

CITY OF SALEM IL
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 3, 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 – March 20, 2023
 - 2. Presentation on renewal of City of Salem health care plan with Mutual Medical.
 - 3. Presentation by Enterprise Fleet Services for possible lease agreement
 - 4. Approval of J & M Displays fireworks contract and issuance of permit
 - 5. Request to vacate the alleyway behind Open Arms Fellowship on the 1200 block of Miller Street between Seneff and Dick Streets
 - 6. First reading of all funds, excluding General Fund, for the FY24 Budget

- 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 –

A child miseducated is a child lost.

John F. Kennedy

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 3, 2023

- I. Call to Order**

The regular April 3, 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
Councilman Craig Morton
Councilwoman Amy Troutt
Mayor Nicolas Farley

Council members absent: None.

Others present:

City Manager Rex Barbee	Economic Development Dir. Tabitha Meador
City Attorney Mike Jones	Public Works Director Annette Sola
Chief of Police Kyle Ambuehl	Asst. Public Works Director Courtney Mitchell
Finance Director Keli Roth	Economic Development Director Leah Dellicarpini
Deputy Chief of Police Susan Miller	DOEM Director Terry Mulvany
Animal Control Officer Dave Lusch	Asst. DOEM Director Andrew Strong
Library Director Kim Keller	
Members of the Media and Public	

Mayor Farley requested to amend the agenda to include the extension of the emergency curfew issued on April 1, 2023 through 7 AM, April 10, 2023.

Motion made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to amend the agenda of April 3, 2023 to review the extension of the emergency curfew issued on April 1, 2023. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

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 offered condolences to City Clerk Bev Quinn on the passing of her father.

Mayor Farley indicated how proud he was of how the city responded to the tornado of Friday night, March 31, 2023. He has nothing but respect for the city crews, city staff, law enforcement, and emergency management. All city entities worked together. Mayor Farley offered a tremendous thank you to DOEM Director Mulvany and Asst. DOEM Director Strong.

Mayor Farley indicated a Town Hall meeting has been set for people affected by the tornado and volunteer organizations at the Marion County Fairgrounds at 5 PM on Tuesday, April 4, 2023. The purpose is to match households and people with volunteers.

DOEM Director Mulvany thanked the citizens and volunteers for their efforts in the aftermath of the tornado. It is the second tornado he has worked in his DOEM Director career. Director Mulvany commended Asst. Director Strong for his leadership during the aftermath. Director Mulvany reported no injuries and no fatalities.

V. City Council Action

1. Consent Agenda

a) Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2023

Motion was made by Councilman Bringwald and seconded by Councilman Koehler to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Bringwald, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. ABSTENTIONS: Councilwoman Troutt. Motion carried.

b) *Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt to extend the emergency curfew issued on April 1, 2023 until 7 AM on April 10, 2023. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.*

2. Presentation on renewal of City of Salem health care plan with Mutual Medical.

Presentation by Todd Dobbs with Chaney and Karch Agency on the renewal request for the Health Care Plan currently in place through Mutual Medical. Dobbs and David Andreas presented the information to office staff on 3-28-2023, which includes two options. City Manager Barbee recommends the approval of Renewal A, which is an approximately 4% rate increase of \$11,136 to \$289,542 of the estimated annual premium. The expected plan cost is \$1,083,812, a 1.04% increase over the current year.

Motion was made by Councilman Koehler and seconded by Councilwoman Troutt for Renewal A, an estimated annual premium of \$289,542 and expected plan cost of \$1,083,812. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

3. Presentation by Enterprise Fleet Services for possible lease agreement.

Information provided by Broc McGuire on the proposal from Enterprise Fleet Services to consider entering into a lease program with them on some vehicles used in Public Works and possibly entering into an agreement to replace squad cars for the Police Department. We are not proposing to replace all of the vehicles in one year and would consider purchase of some heavy-duty dump trucks outright or through Enterprise due to the long-term position we would utilize the equipment. This is an introductory moment on the concept of leasing for budgetary benefits.

