

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE
SAVANNA CITY COUNCIL IN THE CITY OF SAVANNA, CARROLL COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS AT 333 CHICAGO AVENUE, SAVANNA, ILLINOIS 61074**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Chris Lain called the meeting to order on the said date at 7:30 P.M. Notice of the meeting was delivered to all Council members and posted at 333 Chicago Avenue, Savanna, Illinois in accordance with the State of Illinois Open Meetings Act.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Chris Lain led the Council in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL / ESTABLISH QUORUM:

Mayor Chris Lain declared the establishment of a quorum with members in attendance Mayor Chris Lain, Jim Friedenbach, Jocelyn Boyd, Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, and Sara Purdom, with Jeff Griswold and Roger Husband absent. Non-members in attendance were News Media: Mike Nester, Mike Miller, and Colton Ostrum, Linda Grissinger, Julie Katzenberger-Superintendent of West Carroll School District, Shay Bradbury-West Carroll Board of Education Board Member, Mariah Katzenberger, Comptroller/Treasurer Brittany Hatteberg, Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman, Fire Chief Shawn Picolotti, Police Chief Jeff Doran, and City Attorney Phil Jensen.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

After a brief review of the amended agenda, **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Nick Law.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consideration of the Minutes of the December 10, 2019 Regular Meeting and Executive Session: Sara Purdom motioned to approve the Minutes from December 10, 2019, seconded by Pat Sanchez. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Water/Sewer/Refuse/Street and Alley Committee, 12-17-19: Pat Sanchez reported on the meeting, the focus was to wrap up the year. There was discussion on parking on Wacker Road and also do a 10 year street study. A firm would be hired to evaluate the streets to determine which should be addressed over a 10 year period—try to get the worst ones updated first. The goal is to get them all where they should be. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman would like to budget this in the 2020-2021 Budget Year and also do a flood infiltration study. The sewer treatment plant is processing more water when the river floods and would like a plan to prevent infiltration. **Sara Purdom motioned to approve the Water/Sewer/Refuse/Street and Alley Committee report, seconded by Jocelyn Boyd.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Hotel/Motel Committee, 01-08-20: Sara Purdom reported on the meeting, she said one of the exciting things is we have reached 67,000 people in one month on Facebook. They also discussed their social media presence and they want to continue to focus efforts there instead of publications. The new billboard is up on Route 20, it is changed out four times per year-the next change out is in March. The Facebook page also hit an overall following of 10,000 people. Giveaways will happen again for St. Patrick's Day for the pub crawl and Valentine's Day. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the Hotel/Motel Committee report, seconded by Jocelyn Boyd.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Finance Committee, 01-14-20: Chairman Pat Sanchez updated the Council on the meeting held

earlier. The regular reports and annual budget were reviewed.

