

**MINUTES  
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL  
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018, 7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Chairman Payleitner, Aldr. Stellato, Aldr. Silkaitis, Aldr. Lemke, Aldr. Turner, Aldr. Bancroft, Aldr. Gaugel, Aldr. Vitek, Aldr. Bessner, Aldr. Lewis

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Mark Koenen, City Administrator; Peter Suhr, Director of Public Works; Chris Adesso, Asst. Director of Public Works - Operations; Karen Young, Asst. Director of Public Works – Engineering; Tim Wilson, Environmental Services Manager; AJ Reineking, Public Works Manager; Jim Keegan, Police Chief; Joe Schelstreet, Fire Chief

**1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**2. Roll Call**

**K. Dobbs:**

**Stellato:** Present  
**Silkaitis:** Present  
**Payleitner:** Present  
**Lemke:** Present  
**Turner:** Present  
**Bancroft:** Present  
**Gaugel:** Present  
**Vitek:** Present  
**Bessner:** Present  
**Lewis:** Present

**3.a. Electric Reliability Report – Information only.**

**3.b. Natural Resources Commission Minutes – Information only.**

**3.c. Phosphorus Removal and Digester Improvements Project Update – Information only.**

**4. OMNIBUS VOTE**

**Items \*5.a, \*6.a**

Motion by Aldr. Gaugel, seconded by Aldr. Stellato. No additional discussion. Approved unanimously by roll call. **Motion carried.**

**Chairman Payleitner:** Kristi, please call a roll.

**K. Dobbs:**

**Gaugel:** Yes

**Vitek:** Yes

**Bessner:** Yes

**Lewis:** Yes

**Stellato:** Yes

**Silkaitis:** Yes

**Lemke:** Yes

**Turner:** Yes

**Bancroft:** Yes

**5.b. Recommendation to approve Street and Parking Lot Closures and Amplification for the 2018 Scarecrow Festival.**

**Police Chief Keegan presented.** I have four guests here this evening; Marlie Shelton from Ravenswood, Deanne Wagner from the CVB, Ron Johnson from Johnson's Statuary and Commander Majewski from Special Services. There are parking lot and street closures, so I thought Marlie could go through the plan and then Mr. Johnson would like to talk about his concern.

**Marlie Shelton, Ravenswood Events:** The only thing that is changing compared to previous years for street and parking lot closures is on Cedar Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets for the period during the festival from Friday at 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., we are requesting a firm closure during that time period because of the large amount of pedestrian traffic on that street. We are not putting any tents on the street; it's strictly for pedestrian safety. The other requested street closures are the same as other years.

**Aldr. Lewis:** It won't go up to 5<sup>th</sup>?

**Ms. Shelton:** 5<sup>th</sup> will be open for through traffic and that is for the parking shuttle, trolley, and anyone dropping people off. There will still be handicap parking on both sides of St. Pat's Church.

**Aldr. Lewis:** But it will still just go one way?

**Ms. Shelton:** Yes.

**Aldr. Lewis:** How will you access it?

**Ms. Shelton:** From 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Are a lot of the parking lots are closed for five days?

**Ms. Shelton:** The only one that is closed for five days is the one where the carnival will be off of 2nd Street. The Veterans Memorial lot and the Filling Station lots are closed starting on Thursday.

**Ron Johnson, 316 Cedar Street:** I have been in business over business 50 years and paid over \$62,000 into SSA 1 and over \$17,000 into SSA 2. SSA 1 was for the City to buy parking lots for downtown businesses that don't have parking; I have parking. When they passed the petition around, I was one of the first to sign it. Every year after I pay my property taxes, I pay \$1,700 extra for SSA 1 and \$800 extra for SSA 2; all I'm asking for is a little help. We are closed January through March and we produce \$250,000 worth of inventory and I would love to sell it. I don't have any competition except for the City of St. Charles. Thank you.

**Chief Keegan:** We are willing to man the intersection and do a loading zone for customers picking up merchandise, but for public safety we are not willing to open Cedar at this point, unless Council decides otherwise.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Would that be acceptable, Mr. Johnson?

**Mr. Johnson:** I have to load my merchandise with a forklift; I have to have my driveway.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Chief, I thought you said you would let cars into his driveway.

**Chief Keegan:** At the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> and Cedar, we would cone off an area to the east in order to have merchandise delivered.

**Mr. Johnson:** That won't work. If I don't get my street, I'm just going to close for the weekend.

**Aldr. Lewis:** I sympathize with what is going on here. I'd like to see something worked out for both sides, so I'm not going to vote for this at this point in time.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Are there issues with other businesses, Chief?