McGuire indicated that Enterprise Fleet Services is brand agnostic and does allow for a local buying option, but that nullifies the municipal discount; repairs are made through local vendors. Lead times on heavy-duty vehicles can be up to a year, whereas sedans are six months. The Cities of Mt. Vernon and Centralia both recommend the program. The master lease agreement indicates each vehicle with their own terms; lease auto-extends for twelve

months; no payment until vehicle delivery. Electric vehicles are not calculated into this proposal.

The agreement will be reviewed at the April 17, 2023 City Council meeting.

4. Approval of J & M Displays fireworks contract and issuance of permit.

J & M Fireworks Displays have met with Staff and have provided a list of the items for the show. Due to this year being the Bicentennial of Salem, the Tourism Board has provided \$10,000.00 to enhance the show. The budgeted amount was \$15,000.00, so we are looking at a \$25,000.00 show this year. The fireworks show will be held at about 9 PM on Tuesday, July 4th at the Salem Reservoir.

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

5. Request to vacate the alleyway behind Open Arms Fellowship on the 1200 block of Miller Street between Seneff and Dick Streets.

Open Arms Fellowship Church, 1201 N. Miller Street, owns all of the property in that block. There is an alleyway established that runs the length of that block from East Seneff Street to Dick Street. There are no utilities in the alleyway at present and Public Works has no objection to vacating the alleyway.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Bringwald to approve Ordinance No. 2023-06, vacating an alley running north and south between Dick St. and Seneff St. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Councilman Morton, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

6. First reading of all funds, excluding General Fund, for the FY24 Budget

FY24 Non-General Fund Budget Summary

ESDA: No change in revenues or expenditures. *(Balanced)*

Garbage: Collection fee surcharge and interest increase revenues by about \$80,000. Collection fees and agency services increased \$52,000. We also have a need to rent a bell truck and skid steer. *(Over budget by \$75,000)*

Parks: Parks are also receiving \$64,000 more in transfers from the General Fund. We are making improvements to the dog park fence, putting concrete at the dog park, walking trail, and soccer field as well as getting rock for the parking lot at a shelter and fitness equipment. *(Balanced)*

Historical Commission: Revenues and expenses increased slightly with the added cemetery tour. *(Under Budget \$900)*

Library: This is the budget that was presented to the library board but has not been passed by their board yet. Their preliminary budget is comparable to last year except for a decrease in building maintenance of \$190,000 from their roof replacement. It may have some changes before we pass the budget at the end of April.

Recreation: Revenues are comparable to previous years. Expenses are \$100,000 lower without the soccer complex improvements, which are now coming out of the gaming fund. *(Over budget \$29,000)*

Motor Fuel Tax: Revenues are \$82,000 less than last year since we have received all the Rebuild IL funds. In total we received \$493,291. The funds are required to be used on a road project and are being used to overlay N. College and N. Jefferson

The increase in engineering expenses is from the engineering at West Whittaker. Our street resurfacing expense has increased for the Rebuild IL grant and reserves will pay for the excess amount. We are also doing curb and gutter replacement at Woodland and Hawthorn. *(Over budget \$1,087,000 due to expending reserves from MFT and Rebuild IL)*

Police Pension: The minimum contribution decreased almost \$70,000. Our expenses have increased due to possible retirement. *(Under budget)*

Downtown TIF: Revenues and expenses have remained the same. *(Under budget \$1,300)*

Tourism: Revenues and expenses have remained comparable to the previous year except for the transfer to the general fund for the fireworks and Fourth of July celebration. *Over budget,*

but with the additional hotel/motel tax not figured in the revenues should be about \$60,000 more)

Veteran's Fund: Revenues and expenses comparable to previous year. *(Over budget \$750 but using reserves)*

Water and Sewer: Water and sewer revenues should increase from previous years, depending on usage. There has been an increase in salaries and health insurance expenses. Water treatment needs to purchase a backwash pump. We are expecting the water fund to pay for about \$100,000 of the Broadway waterline. The wastewater plant needs to replace their roof, move electric, and install trusses.

