

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan
April 16, 2024

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw on Tuesday April 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw, Fares E. Azzam, Mayor Pro Tem William R. Leonard, Kevin D. Palmer, Elizabeth A. Upton.

Council Members Absent: None

City Manager: Kurt Giles
Clerk: Jamie Long
Police Chief: Richard Ramereiz

Others in Attendance: Joe Vozar-Jail Administrator and two students.

Mayor Echtenaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Upton to approve the agenda for April 16, 2024. All ayes carried the motion.

City Council Minutes.

Moved by Palmer, supported by Azzam, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 2, 2024. All ayes carried the motion.

Claims & Accounts.

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Upton, to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$484,202.40. All ayes carried the motion.

Monthly Reports.

City Council discussed the March 2024 Monthly Reports.

Moved by Upton, supported by Palmer, to receive the March 2024 Monthly Reports and place them on file. All ayes carried the motion.

Audience Recognition.

Joe Vozar, Jail Administrator reported he is running for Sheriff and discussed his background in the Marine Program. Vozar worked to get officers trained and the program improved over the years.

Consent Agenda.

Mayor Echtenaw requested approval/receipt of Consent Agenda item “a” through “b” as shown below:

- a. Payment to Michigan CAT for a Manhole Core Machine and saw as part of the Spring Paving Project.
- b. Payment to Crouch Communications for the upfit of the 2023 Dodge Durango Patrol Vehicle.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Upton, to approve Consent Agenda item “a” through “b”. All ayes carried the motion.

Rehmann Service Agreement Renewal.

Manager Giles requested members to approve the quote from Rehmann for the 2024-2025 service agreement in the amount of \$5,267.35 per month.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Upton, supported by Leonard, to approve the quote from Rehmann for the 2024-2025 service agreement in the amount of \$5,267.35 per month. All ayes carried the motion.

Election Year Schedule.

Manager Giles requested members to authorize taking action to change election dates for St. Louis City Council members from odd to even years and extending the terms of current council members by one full calendar year.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Upton, supported by Leonard, to authorize taking action to change election dates for St. Louis City Council members from odd to even years and extending the terms of current council members by one full calendar year.

Ayes: Upton, Leonard, Azzam, Palmer Nays: Echtenaw

City Manager Report.

Manager Giles set a Goal Setting Workshop, in agreement with council for April 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Clerk Report.

Nothing to report.

Police Chief Report.

Nothing to report.

Council Comments.

Member Azzam reported streetlights around the city being dim or completely out, including one on the corner of Locust and Michigan Avenue. Manager Giles will speak with Mike Parsons and Chief Rameriez will speak with his officers to keep a log of lights they see issues with as well.

Mayor Echtenaw reported speaking with Fire Chief Bill Coty regarding issues with residents of the Hope House. He would like to invite Coty and Jake Gregory, the director of the Hope House to a future council meeting for further discussions.

Public Comments.

There were none.

Adjournment.

Moved by Azzam supported by Upton, to adjourn at 6:52 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, Clerk