**Chief Keegan:** No. We will sharpen our pencils and go back to the drawing board for Mr. Johnson, but it's going to be difficult.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Is there an opening of some kind behind the business that exists out to 4<sup>th</sup> Street?

**Chief Keegan:** North of Cedar on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, north of his property there is a driveway which is part of the residential piece of his property, but his insurance carrier does not authorize any commercial work to be done in and out of that curb cut. We asked him to get a rider for additional coverage.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Maybe we need to see exactly what the cost is and see if we can pick that up as part of our festival expenses.

**Chief Keegan:** And we would also be willing to pick up the cost of the officer as part of our operational expense as well to help with the loading of the merchandise.

**Aldr. Silkaitis:** I agree with Aldr. Lewis and I will vote no on this too. When Scarecrow first started, it was just at Lincoln Park. Now it's expanded and we are intruding on people's business and he has a valid point. If we can cover his rider for four days, we would be a good neighbor to do that. But until that happens, I will be voting no on this.

**Aldr. Gaugel:** If the insurance is covered on the side driveway, would you be acceptable to that, Mr. Johnson?

**Mr. Johnson:** No, that driveway is on an angle and I can't maneuver my forklift on it.

**Aldr. Lewis:** Has that street been closed in the past? Maybe 15-20 years ago?

**Ms. Shelton:** I don't know but it's been a soft close for the last couple years.

**Aldr. Turner:** A soft close isn't possible this year?

**Ms. Shelton:** There is a significant number of people walking in the street, so we are doing this to prevent an issue from happening.

**Aldr. Turner:** Mr. Johnson, did you have an issue with the soft closing the last couple years?

**Mr. Johnson:** No.

**Aldr. Bancroft:** Mr. Johnson, what is your weekend sales average for a fall weekend?

**Mr. Johnson:** Between \$5,000-\$6,000.

**Aldr. Bancroft:** Each day, or total?

**Mr. Johnson:** Total.

**Aldr. Bancroft:** Let's rent it from him. If we paid you \$5,000, would you close?

**Mr. Johnson:** No; I would rather sell my merchandise.

**Aldr. Lemke:** Can we offer free delivery or a delivery allowance?

**Chairman Payleitner:** Are we going to vote on this now, or would Aldr. Gaugel and Aldr. Vitek like to have a conversation and see what they can work out?

**Aldr. Bessner:** It shows Mr. Johnson's hours are Noon-5:00 on Friday, 10:00-5:00 Saturday and Noon-4:00 Sunday. Do you know if those correlate with peak times of the fest?

**Ms. Shelton:** The fest starts at 10:00, and peak hours are between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**Aldr. Bessner:** Mr. Johnson, are there any peak hours for you?

**Mr. Johnson:** I'm busy the whole time I'm open on the weekends.

**Aldr. Lewis:** Are your customers local or are they customers who come from out of town to the festival?

**Mr. Johnson:** 60% aren't local and don't know about the festival when they show up.

**Chairman Payleitner:** I think there is going to have to be a compromise, and safety is foremost. Perhaps if we postpone this evening, we could go back to Committee in August.

**Chairman Payleitner:** Can I get a motion to postpone? Kristi, can you call a roll, please.

**K. Dobbs:**

**Gaugel:** Yes

**Vitek:** Yes

**Bessner:** Yes

**Lewis:** Yes

**Stellato:** Yes

**Silkaitis:** Yes

**Lemke:** Yes

**Turner:** Yes

**Bancroft:** Yes

No further discussion.

Motion by Aldr. Lemke, seconded by Aldr. Stellato. No additional discussion. Approved unanimously by roll call. **Motion carried.**

**7.a. Presentation of Temporary Public Art at 100 Illinois Street – First Street Plaza – Information only.**

**Jenna Sawicki presented.** I'm here on behalf of the Downtown St. Charles Partnership; we are seeking your opinion to place a temporary mural, or what we are calling wall poetry on the First Street Plaza between Puebla and Neo on the southeast wall. The purpose of this sticker mural is to bring a younger demographic downtown to engage in an interactive social media aspect of the mural. The mural was designed by our summer intern, Megan Smith and the material is an aluminum substrate. The sticker will be put professionally installed on the wall and is 5'x7'.

No further discussion.

**8. Executive Session**

None.

**9. Additional items from Mayor, Council, Staff or Citizens.**

None.

**10. Move to Adjourn Government Services Committee Meeting.**

Motion by Aldr. Turner, seconded by Aldr. Bancroft. No additional discussion. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**