

## CITYCOUNCILPROCEEDINGS

St. Louis, Michigan  
February 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Saint Louis City Council was called to order by Mayor Ralph R. Echtenaw on Tuesday February 18, 2025, at 6:02 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

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

Council Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem, William R. Leonard joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

City Manager: Kurt Giles  
Clerk: Jamie Long  
Police Officer: Sergeant Forshee

Others in Attendance: Brian Buysse-resident, Josh Leppien- Economic Development Coordinator, Diane Russell-USEPA, Anna Nguyen-USEPA, Andrea Peak-AECOM, Aaron Michaels-AECOM, Chris Kaiser-AECOM, Kevin Kruskie-USACE, Jennifer Knoepfle-EPA, and two students.

Mayor Echtenaw led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda.**

Moved by Azzam, supported by Upton to approve the agenda for February 18, 2025. All ayes carried the motion.

### **EPA Update.**

Dianne Russell from USEPA gave a brief presentation of the EPA's progress on the Velsicol Site Cleanup. Russell reported that the up-and-coming phases include a barrier wall that will run the entire length of the shoreline and OU3 which is the downstream area cleanup. Russell reported that once the projects are completed, there will be regular monitoring of the water to check for contamination.

### **City Council Minutes.**

Moved by Upton supported by Azzam to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 4, 2025. All ayes carried the motion.

### **Claims & Accounts.**

City Council discussed the Claims & Accounts.

Moved by Azzam supported by Upton to approve the Claims & Accounts in the amount of \$583,624.80. All ayes carried the motion.

## **Monthly Reports.**

City Council discussed the January 2025 Monthly Reports.

Moved by Palmer, supported by Azzam, to receive the January 2025 Monthly Reports and place them on file. All ayes carried the motion.

**Audience Recognition.** There were no comments.

## **Consent Agenda.**

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

- a. Payment to Border States for Victorian Lights Street Lamp Expansion.
- b. Payment to Detroit Pump for a High-Capacity Cornell Centrifugal Sludge Pump.
- c. Payment OHM for Consultant Construction Engineering Services for the DWSRF Grant Project I, Phase II.
- d. Payment to Rehmann for Purchase and Setup of 12 HP Desktops.
- e. Payment to Pat’s Auto for Repairs to 2020 Chevy Silverado (Truck #23).
- f. Receive Annual Vendor Conflict of Interest Disclosure & Summary of Vendor Purchases.

Moved by Upton, supported by Leonard, to approve Consent Agenda items “a” through “f.” All ayes carried the motion.

## **Appointment of Madalyne Houseman to the St. Louis Housing Commission.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the appointment of Madalyne Houseman to the St. Louis Housing Commission.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Leonard, supported by Upton, to approve the appointment of Madalyne Houseman to the St. Louis Housing Commission. All ayes carried the motion.

## **Ratification of DDA’s Approval of Bench and Trash Receptacle Project.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the ratification of the DDA’s Bench and Trash Receptacle Project in the amount of \$15,379.39.

Discussion was held. Josh Leppien informed the council of his research on replacing versus refinishing existing structures.

Moved by Azzam supported by Upton, to approve the ratification of the DDA’s Bench and Trash Receptacle Project in the amount of \$15,379.39. All ayes carried the motion.

**Appointment of Elected Officials Compensation Commission.**

Manager Giles requested members to approve the appointment of Donna Kelley, Stan McMann, Honda Joe Fuentes, Dale Wolfe and Melissa Hawley to the Elected Officials Compensation Committee.

Discussion was held.

Moved by Azzam, supported by Leonard, to approve the appointment of Donna Kelley, Stan McMann, Honda Joe Fuentes, Dale Wolfe and Melissa Hawley to the Elected Officials Compensation Committee. All ayes carried the motion.

**City Manager Report.**

Manager Giles reported that he received a call from Mark Craft from the Gratiot County Road Commission and Kraft informed him that they believe that they can fund the Small Urban Transportation Project sooner than planned. The plan was originally for 2027 but now funds may be available for 2026. This project would cover the area of North Main from M-46 to Center Street.

**City Clerk Report.** Nothing to report. **Police Report.**

Nothing to report.

**Council Comments.**

Nothing to report.

**Public Comments.** There were no comments. **Adjournment.**

Moved by Azzam, supported by Leonard, to adjourn 6:49 p.m. All ayes carried the motion.

Jamie Long, Clerk