

**CITY OF SALEM
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Sept. 21, 2020 – 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. City Council Minutes – request approval for 09-08-2020 minutes
 - 2. Discussion on current political sign ordinance
 - 3. Discussion on allowing Trick or Treat night
 - 4. Ordinance – Pertaining to the Local CURE Program
 - 5. Accounts payable report for the period August 17th through Sept. 18th, 2020

- VI. City Manager Report**
- VII. City Attorney Report**
- VIII. City Council Members Report**
- IX. Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee
City Manager

RAB

Quote of the day –

The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will. - Vince Lombardi.

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2. Resident Brock Waggoner has requested that the Council review the current sign ordinance regarding the allowed sizes of political signs in yards. The current ordinance restricts the sign size to no more than 8 square feet per side. This topic is for discussion. A copy of the sign ordinance regarding Political Signs is shown below.

Sec. 6-81. - Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to preserve and protect the public health, safety and welfare by regulating outdoor advertising and signs of all types. It is intended to enhance the physical appearance of the community while at the same time preserving the integrity of residential neighborhoods encouraging economic and commercial growth throughout the business areas of the city. Also, it is intended to reduce the sign or advertising distractions which may cause traffic accidents, eliminate hazards caused by signs overhanging public rights-of-way, the gradual elimination of nonconforming signs, and in general, to secure safety to life and property as they relate to signs.

(Ord. No. 83-25, § 1.1, 12-19-83)

Sec. 6-166. - Political signs

Political signs are permitted in all areas of the city subject to the following provisions:

No sign shall be larger than eight (8) square feet per side, two (2) sides permitted.

Signs must not be on the public right-of-way or be located so as to obstruct the visual clearance needed for safe vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

Signs shall not be illuminated.

Signs shall either be flush wall or freestanding.

No political sign may be attached to utility poles, trees on public right-of-way, street light poles, street or traffic signs or fire hydrants.

(Ord. No. 83-25, § 7.5, 12-19-83; Ord. No. 88-26, §§ I, II, 10-3-88; Ord. No. 2011-03, § I, 2-7-11)

3. Trick or Treat night is typically on Halloween, except when it falls on a Saturday or Sunday. Halloween event had tentatively been scheduled for Friday, October 30th. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, there has been some question as to whether or not the City of Salem should schedule an event. Sandoval and Junction City have already declared that they will be having Trick or Treat this year but are suggesting that everyone where a mask among other precautions to limit contact and the risk of spreading the disease. To date, there have been no guidance memos issued from the Governor's office or IDPH on Trick or Treating. In recent years there have been more groups and churches hosting a "Trunk or Treat" and at least one Salem business has indicated that their large parking lot could be the site of a Trunk or Treat event.

4. This ordinance has been drafted and recommended by the Illinois Municipal League to assist with the DCEO CURE (*COVID-19 reimbursement program*). Recommending approval.

5. The accounts payable report for the period of August 17 - Sept. 18, 2020 is provided. Recommending approval.