

**MINUTES**  
**ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**LORA A. VITEK, MAYOR**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**2 E. MAIN STREET**

**1. Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vitek at 7:01 pm.

**2. Roll Call.**

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

**3. Invocation.**

**4. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**5. Presentations**

- Random Acts of Kindness Week Proclamation

**6. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve the 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.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

**\*7. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to accept and place on file minutes of the regular City Council meeting held January 16, 2024.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

**\*8. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve and hold minutes of the January 16, 2024, Government Operations Committee Executive Session.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

- \*9. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve and authorize issuance of vouchers from the Expenditure Approval List for the period of 1/08/2024-1/21/2024 in the amount of \$4,962,365.70.**  
**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.  
Motion Carried
- \*10. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve and place on file the Treasurer and Finance Report for the period ending December 31, 2023.**  
**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.  
Motion Carried

## I. Old Business

- A. None

## II. New Business

- A. Motion by Ald. Pietryla second by Ald. Wirball to approve recommendation from Mayor Lora Vitek to approve the appointment of Joseph Cannizzaro to the Natural Resources Commission.  
**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.  
Motion Carried

## III. Committee Reports

### A. Government Operations

- \*1. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve a Resolution 2024-3 authorizing the purchase of Panasonic Toughbooks from CDS Office Technologies for \$87,250.**  
**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.  
Motion Carried
- \*2. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to approve a Resolution 2024-4 Requesting the Closure of Routes 64 and 31 for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.**

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

- \*3. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Wirball to accept and place on file minutes of the January 16, 2024, Government Operations Committee meeting.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

**B. Government Services**

**C. Planning and Development**

**9. Public Comment – None**

**Jeff Motter**

Mr. Motter requested the City Council vote no on the IMEA contract. He feels that the contract with IMEA would not provide a sustainable future for the City of St. Charles. Mr. Motter mentioned there are more options to consider and asked the Council to investigate them. Mr. Motter explained there are long-term implications to examine.

**Kelly Rotella**

Good Evening. My name is Kelly Rotella and I am here tonight to ask you, as members of the St. Charles City Council, to vote NO on the early renewal of the IMEA contract.

The proposed contract is for sole source procurement. However, this is not St. Charles' only option. Given that St. Charles pays approximately \$40.8 million a year for our electricity, the total value of this contract is likely over \$800 million. Based on the size of this contract, I would hope that we would use a competitive bid process to determine what energy provider will supply St. Charles with the most sustainable energy mix for the next 20 years. Competition would give the City Council the strongest negotiation position among a group of vendors that would vie for our business.

I am aware that IMEA's projected schedule provides for the roll out of the new contract in February 2024, presentations by IMEA's PR team to its 32 members in March 2024, and the opportunity to review and approve the contracts by April 30, 2025. It is my understanding that this City Council will be asked to vote on the approval in early June 2024.

What is the advantage for St. Charles to renew 9 months prior to IMEA's own deadline?

Asking the St. Charles City Council to vote on the renewal contract only 3 months after receiving the contract has the following detrimental impacts on St. Charles' financial and energy future:

It provides zero time for the City Council to get competitive bids on a very large and strategic contract.

It provides little time for public input or feedback into St. Charles' energy future.

It ignores the potential financial benefits provided to municipal utilities under the Inflation Reduction Act and other federal and state clean energy programs.

I understand some of the reasons why it is good for IMEA to secure these commitments early. But I do not see why the early renew is good for the City of St. Charles, its residents and its businesses.

Please vote NO for the early renewal of this contract.

**10. Additional Items from Mayor, Council or Staff**

Mayor Vitek:

- Reminded all about Restaurant week and Valentine's Day.
- Mentioned that February 15 is National School Resource Officer's Day and February is Children's Dental Month.
- Wished her daughter Grace and Ald. Foulkes a happy birthday.
- Thanked Chief Swanson and Chief Keegan for allowing Council members to ride along.

Ald Muenz:

- Thanked Chief Swanson for the ride along opportunity that she and Mayor Vitek experienced.

**11. No Executive Session**

- Personnel – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- Pending, Probable or Imminent Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- Property Acquisition – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
- Collective Bargaining – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- Review of Executive Session Minutes – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)

**12. Adjournment**

Motion by Ald. Gehm, second by Ald. Wirball to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm.

**Roll Call Vote:** Ayes: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Bessner, Ald. Weber; Nays: None.

Motion Carried

**ADA Compliance**

Any individual with a disability requesting a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the ADA Coordinator, Jennifer McMahon, at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting. The ADA Coordinator can be reached in person at 2 East Main Street, St. Charles, IL, via telephone at (630) 377 4446 or 800 526 0844 (TDD), or via e-mail at [jcmahon@stcharlesil.gov](mailto:jcmahon@stcharlesil.gov). Every effort will be made to allow for meeting participation. Notices of this meeting were posted consistent with the requirements of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq. (Open Meetings Act).