

**CITY OF SALEM**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**August 7, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**
- III. Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
- IV. Mayor’s Report and Presentations**
  
- V. City Council Action**
  - 1. Consent Agenda
    - City Council Minutes – request approval for 07-17-2023 meeting minutes.
  - 2. Introduction of new Police Dispatcher Emma Cavins to Council.
  - 3. Request to classify as surplus items from the Salem Police Department.
  - 4. Approval of appointment for open Library Board member.
  - 5. Authorization to purchase a replacement pump for the Goose Creek Lift Station.
  - 6. Approval of revised invoice for the repair work at the water plant covering additional work that was required as part of repairs completed by JK Trotter.
  - 7. Approval to write off outstanding utility amounts that are no longer collectible because they are over 7 years old.
  
- VI. City Manager Report with Department Head Updates**
- VII. Executive Session – Discussion of possible litigation**
  - 5 ILCS 120/2 (2)(11) – Discussion of potential legal action
- VIII. Return to open session**
- IX. City Attorney Report**
- X. City Council Members Report**
- XI. Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee  
City Manager  
*RAB*

*Quote of the Day –*

Some of the Presidents were great and some of them weren’t. I can say that, because I wasn’t one of the great Presidents, but I had a good time trying to be one, I tell you that.

-Harry S. Truman

---

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**August 7, 2023 – 6:00 pm**

- I. Call to Order**

The regular August 7, 2023 meeting of the Salem City Council was convened in the Council Chambers of Salem City Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nicolas Farley at 6:00 pm

<b>Council members present:</b> Councilman Jim Koehler Councilman Royce Bringwald Councilwoman Tracy Crouch Councilman Craig Morton Mayor Nicolas Farley	<b>Council members absent:</b> None
---	--

  

<b>Others present:</b> City Manager Rex Barbee City Attorney Mike Jones Finance Director Keli Roth Public Works Director Annette Sola Assistant Public Works Director Courtney Mitchell D.O.E.M. Director Andrew Strong Members of the Media and Public	 City Clerk Tabitha Meador Police Chief Kyle Ambuehl Deputy Police Chief Susan Miller Economic Development Director Leah Dellicarpini
--	---

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

- reported the Marion County Fair was a great event last week.

V. City Council Action

1. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes – July 17, 2023

*Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch to approve the minutes of July 17, 2023 meeting, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. Nays: None. Motion carried.*

2. Introduction of new Police Dispatcher Emma Cavins to Council.

Police Chief Ambuehl introduced Ms. Emma Cavins as the new dispatcher for the Salem Police Department. Ms. Cavins is a recent graduate of Salem Community High School and expressed interest in staying in the community. She is starting her second week with the Department, and will undergo six months of CTO training. Mayor Farley and the Council welcomed Ms. Cavins. Once she is trained, the Police Department will reorganize schedules so that most shifts will have two dispatchers on duty.

3. Request to classify as surplus items from the Salem Police Department.

Police Chief Ambuehl indicated these weapons (listed below) have been in the gun closet for at least his full career (23+ years) with the Salem Police Department.

Make	Model	Caliber	Serial Number
Browning	SA-22	.22 LR	T83013
Remington	Model 514	.22 S/L/LR	N/A
Hi-Standard	R-100	.22LR	43456
H&R	Model 999	.22LR	AR48815
H&R	Cap-Chur Powder Projector	32 gauge special	AL259353
Glenfield	Model 60	.22LR	23368914
Remington	870 Magnum	12 gauge	W423770M
Stevens	Model 94C	12 gauge	N/A
Mossberg	Model 185K	20 gauge	N/A
Winchester	Model 60A	.22 short	N/A
Norinco	JW-27	.22LR	9108078
FEG	PA-63	9x18 Makarov	BB3524

