

**CITY OF SALEM IL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 7, 2022**

- 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 – October 17, 2022\
 - 2. Mayor’s Appointment of Myron Lloyd to the Historical Commission
 - 3. Final Reading for Property Tax Levy for Collection in 2023 and Ordinance Approval
 - 4. Approval of Resolution Abating Property Tax Levy for General Obligation Bonds Series 2017
 - 5. Renewal of Liability, Property and Casualty* and Worker’s Compensation Insurance with ICRMT through Kane Insurance

- VI. City Manager and Dept Head Reports**
- VII. City Attorney Report**
- VIII. City Council Member Report**
- IX. Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee
City Manager
RAB

Quote of the day –

“Perseverance is not a long race, it is many short races, one after the other”
-Walter Elliot

**Clerk’s Note: Property and Casualty was left off of the agenda in error, but is part of the overall insurance package. bq*

**CITY OF SALEM IL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 7, 2022**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular November 7, 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
Councilwoman Amy Troutt
Councilman Craig Morton
Mayor Nicolas Farley

Council members absent: None.

Others present:

City Manager Rex Barbee	City Attorney Mike Jones
Chief of Police Kyle Ambuehl	Deputy Chief of Police Susan Miller
Finance Dir. Keli Roth	Economic Development Dir Tabitha Meador
City Clerk Bev Quinn	Asst. to the Public Works Dir. Courtney Mitchell
Members of the Media and Public	

- 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 reported that he recently had lunch with another local community's Chief of Police who had many compliments on Salem's Police Department and excellent training program.

V. CITY COUNCIL ACTION

1. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Minutes – October 17, 2022

Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Koehler to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Councilwoman Troutt abstained, as she was not at the meeting. Motion carried.

2. Mayor's Appointment of Myron Lloyd to the Historical Commission

Mayor Farley indicated Mr. Lloyd was recommended by members of the Historical Commission, and has indicated he is willing to serve. Farley added that Mr. Lloyd will be a valuable addition to the Commission. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

3. Final Reading for Property Tax Levy for Collection in 2023 and Ordinance Approval

City Manager Barbee indicated the levy ordinance is presented in two readings, and this is the second reading. The levy to be collected in 2023 will be 2.8% higher than the last levy. Mayor Farley asked how the levy amount is determined. Finance Director Roth responded that she uses a spreadsheet calculation using last year's EAV and the current CPI. Since the city is under tax caps, we can never get the full 4.99% allowed. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to approve Ordinance 2022-16 levying taxes for 2022 to be collected in 2023. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

4. Approval of Resolution Abating Property Tax Levy for General Obligation Bonds, Series 2017

City Manager Barbee and Finance Director Roth indicated this is an annual resolution, as the bonds are not paid by taxes, and are always abated. The total amount to be abated is \$455,119 of the total bond, which is \$2,465,000. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to approve Resolution 2022-07 abating \$455,119 in Bond Series 2017. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

5. Renewal of Liability, Property and Casualty, and Workers' Compensation Insurance with ICRMT through Kane Insurance

Mayor Farley indicated he knows the City has a great working relationship with Kane Insurance, and he hears good comments from the employees. ICRMT provides assistance with policy and procedure development, offers many different types of training, and has lawyers on staff who provide legal advice and service. The proposed increase is 12% (\$53,200), but if the City was a private business, the increase would probably be 30-40%.

Bob Kane and Tom Kane of Kane Insurance were present to answer questions. Mr. (Bob) Kane thanked the Mayor for his kind comments, and added that it has been a pleasure to work with the City, and that ICRMT feels the same way. Kane added that not all cities take advantage of the services ICRMT offers. Mr. Kane indicated presenting the renewal proposal is not as pleasurable as it has been, due to increases. Workers Comp and Cyber coverage have both gone up, and the City's property values have gone up 7%, from \$62 million to \$69 million.

Mr. Kane indicated Worker's Compensation coverage has gone up 22%. Of the 14 claims made over the past three years, five are still open (*which is not unusual*). During the past year, the City has had seven claims. The big issue seems to be indemnity, which is loss of time from work. Mr. Kane added that the Department Heads have been very proactive in working with ICRMT by contacting the case workers, adjustors, and the injured parties to get employees back to work. Mr. Kane indicated the three-year loss ratio, which is Mod is based on, shows a total loss of \$563,557 out of a \$900,000 premium, which is a 65% loss ratio. Mr. Kane added that with the hurricanes affecting reinsurance, we are fortunate that the rates haven't gotten a lot worse a lot sooner.

Mayor Farley indicated he sat in on the meeting where Mr. (Tom) Kane provided an overview of the renewal, and he would like to see the City remain with ICRMT through Kane Insurance Agency.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Mr. Koehler to approve the renewal of the Property Casualty, Liability and Workers’ Compensation insurance with ICRMT through Kane Insurance for the next term year. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

VI. CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

City Manager Barbee –

- indicated that Guinzy Construction hit a waterline on Whittaker Street, and the water/sewer maintenance crews worked on the temporary fix;
- indicated the leaf vac crews are ahead of the game, and have been working tomorrow’s route today;
- urged all to exercise their right to vote at the polls tomorrow.

Chief of Police Ambuehl –

- indicated there was no “active shooter” situation in Salem – it was a social media fiasco;
- indicated Deputy Chief Miller spoke at the library during a county-wide conversation with Midland Area on Aging , on how social isolation, loneliness, lack of company, lack of access to a car, etc. can all add to the problems our seniors are experiencing;
- added that the Police Commissioners and the PD are still working on getting one more hire made and registered for the Academy. City Manager Barbee indicated he spoke with the PD’s latest hire, and she is enjoying the academy and doing well.

VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – no report.

VIII. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Koehler –

- indicated the gutters at the Bryan Home need cleaned out.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Bev Quinn, CMC
City Clerk

Minutes approved: _____