

**MINUTES  
THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
ALD. RON SILKAITIS, CHAIR  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Silkaitis at 7:12 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Ald. Kalamaris, Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber.

**Absent:** None

**3. Administrative**

a. Fuel Tax October 2022 – No comments

**4. Omnibus Vote**

Items with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine matters and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a council member/citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in normal sequence on the agenda.

Motion by Ald. Pietryla, second by Ald. Lencioni to approve the Omnibus items.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

**5. Information Systems**

\*a. Recommendation to authorize staff to award a contract to the Center for Internet Security for \$27,600.

Motion by Ald. Pietryla, second by Ald. Lencioni to authorize staff to award a contract to the Center for Internet Security for \$27,600.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

**6. Police Department**

- a. Recommendation to Repeal City Ordinance Title 9 “Public Peace, Morals and Welfare”; Chapter 9.28 “Begging”.

Chief Keegan shared that there have been recent inquiries regarding panhandling in St. Charles. City Code 9.25, currently in place, is now unconstitutional, and in two cases the Illinois Supreme Court has directed the State Police to not enforce Ordinances in other communities. Municipalities are encouraged by the Illinois Municipal League to remove this Code. St. Charles Police cannot enforce a ban on panhandling on public or private property, and they can enforce trespassing and assault type violations. The City’s soliciting Ordinance require registration and a placard is issued for approved cases.

Motion by Ald. Kalamaris, second by Ald. Payleitner to Repeal City Ordinance Title 9 “Public Peace, Morals and Welfare”; Chapter 9.28 “Begging”.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

**7. Finance Department**

- \*a. Budget Revisions October 2022.

Motion by Ald. Pietryla, second by Ald. Lencioni to approve Budget Revisions October 2022.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

- b. Recommendation to approve the preliminary estimate of the 2022 property tax levy for the City of St. Charles in the amount of \$24,351,284.

Bill Hannah explained that the preliminary property tax levy amount being shared tonight is an estimate, and will become the basis for the Truth in Taxation disclosure. In St. Charles, property tax revenue comprises approximately 25% of general revenues, and therefore a key revenue source to fund core City services. The City of St. Charles receives approximately 10% of the total property taxes billed by the County to property owners.

Parts of the tax levy include general purposes, police and fire pensions, and general obligation (annual debt service) which are abated in their entirety. The

recommendation for the 2022 levy is to essentially maintain the same total dollar amounts to support operations, and increase the levies for police and fire pensions per the actuarial valuations completed as of April 30, 2022. A small increase in the levy for mental health services is included in order to maintain a mental health tax rate of \$0.04. The estimated property tax increase equates to \$24/year for a homeowner with a property valued at \$300,000. The total operating tax levy estimate is \$14,186,283 which is a 3.39% increase over last year's extensions. The amounts to be levied but subsequently abated for annual debt service obligations to be repaid by general fund revenues, TIF or utility fund revenues is \$10,165,001.

The Committee expressed concern about planning for and addressing increases in future years. Hannah explained that the levy amounts will be reevaluated annually based on the City's overall fiscal status and that this year's levy was more of a "maintenance levy," increasing the levy for required pension funding but leaving most of the other operating items essentially unchanged.

Motion by Ald. Bancroft, second by Ald. Bongard to approve the preliminary estimate of the 2022 property tax levy for the City of St. Charles in the amount of \$24,351,284.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

## 8. Public Comment

Mike Kanute spoke to the Committee about the development proposals for the former Police Department site. Mr. Kanute requests that the Murphy and Frontier proposals be dismissed. He stated that the public opposition to these proposals continues to grow, and it's desired to retain the evidence of that opposition. The group who is organizing the opposition against the two proposals is now calling themselves the Citizens for Responsible Development.

The City website will be updated to reflect the Planning & Development Committee meeting on November 14, 2022 will not include a discussion about the development, in accordance with Mayor Vitek's recent statement.

Greg Taylor shared that he supports Mayor' Vitek's decision to continue to consider the best possible development for the former Police Department site. He characterizes the citizen comment at the October 10 Planning & Development Committee meeting as "mostly negative," and believes the criticism was directed primarily toward the Frontier Development proposal. Mr. Taylor also requests that both the Murphy and Frontier proposals be removed

from consideration. He asks that the City issue a new Request for Concept that includes parameters which align with citizen input, and doing so will increase the chance of achieving citizen support for the project. He also encourages the City to conduct outreach with the residents directly east of the site.

Paul McMahon asks the Committee what is being reconsidered regarding the proposals for the former Police Department site.

**9. Additional Items from Mayor, Council, or Staff - None**

**10. Adjournment**

Motion by Ald. Wirball, second by Ald. Kalamaris to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Kalamaris Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Bancroft, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Silkaitis did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried**

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