

**MINUTES  
THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
ALD. STEVE WEBER, CHAIR  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Weber called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni,  
Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner

Absent: None

**3. Administrative – None**

**4. Omnibus Vote - There were no Omnibus items.**

**5. Fire Department**

- a. Recommendation to Approve the Closing of Parking Lot J and the 100 Block of Riverside Ave. from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2023, for the Fire Department Open House Events.

Chief Swanson stated that the open house is an annual event and assured the committee that the parking lot and street will be reopened by 5:00 pm.

Motion by Ald. Muenz, second by Ald. Gehm to recommend approval the Closing of Parking Lot J and the 100 Block of Riverside Ave. from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2023, for the Fire Department Open House Events.

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

**6. Community Development**

- a. Recommendation to approve a **Resolution** Authorizing the Mayor to Demand Payment Under a Letter of Credit – The Reserve of St. Charles Subdivision Phase 2 (To obtain \$343,249 from the Bank for City Use to Complete the Streets).

Chair Weber shared that an alderperson came forward after the September 11, 2023 Planning & Development Committee meeting wishing to change position on this item, thus making it eligible for reconsideration.

Motion by Ald. Muenz, second by Ald. Lencioni to reconsider approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Demand Payment Under a Letter of Credit – The Reserve of St. Charles Subdivision Phase 2 (To obtain \$343,249 from the Bank for City Use to Complete the Streets).

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

Russell Colby provided supplemental information in the executive summary for this meeting in response to questions that arose from the committee during and after last week's Planning & Development Committee meeting. If direction is received by the end of September, a contractor is available for this project at favorable rates. It will also allow a maintenance concern to be addressed before winter.

This is a unique situation as a result of a lengthy build-out period for the subdivision. Policy and code changes are being reviewed with the intention of avoiding this situation in the future.

Several alderpersons spoke in favor of this item. Appreciation was expressed to City staff and residents for providing information about this matter.

Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Wirball to recommend approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Demand Payment Under a Letter of Credit – The Reserve of St. Charles Subdivision Phase 2 (To obtain \$343,249 from the Bank for City Use to Complete the Streets).

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

- b. Recommendation to Waive the Formal Bid Procedure and approve a **Resolution** to Authorize a Construction Contract with Geneva Construction for Street Pavement Work in The Reserve of St. Charles Subdivision Phase 2 (In the amount of \$385,818).

Russell Colby explained that this work completes the full scope of the improvements for the development, and would be contingent on the City receiving the letter of credit funds. Alternate construction methods, in particular for curb work, are being considered in order to reduce costs and it is hoped that updated costs will be known when this item is considered for approval by the City Council.

Motion by Ald. Muenz, second by Ald. Gehm to Waive the Formal Bid Procedure and to recommend approval of a Resolution to Authorize a Construction Contract with Geneva Construction for Street Pavement Work in The Reserve of St. Charles Subdivision Phase 2 (In the amount of \$385,818).

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

**7. City Administration**

- a. St Charles Initiative Background, Fundraising Update, and 1<sup>st</sup> Street Plaza Construction Update – Discussion Only.

Ald. Bessner thanked the St. Charles Initiative committee for their work over the last several years. Members continue to communicate with donors and potential donors.

Heather McGuire shared that approximately \$66,000 in additional donations have been received since this topic was presented in March 2023. This brings the total donations raised by the Initiative to \$1.534 million, including the Exelon and Riverboat grants.

Some of the tangible items available to be sponsored will continue to be available even after their installation and the completion of the plaza.

Peter Suhr provided a brief update on the construction progress. A more detailed update will be provided at the Government Services Committee meeting next week. Construction is going well and the underground work is complete. More vertical elements are starting to be erected and trellis has been fabricated. The project is on track to be substantially complete by the end of the year. Some technology and lighting may be completed in 2024.

**8. Public Comment - None**

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

**10. Executive Session**

Motion by Ald. Muenz, second by Ald. Gehm to enter executive session at 7:27 pm for discussion of Pending, Probable or Imminent Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

**Voice Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald.

Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald. Weber did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried.**

- 11.** The regular session was reconvened at 7:45 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni,  
Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner

Absent: None

- 12. Adjournment**

Motion by Ald. Foulkes, second by Ald. Lencioni to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

**Voice Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni,  
Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner. Nays: None. Absent: None. Ald.  
Weber did not vote as Chair. **Motion Carried.**

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