

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL IN THE CITY OF SAVANNA, CARROLL COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS, ON TUESDAY, AUGUST, 22, 2023, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
AT 333 CHICAGO AVENUE, SAVANNA, ILLINOIS 61074**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Val Gunnarsson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Notice of the meeting was delivered to all council members and posted at 333 Chicago Ave, Savanna, Illinois, in accordance with the State of Illinois Open Meetings Act.

**PLEDAGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Val Gunnarsson led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL / ESTABLISH QUORUM:**

After the roll call, Mayor Val Gunnarsson established a quorum. Present from the Council were: Eric Dahlman (left at 7:33), Jim Friedenbach, Jocelyn Boyd, Jeff Griswold, Pat Sanchez, Nick Law, Deb Long, and Tevan Hartman. Also present, Mayor Val Gunnarsson, Supt. of Public Works Jeremy Hughes, Comptroller Brittany Hatteberg, Fire Chief Scott Wolfe, Linda Grissinger, City Clerk Mike Nester, and City Attorney Phil Jensen.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Pat Sanchez and second by Deb Long to approve the agenda with the addition of VFW Poppy Days Intersection Solicitors License. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Consideration of the Minutes of the August 8, 2023 Regular Meeting:** A motion was made by Eric Dahlman and second by Nick Law to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Riverfront Development Committee, 08-14-23:** Chairman Nick Law told the council the board had met with Noah Tapper of AMI and if funding was approved later in agenda, they would meet again in September to provide a study for two properties along the riverfront that the city wants to acquire.

**Personnel Committee, 08-17-23 and 08-21-23:** Chairman Jeff Griswold said they had interviewed seven candidates over two days and they would discuss in executive session.

**Public Works Committee, 08-22-23:** Chairman Tevan Hartman said they met before the regular council and discussed monthly billing, public works budget, along with street and sidewalk plans.

**APPONTMENTS:**

**Committee Update:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Pat Sanchez and second by Jocelyn Boyd to appoint Mark Klein to the Hotel/Motel Committee as a public member and add Brent Corey to the TIF Investment Committee. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**MSA Project Update:** Mayor Val Gunnarsson went over the budget for the Water Main Replacement grant the city recently received and the city's ability to come up with \$450,000 to pay for their share of the grant. No representative from MSA attended the meeting.

**Lead Service Line Inventory:** Mayor Val Gunnarsson told the council that the survey was not going well and that MSA had already gone through the \$40,000 grant and only 50 percent of the city had been surveyed.

**Status of Lincoln School:** City Attorney Phil Jensen gave an update and said the lawsuit was filed after the last meeting and the owner has one month to file an answer. He also reported that the owner of the Radke Hotel has been sent a letter, similar to the one that was sent to the owner of Lincoln School, citing violations and remedies needed before the city takes legal action.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**AMI Services Agreement:** Mayor Val Gunnarsson explained that the Riverfront Development Board had met with AMI via zoom and the TIF Committee had already approved the funding for a preliminary engineering study. The funds would come from TIF as part of riverfront rehabilitation. He also said the city needed a plan to acquire two properties along the riverfront that are privately owned. A motion was made by Nick Law and second by Tevan Hartman to approve spending

\$14,900 of TIF funds to pay for the consulting agreement with AMI. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**First Reading Ordinance on TIF Incentives:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Pat Sanchez and second by Nick Law to approve the first reading of an ordinance to adding an existing structure incentive for the TIF district. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**First Reading Ordinance on Suspension of Licenses for Non-Payment:** After a discussion and some questions regarding the wording in the ordinance, a motion was made by Nick Law and second by Tevan Hartman to send the ordinance back to the committee for clarification. Aye: Law, Long, Griswold, Dahlman, Boyd, Hartman. Nay: Friedenbach. The Ordinance Committee meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 20.

**Resolution, Authorizing Hotel/Motel Funds for Signage:** Mayor Val Gunnarsson said the resolution was needed to allow the Hotel/Motel Committee to award grants. Guidelines were also presented to the council for the grant which cannot exceed \$1,000. **A motion was made by Pat Sanchez and second by Nick Law to approve Resolution 1273, Authorizing Hotel/Motel Funds for Signage.** All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

**VFW Poppy Days, Intersection Solicitors Application:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Jim Friedenbach and second by Pat Sanchez to approve an intersection solicitors license to the Savanna VFW for their annual Poppy Days on Sept. 1-2 at the stoplight. All going in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**5ILCS 120/2 (C) (1) Employment of Office Manager:** A motion was made by Jeff Griswold and second by Jim Friedenbach to go into executive session at 7:42 p.m.

**Action Following Executive Session:** After coming out of executive session at 7:51, a motion was made by Nick Law and second by Tevan Hartman to come back into open session. A motion was made by Nick Law and second by Deb Long to give the Personal Committee the power to act and set wage for the Office Manager position. All voting in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

#### **CITIZENS, COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Mayor Val Gunnarsson said Jo-Carroll Energy was laying high-speed internet and have an agreement signed in 2016 with the city. He said he had contacted Jo-Carroll and they had agreed to re-work the agreement to include free service to city hall, police and fire stations, and public works.

City Attorney Phil Jensen provided a copy of all the city's small claims actions after the first court appearance on July 26. The next court date is Aug. 30 and it was decided not to pursue action on people who are deceased and don't have a spouse.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Gunnarsson adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

**Minutes composed by City Clerk Mike Nester**