

CITY OF SALEM IL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 6, 2023 – 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 – February 21, 2023
 - 2. Review of bids for chemicals for the Salem Water Treatment Plant and awarding of bid.
 - 3. Review of bid results on rock and sand for public works activities and awarding of the bid.
 - 4. Review of bid opening for water line project along South Broadway.
 - 5. Closure of Police Pension Fund Account with Edward Jones.
 - 6. Authorization to install new fencing at the dog park in Bryan Park.
 - 7. Request to hold a 5K race in Bryan Memorial Park on April 22.
 - 8. Mayoral appointment for Department of Emergency Management

- 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 –

Sam Houston: You will remember this battle! Each minute! Each second! Until the day that you die! But that is for tomorrow, gentlemen. For today, Remember the Alamo!

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2023

- I. Call to Order**

The regular March 6, 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

Council members present:
Councilman Jim Koehler
Councilman Royce Bringwald
Councilwoman Amy Troutt
Councilman Craig Morton *(Arrived after approval of minutes.)*
Mayor Nicolas Farley

Council members absent: None.

Others present:

City Manager Rex Barbee	City Clerk Bev Quinn
City Attorney Mike Jones	Economic Development Dir. Tabitha Meador
Chief of Police Kyle Ambuehl	Public Works Director Annette Sola
Finance Director Keli Roth	Asst. Public Works Director Courtney Mitchell
Deputy Chief of Police Susan Miller	DOEM Director Terry Mulvany
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 congratulated the SCHS Bowling Team for their second State Championship, and added that they represented the City well.

Mayor Farley indicated he would be presenting his "State of the City" address on March 16th at the Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce Grub and Grow lunch at Iron Saddle.

V. **City Council Action**

1. **Consent Agenda**

- (a) Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2023

Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to approve the minutes of February 21, 2023, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

(Councilman Morton arrived at 6:03 pm.)

2. **Review of bids for chemicals for the Salem Water Treatment Plant and awarding of bid.**

City Manager Barbee indicated bids were solicited for soda ash and liquid chlorine for use at the Water Plant. The low bid for soda ash was received from Brenntag Mid-South, in the amount of \$16.00 per 50 lb. bag, and the low bid for the liquid chlorine was from D.P.C. Enterprises in the amount of \$2,140.40 per ton *(which includes delivery using a crane hoist.)* Dir. Sola added that, although the price for liquid chlorine is higher than in previous year, they are using some different chemicals, which will allow the Plant to use less chlorine than in the past. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to award the bid for soda ash to Brenntag Mid-South, in the amount of \$16.00/50 lb. bag, and the bid for liquid chlorine to D.P.C. Enterprises in the amount of \$2,140.40/ton. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

3. **Review of bid results on rock and sand for public work activities and awarding of the bid.**

City Manager Barbee indicated bids were solicited for rock and sand for street maintenance. The low bidder for the FA1 sand was Beelman Logistics at \$16.38/ton, and the low bidder for the CA6 rock was Walsh Farms Trucking at 15.30/ton.

Discussion ensued regarding the option the City Council has on approving bids from local bidders if they are less than 10% higher than the low bid.

Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Koehler to award the bid the low bidders, Beelman Logistics at \$16.38/ton for the FA1 sand and Walsh Farms Trucking at \$15.30/ton for CA6 rock. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald. NAYS: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. Motion failed.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Trott and seconded by Councilman Koehler to award both bids to Walsh Farms Trucking at \$16.95/ton for FA1 sand and \$15.30/ton for CA6 rock. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Morton, Mayor Farley. Motion carried.

4. **Review of bid opening for water line project along South Broadway**

City Manager Barbee indicated bids were opened for the water line replacement project on South Broadway from Main Street to Kell Street with 3 vendors providing bids on the project. Roger Mensing of Curry & Associates assisted in preparing the bid specs and attended the bid opening. The low bidder on the project was J.K. Trotter and Sons at \$689,030. Barbee added that this project is being funded with ARPA funds. Mayor Farley added that ARPA funds were intended to be invested back into infrastructure, and came in under bid. Finance Director Roth indicated the total amount of ARPA funds received is \$950,000. Public Works Dir. Sola indicated there may be change orders that occur, raising the cost, but the project involves some sidewalk removal without replacement -- if there are excess funds, she intends to use them to replace the sidewalks that are removed. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to approve the award of bid to J. K. Trotter and Sons in the amount of \$689,030 for the water line project along South Broadway. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

5. Closure of Police Pension Fund Account with Edward Jones

City Manager Barbee indicated he State of Illinois has chosen to consolidate Police Pension funds through the State and combine those funds into larger pools to try to increase the return on the investments. The local Police Pension Board has approved the closure of the Edward Jones account and Dir. Roth is requesting that City Council approve closure of the account. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to approve closure of the Police Pension Fund account with Edward Jones. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

6. Authorization to install new fencing at the dog park in Bryan Park

City Manager Barbee indicated Public Works is requesting authorization to move forward with the purchase and installation of new fencing at the dog park. The park will be divided into large dog and small dog sections, and will be installed by Public Works employees to minimize the cost. Total cost is \$16,607.01.

