. Opening of Bid for Real Estate**

Mayor Farley indicated the City took action to surplus the property identified as Bicentennial Park some time ago. Both adjacent property owners were interested at that time, but one has withdrawn its interest. The City has since received an offer from ABC Pub, LLC, which Mayor Farley opened, in the amount of \$1,000, for development of an outdoor patio. Mayor Farley indicated this would be discussed in Executive Session, with action being taken when Council returns to open session.

**VI. CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – no report.**

**VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – no report.**

**VIII. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Councilman Koehler –**

- indicated the East Lawn Cemetery drive through event is coming up, and was a big success last year.
- complimented Public Works on the appearance and operation of the Aquatic Center.

**Councilman Morton –**

- asked when the City is going to start demolitions on derelict properties. Dir. Sola indicated Code Enforcement Officer Dave Lusch just brought her the paperwork on four houses, and indicated they will demolish as many as the budget covers.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**a. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(6) – Sale of Real Estate**

***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to enter into executive session at 6:37 pm for the purpose of discussing sale of real estate. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

*Return to open session at 6:48 pm.*

X. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

- a. Action on possible sale of real estate.

***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Morton to accept the offer of \$1,000 from ABC Pub, LLC, with ABC agreeing to pay all closing costs. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

IX. **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

***Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Morton to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

Bev Quinn, CMC  
City Clerk

Minutes approved: \_\_\_\_\_