Chief Ambuehl also indicated no record of how the weapons were acquired, as they were not in the evidence vault. All serial numbers have been searched through LEADS, and found no claims or indication that they have been involved in any crimes. If surplussed, the higher bidder of the two local gun dealers will purchase the weapons, and in turn, the money will be used to upgrade patrol rifle equipment. *Motion to approve the surplus list of weapons made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Morton, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.*

4. Approval of appointment for open Library Board position.

Mayor Farley indicated he is recommending the appointment of Marilyn Lewis to the Library Board. Mrs. Lewis moved to Salem a couple years ago, and would like to be active in the community. *Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to appoint Marilyn Lewis to the Bryan-Bennett Library Board. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.*

5. Authorization to purchase a replacement pump for the Goose Creek Lift Station.

City Manager Barbee indicated the Goose Creek Lift Station (near XPO Logistics) has two pumps, and one is failing. As the pump has been repaired in the past, the best solution is to replace the pump. A proposal from Hydro-Kinetics for a new replacement T4A35-B pump similar to the

existing pump, has a price tag of \$9,285.00. ***Motion by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Koehler to approve the purchase of the new T4A35-B pump from Hydro-Kinetics in the amount of \$9,285.00. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

**6. Approval of revised invoice for the repair work at the water plant covering additional work that was required as part of the repairs completed by JK Trotter.**

Mayor Farley indicated the Council had previously approved \$35,000 in emergency repair at the Water Plant by JK Trotter. Work has been completed, but there was a need for additional parts and labor to complete the repair over what was anticipated. The invoice comes in at \$44,160.00 or \$9,160.00 over estimate. This amount is still considerably less than the other two bids for the repair work. ***Motion made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch to approve the adjusted invoice amount of \$44,160.00 to JK Trotter. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

**7. Approval to write off outstanding utility amounts that are no longer collectible because they are over 7 years old.**

Mayor Farley indicated the Finance Director has compiled a list of outstanding utility bills that are over 7 years in age. Some of the unpaid amounts are the result of the customer passing away without an estate and the others are from customers who have moved out of town and left an amount due with no forwarding address or were unresponsive. The accounting rules indicate that if the debt is older than 7 years, we can no longer carry it on our account balances, and it should be written off. The individual amounts are still tied to the customer's name and if they return in the future to establish utilities in their name, the past due amount does show up and we will attempt to establish a repayment plan. The amount shown to be written off amounts to \$3,396.25 in deceased account holder balances, and \$10,685.97 in other unpaid balances for a total of \$14,082.22. ***Motion to approve the write-off of the list of uncollected utility debt older than 7 years of age as presented made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Crouch, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

**VI. City Manager and Dept Head Reports**

**City Clerk Meador** – no report.

**Police Chief Ambuehl** – no report.

**Economic Development Director Dellicarpini** –

- indicated the old Pizza Hut property sale closed on Friday.

**Finance Director Roth** – no report.

**Public Works Director Sola** – no report.

**City Manager Barbee** –

- indicated his appreciation to the Public Works crews for their repair of the waterline break on West Main Street last week;
- indicated the City has ordered sanctioned disc golf baskets for installation;
- indicated that local talent was featured at last week's Marion County Fair;
- indicated the YMCA summer camps wrapped up last week.

**VII. City Attorney Report** – No report.

**VIII. City Council Member Report**

**Councilman Koehler** –

- indicated he has contacted Americana for input of a roof over the stage in Bryan Memorial Park, but has not received an answer;
- indicated he has been in contact with a man from New Mexico who is interested in participating in the proposed "Bryan Festival"; the group will be meeting in September.

**Councilman Bringwald** –

- indicated he has received many inquiries regarding the homeless population of Salem.

- IX. Executive Session – 5 ILCS 120/2 (2)(11) Discussion of possible litigation**  
***Motion was made at 6:22 PM by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilwoman Crouch, Councilman Morton, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

*Return to open session at 6:46 PM.*

- X. Motion to Adjourn**  
***Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilwoman Crouch to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Crouch, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: Councilman Koehler. Motion carried.***

Tabitha Meador  
City Clerk

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