Request for Funds, Fire Hose: Fire Chief Shawn Picolotti requested to have enough hose in storage to replenish the lines on one truck and keep enough on hand in case, he said it would probably be under \$1,000. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the purchase of fire hose not to exceed \$2,200.00, seconded by Sara Purdom.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Request for Funds, SUV/Truck Squad, Police Department: Police Chief Jeff Doran stated a squad was ordered from Ford and shy of \$50,000, he cancelled that order thinking we can do better. The state bid is through Thomas Dodge and got two bids for \$24,652 and \$25,739. An offer was given to trade in the Dodge Charger for \$4,000 to go towards the purchase of a new squad. For the amount over from what was previously approved, Police Chief Jeff Doran requests that be paid from the Police Protection Fund. Mayor Chris Lain also pointed out we would essentially be getting two new squads instead of one which was approved a few months ago. The Dodge Charger is constantly needing repairs. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the purchase of two Dodge Trucks instead of the Ford approved at a previous meeting and anything additional be paid from the Police Protection Fund, seconded by Jim Friedenbach.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Sara Purdom, Jocelyn Boyd, Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, and Jim Friedenbach. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Request for Non-Budgeted Funds, Building Materials for Cold Storage Building-\$5,000, Public Works Department: Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman is wanting to build up two layers and add shelving to hold sewer and water pipes used for repairs. Currently it is not organized and would save time if they can make it easier to grab what he needs. The new plow truck was not purchased, therefore he would like to purchase supplies for building materials for the cold storage building instead, it would be spent from the Sewer System Improvement Fund and Water System Improvement Fund. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the non-budgeted building materials for cold storage building not to exceed \$5,000, seconded by Nick Law.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Jocelyn Boyd, Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, Jim Friedenbach, and Sara Purdom. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Request for Non-Budgeted Funds, Multiparameter Portable Colorimeter, Public Works Department: Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman said our consultants are requesting this item. It is used to sample water daily and they are having a difficult time keeping it calibrated. These funds would be spent from the Water System Improvement Fund. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the non-budgeted multiparameter portable colorimeter not to exceed \$1,600.00, seconded by Sara Purdom.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, Jim Friedenbach, Sara Purdom, and Jocelyn Boyd. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Approval of Loan Disbursement #7 for IEPA Water Loan 17-5547 in the Amount of \$18,587.54 Including Fischer Excavating Pay Application #7:

Approval of Loan Disbursement #7 for IEPA Sewer Loan 17-5546 in the Amount of \$11,705.40- Including Fischer Excavating Pay Application #7:

Approval of Roadway Construction and request for EDA and City Funds in the amount of \$109,185.97-Including MSA Invoice #11C for Roadway Construction Observation (\$24,586.07) and Fischer Excavating Pay Application #7 Roadway Work (\$84,599.90): These are the current loan disbursement drawdowns that will appear on a future Warrant. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the Loan Disbursements as stated, seconded by Sara Purdom.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Sara Purdom motioned to approve the Finance Committee report, seconded by Jocelyn Boyd. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Census 2020: Mayor Chris Lain commented they were looking for people to work in the area as census takers. He wanted to stress it is important we get an accurate count, in the past we have had a low response rate.

WARRANT #9:

Bills for the Month of December Totaling \$931,594.31: The recommendation from Finance Committee was to accept the warrant. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve Warrant #9 Totaling \$931,594.31, seconded by Sara Purdom.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, Jim Friedenbach, Sara Purdom, and Jocelyn Boyd. Nay: None. Motion passed.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Financial, Police, Fire, and Public Works for December 2019: After a brief review, **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the Financial, Police, Fire, and Public Works for December 2019, seconded by Sara Purdom.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Wacker Road Project Update and Associated Action Items: Mayor Chris Lain stated there was no update since there is no work being completed currently.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance, Authorizing Disposal of Municipal Property, 2014 Dodge Charger: Mayor Chris Lain stated this vehicle is being traded in for \$4,000 in order to purchase two new Dodge Trucks that was discussed under Finance Committee. After a review, **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve and waive the first reading of Ordinance #2263, Disposal of Municipal Property, 2014 Dodge Charger, seconded by Nick Law.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Nick Law, Deb Long, Jim Friedenbach, Sara Purdom, Jocelyn Boyd, and Pat Sanchez. Nay: None. Motion passed.

Letter Requesting TIF Funds, Samantha Ritchie:

Letter Requesting TIF Funds, Joel Ritchie: After a brief review of the letters from Samantha Ritchie and Joel Ritchie, **Pat Sanchez motioned to send these letters to the TIF Committee for discussion and review, seconded by Jim Friedenbach.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

Hiring of Public Works Employee: Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman stated interviews were conducted back in December. He would like to offer the position to Zach Hartman who has his CDL and served in the Navy for 5 years. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman is requesting his pay start at \$17.00 per hour which is above the classification plan and believes this is a fair wage considering his experience and has his CDL. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman said he would be starting January 20, 2020. **Pat Sanchez motioned to approve the hiring of Zachary Hartman at \$17.00 per hour, seconded by Jocelyn Boyd.** Roll Call Vote Aye: Deb Long, Jim Friedenbach, Sara Purdom, Jocelyn Boyd, Pat Sanchez, and Nick Law. Nay: None. Motion passed.