Councilman Bringwald indicated he is not in favor of investing these funds in the dog park at this time, as a dog park is a luxury item. Additionally, people are not cleaning up after their pets. There is waste, destroyed toys, trash all discarded inside the park, which provides for a disease factor. Mayor Farley asked Councilman Bringwald how he expects it to be maintained. Bringwald responded that he cleaned it up two times per day for six months.

Councilwoman Troutt brought up community culture, and indicated that with population loss, the City has to think about what people are looking for. Dog parks are one of the attractions younger adults and families are looking for. Mayor Farley concurred, and indicated that if we want to attract people to Salem, these are the types of things they are looking for.

Dir. Sola indicated that if approved, she expects to have the fence done by May 1st.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and approved by Councilman Morton to authorized purchase and installation of the fence at the dog park. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. NAYS: Councilman Bringwald. Motion carried.

7. Request to hold a 5K race in Bryan Memorial Park on April 22

City Manager Barbee indicated he had received a request from Evergreen Christian Church to hold a fund raising 5K in Bryan Memorial Park on April 22nd. Councilman Koehler added that the fundraiser is to benefit the “Broken Chains Mission” which combats human trafficking in Costa Rica. Koehler added that he will be participating, and they expect approximately 40 participants, with the run starting at the entrance near the hospital. Councilman Morton asked if the concern regarding the trail passing through private property has been addressed. City Manager Barbee responded that he does not expect it to be an issue, as it is not deer season. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Koehler to approve the request from Evergreen Christian Church to use Bryan Memorial Park and the nature trail for their 5K fundraiser on April 22, 2023. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

8. Mayoral Appointment for Department of Emergency Management

Mayor Farley indicated he had regretfully accepted Department of Emergency Management Director Terry Mulvany’s letter of resignation (*the date of which has been extended by a few weeks*) and subsequently announced that he was accepting applications for the position. As a result, he, Chief Ambuehl and Deputy Chief Miller interviewed Asst. Dir. Andrew Strong for the position. Farley added that Strong has a strong grasp of what the position entails, including the need to increase volunteers. Mayor Farley further added that he reached out to Salem Fire Protection District Chief Jim Cerney, and Chief Cerney was also in favor of Mr. Strong being appointed to this position. With City Council’s approval, the appointment of Andrew Strong to the position of Director of the DOEM will become effective May 23, 2023.

Mayor Farley indicated Director Mulvany has done a magnificent job, and has served the City well. Dir. Mulvany indicated he has spent 53 years in EMA, 43 of which have been as DOEM Director. Mulvany indicated he will continue to serve as a volunteer in the organization for a while to help Mr. Strong in his new position. Mayor Farley thanked Dir. Mulvany, and added that Mr. Strong has a commitment to Salem and has served in emergency services for a number of years. ***Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to approve the appointment of Andrew Strong to the position of Director of DOEM, effective May 23, 2023. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald,***

Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

VI. City Manager and Dept Head Reports

Director Roth –

- indicated she would be getting he budgets out to City Council and Department Heads next week. Roth added that she is looking into ways to generate revenue, and interest on our bank accounts is a way to do that. Currently, she is looking into IPrime, which is a pooled investment group. The highest interest she has been able to get locally has been 3.5%, and with IPrime, she could get as high as 5.15%. Dir. Roth indicated she would be looking at a 12-month CD, which could generate \$70,000 in extra revenue. Roth asked if members of Council were opposed to moving funds from local banks. Councilwoman Troutt responded that for that amount of revenue, it's worth exploring.

Asst. Public Works Dir. Mitchell –

- indicated they are need of pool applications. Additionally, she will be using an alternate media to get the word out, and has created a pool Instagram account, in hopes of reaching young people.

Public Works Director Sola –

- indicated she has tried to contact Dennis Grubaugh regarding demolition of the former Selmaville North school, and she has had no response. Sola added that he is wanting to pick through and salvage different parts of the building, and she does not have the time or resources to have equipment on site while he makes his selections. Sola added that if Mr. Grubaugh will get his salvage items out, she can have the remainder of the building down in a couple of days.

Economic Development Dir. Meador –

- indicated she has been working with the Bicentennial Celebration Committee, and has been contacting food trucks. One of the food trucks asked if they can set up for the Bicentennial Celebration on July 1, leave their truck on site, and open back up for the July 4th fireworks. Council members had no objections.

Chief of Police Ambuehl –

- indicated he, Deputy Chief Miller and Officers Craig Phillips and Blake Phillips attended the Southern Illinois Crime Justice Summit this week with 300 other law enforcement officers, with very good speakers. There are currently 7,000 bills in the House session pertaining to law enforcement;
- indicated there will be mandated training and law update for all officers at the KC Salem Center next week;
- indicated he will be advertising and posting the open telecommunicator position beginning this week.

City Manager Barbee –

- indicated he will be meeting with J & M Display at 11:00 am on Thursday, and up to two Council members are welcome to attend;
- indicated he will be meeting with a representative of Enterprise Fleet Services on Wednesday;
- indicated he and Dir. Meador will be attending an Economic Development Conference on Friday, March 17th.

VII. City Attorney Report – No Report

**VIII. City Council Member Report
Councilman Bringwald –**

- Indicated the octagon table and the bridge in Bryan Park look good.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Morton to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 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: _____