In previous fiscal years we used reserves out of the water fund to make up for the shortfall of revenue. With our rate increases, we do not have a shortfall in the water fund and will not need to use water fund reserves but will need to be under budget in the coming years to increase our reserves. I still feel that we should look at making a yearly increase of about 2-3% so a big increase will not put such a burden on our water users. *(Under Budget by \$166,505)*

Gas: Revenues are higher due to previous years' usage. Our system improvements for \$366,000 will be meter replacement on Edgewood Rd, Oak Tree n, ½ of Shady Ln, and ½ of Pine Tree. *We are also repairing the roof and interior roof truss at the gas plant. (Over budget \$64,000 but using reserves to cover)*

Capital Project (1/2 cent sales tax): Revenues are estimated to increase about \$25,000 as well as interest of \$28,000 from the previous year. We are going to complete street surfacing on Kell Street from Rt. 37 to College St as well as College St from Broughton to Boone. An estimated \$200,000 will be used from this fund for the Broadway waterline project with the majority coming out of the ARPA grant. In total we have \$950,000 in grant funding to use towards this project. *(Under budget \$223,736)*

Matching Grant Projects: Revenues remain flat. We have budget to give the soccer complex a donation of \$50,000 out of this account. The rest of the expenses remain flat. *(Over budget \$20,000 but using reserves)*

TIF #2: Revenues are comparable to previous year and expenses have decreased due to no longer having the loan from the previous SBIC property. *(Under budget \$38,000)*

Grants: We have closed out the NAL and Housing grants. Little Egypt Lane will be under construction in FY24, but almost complete. IDOT is paying ½ of Little Egypt Lane. The other half is coming from local funds (Little Egypt Golf Cars). The main project in this fund is the Broadway waterline being paid for with the \$950,000 in grant funds that were received in prior fiscal years. *(Over budget \$948,500)*

Business District: Business district tax revenue has increased. 80% of the revenue brought in by Denny's is given back to them through an agreement. The other 20% can be used on the business district only. *(Balanced)*

The total of all revenues in all funds including the General Fund is \$18,576,155 with expenses being \$20,730,571.

Mayor Farley indicated this is the first reading of the FY24 Non-General Fund Budget Summary. Second reading and approval will be at the April 17, 2023 City Council meeting.

VI. City Manager and Dept Head Reports

City Manager Barbee –

- Commended the Police Department, Public Works Department, and DOEM for their efforts in the tornado aftermath;
- indicated that City staff attended the Chamber of Commerce's Gala where the City was awarded the "Partners in Progress";
- offered condolences to City Clerk Bev Quinn on the passing of her father;
- reminded everyone to vote on April 4th.

Chief of Police Ambuehl –

- commended the Public Works Department and Deputy Chief Miller, along with members of the Police Department on their quick response to the tornado;
- indicated that Centralia Chief of Police Locke and Sheriff Cripps and Lt. Decker with the Marion County Sheriff's office supplied manpower and resources through the tornado response.

Library Director Kim Keller –

- indicated it’s nice and quiet at the Library.

Public Works Director Sola –

- commended her team for the efforts made in the tornado response;
- indicated 70 loads of debris have been taken from the tornado site;
- indicated Guinzy Construction is scheduled to be back on the Whittaker St. project on April 3rd, and plan to have the project completed by May 15th, weather permitting;
- the S. Broadway waterline construction project has been delayed, due to the tornado.

Finance Director Roth –

- indicated that Revenue Expense Reports should be out this week.

Economic Development Director Meador –

- indicated that today was incoming Economic Development Director Leah Dellicarpini’s first day, and they are working together to train for the position.

Assistant DOEM Director Strong –

- indicated the IEMA representative has been in town to assess the tornado damage.

VII. City Attorney Report – No report.

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

- Thanked all those involved in the tornado response. He has spent time in the disaster area.

IX. Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilwoman Troutt and seconded by Councilman Morton to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilman Koehler, Councilman Bringwald, Councilwoman Troutt, Mayor Farley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Tabitha Meador
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: _____