CITIZENS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Chris Lain stated he asked Julie Katzenberger-Superintendent of West Carroll School District and Shay Bradbury-West Carroll Board of Education Board Member to come speak to the council and answer any questions we may have. It was stated a decision has not been made on whether or not to close a school and combine students into two buildings, they had an enrollment and facilities study completed recently—it is available online. Julie Katzenberger-Superintendent of West Carroll School District mentioned since 2005, which was the year the schools consolidated, the district is down about 600 kids. Unfortunately the trend has been

declining enrollment. Nick Law asked why close the high school, Julie Katzenberger stated it is the oldest building and needs updating and renovations—including asbestos removal and the sewer is at the end of its lifespan. Currently, the school is in compliance and is not at risk of being closed down due to the condition of the building. Shay Bradbury-West Carroll Board of Education Board Member, said they are trying to find the best way to utilize the buildings, no timeline on when something will change. Right now the high school has 295 students. They are looking at different ways to split the grades, possibly a K-6 and 7-12. The next school board meeting is January 15, 2020 and everyone is encouraged to attend. Pat Sanchez asked why the dishwasher was not replaced at the high school when it broke. Julie Katzenberger stated a lot of schools use disposable and the approximate cost of replacement was \$14,000 plus installation. Nick Law asked how much it would cost for renovations at the current high school. Julie Katzenberger responded with what was recently spent to change 1.5 rooms (weight room and home economic room), there was a total cost of \$217,000, with \$48,000 spent on asbestos removal—this was spent on flooring, windows, and ceiling. The cost of the study was about \$13,000. Mayor Chris Lain asked what would happen to the high school if they decided to close, Julie Katzenberger stated some thought would go into that, the city would like to avoid having another vacant building sitting empty. Pat Sanchez asked about how the middle school building, located in Mt. Carroll, was built originally, stating the school was built around the gym and the rooms around it were an afterthought and not structurally sound. Julie Katzenberger stated the school has been inspected by the architect and he had no concerns. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman asked if the study showed the savings—in bussing costs, electrical, and other utilities. Shay Bradbury and Julie Katzenberger stated this was addressed in the study and most of the kids that are bussed are elementary aged. Since that school would be staying in Savanna, this wouldn't change much from what they are currently doing. Sara Purdom asked how far along in the process we are. Shay Bradbury stated they are not far along and doesn't anticipate any changes before the next school year. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman brought up consolidation with the county and what enrollment is like in other districts. Julie Katzenberger emailed the regional superintendent about enrollment and inquired about all the counties (Jo Daviess, Carroll, and Stephenson), they have been tracking since the late 90's. As the West Carroll Board, they have looked at these numbers and we are not alone, 25-35% of students have been lost—every district has declining enrollment. This is attributed to times are changing, people aren't having as many kids or deciding to not have any. West Carroll is at 69% financial capacity to meet expectations, previous year was 68%. Neighboring districts are much higher, we are a solid district per Julie Katzenberger. Superintendent of Public Works John Lindeman recommended looking into grants to make upgrades to lighting, they have and will continue to do so. Mayor Chris Lain and the Council thanked Julie Katzenberger-Superintendent of West Carroll School District and Shay Bradbury-West Carroll Board of Education Board Member for coming to the meeting and answering questions and listening to concerns. Linda Grissinger asked if the house on Bowen Street could be looked at in the 600 block. Police Chief Jeff Doran stated they are working through the paperwork. Sara Purdom encouraged everyone to support the high school production being held at Timberlake Playhouse, they are performing The Wedding Singer.

ADJOURNMENT:

With nothing further, **Mayor Chris Lain made a motion to adjourn at 8:44 P.M.**

Minutes composed by Brittany Hatteberg, Deputy City Clerk.