

MINUTES
ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL MEETING
LORA A. VITEK, MAYOR
MONDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2023 – 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

Absent: None

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Presentations

- Pearl Harbor Day Proclamation

5. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni 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. Lencioni to accept and place on file minutes of the regular City Council meeting held November 20, 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

***8. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve and authorize issuance of vouchers from the Expenditure Approval List for the period of 11/13/2023 – 11/26/2023 in the amount of \$6,636,665.86.**

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. Lencioni, second by Ald. Gehm to enter Public Hearing – 2023 Property Tax Levy – City Operating Levy at 7:05.

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

Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Wirball to exit Public Hearing – 2023 Property Tax Levy – City Operating Levy at 7:30.

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. Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Muenz to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-24** Levying Taxes for the 2023 Levy Year for the City of St. Charles.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Ald. Foulkes, Ald. Bongard, Ald. Muenz, Ald. Lencioni, Ald. Gehm, Ald. Bessner; Nays: Ald. Silkaitis, Ald. Pietryla, Ald. Wirball, Ald. Weber.

Motion Carried

- C. Motion by Ald. Wirball, second by Ald. Lencioni to enter Public Hearing – 2023 Special Service Area 5 Property Tax Levy (Central Manufacturing District) at 7:31.

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

Motion by Ald. Bessner, second by Ald. Lencioni to exit Public Hearing – 2023 Special Service Area 5 Property Tax Levy (Central Manufacturing District) at 7:31.

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

- D. Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Gehm to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-25** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Year 2023 for Special Service Area 5 (Central Manufacturing District) for the City of St. Charles.

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

- E. Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Bessner to enter Public Hearing – 2023 Special Service Area 13 Property Tax Levy (Red Gate Common Area Maintenance) at 7:32.
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
- Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Bessner to enter Public Hearing – 2023 Special Service Area 13 Property Tax Levy (Red Gate Common Area Maintenance) at 7:32.
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
- F. Motion by Ald. Wirball, second by Ald. Lencioni to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-26** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Year 2023 for Special Service Area 13 (Red Gate Common Area Maintenance) for the City of St. Charles.
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
- G. Motion by Ald. Bessner, second by Ald. Wirball to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-27** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 1A (Central Business District) for the City of St. Charles.
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
- H. Motion by Ald. Lencioni, second by Ald. Gehm to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-28** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 1B (Downtown District) for the City of St. Charles.
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. Motion by Ald. Weber, second by Ald. Bessner to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-29** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 6 (Cambridge East) for the City of St. Charles.
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
- J. Motion by Ald. Gehm, second by Ald. Muenz to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-30** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 7 (CMD Midwest) for the City of St. Charles.
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

- K. Motion by Ald. Muenz, second by Ald. Wirball to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-31** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 10 (Royal Fox I) for the City of St. Charles.

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

- L. Motion by Ald. Bessner, second by Ald. Weber to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-32** for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the year 2023 for the SSA 57 (Legacy Business Center) for the City of St. Charles.

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. Lencioni to approve a Proposal for a B-1 Liquor License Application for Tonichi Ramen, Located at 3843 E. Main St., St. Charles.
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. Lencioni to approve An **Ordinance 2023-M-33** Amending Title 5, "Business Licenses and Regulations," Section 5.08, "Alcoholic Beverages," of the St. Charles Municipal Code.
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. Lencioni to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-34** amending Title 5 "Business Licenses and Regulations," Chapter 5.16 "Tobacco," Section 5.16.180 "Tobacco Commissioner; Tobacco Commission; Suspension, Revocation of License; Fines, Costs" of the St. Charles Municipal Code.
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
- *4. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-35** amending Title 5 "Business Licenses and Regulations," Chapter 5.20 "Massage Establishments," Section 5.20.150 "Massage Business Commissioner; Massage Business Commission; Suspension; Revocation of License; Fines, Costs" of the St. Charles Municipal Code.

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

- *5. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-121** Authorizing an Annual Agreement with Gartner Consulting for Information Technology Research and Consulting Services for \$48,000.
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
- *6. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve an **Ordinance 2023-M-36** excluding the City of St. Charles as a Municipal Employer from Coverage Under the Paid Leave for All Workers Act and Amending the City Code to Require a Form of Paid Leave for City Employees.
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. Lencioni to accept and place on file minutes of the November 20, 2023 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

- *1. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-122** Authorizing a Professional Service Agreement for Well #8 Expansion and Rehabilitation Design and Bidding.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-123** Authorizing a Purchase Order to Electric Power Engineers, LLC for Electric Utility Ten Year Study and System Analysis.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-124** Authorizing a Purchase Order for Substation SEL Breakers and SEL Engineering Services for Programming.
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

- *4. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to waive the Formal Bid Procedure and Approve a **Resolution 2023-125** authorizing a Construction Contract for the Public Works Facility Parking Lot Paving Improvement.
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
- *5. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-126** awarding the Bid for Winter Rock Salt Purchase through the State of Illinois Central Management Services.
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
- *6. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-127** authorizing an Agreement for Wastewater Force Main Piggings.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-128** authorizing a Budget Addition and Purchase of an Air Handling Unit.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-129** authorizing a Temporary Easement with the DuPage Airport Authority Parcel 0009.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-130** authorizing a Temporary and Permanent Easement with the DuPage Airport Authority Parcel 0013.
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. Lencioni to approve a **Resolution 2023-131** authorizing a Contract Amendment with HR Green for Stormwater Design Services.
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

- *11. Motion by Ald. Bessner second by Ald. Lencioni to waive the Formal Bid Procedure and approve a **Resolution 2023-132** authorizing a Construction Contract for Parking Lot R Paving Improvement.

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

C. Planning and Development

None

9. **Public Comment**

Letter from Hewlett Prucher:

Hello,

I'm Hewlett Prucher. I've lived at 747 Westfield Drive, St. Charles for 25 years.

I would like to bring to your attention to a matter that I'm very concerned about: the issue of an IMEA contract renewal and extension. St. Charles buys all the electricity from IMEA, the Illinois Municipal Energy Agency. I'm concerned because IMEA buys its electricity from two coal-burning power plants Prairie State in Illinois and Trimble County in Kentucky. For environmental and health reasons, I am opposed to the heavy use of coal to generate electricity.

An incremental plan to decrease the amount of coal and replace it with clean energy such as solar, wind, and/or nuclear is critical to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. If St. Charles renews and extends the current contract, we will have no say in where our electricity is generated.

Our current contract with IMEA ends in 2035 but we are being asked to renew and extend this contract in 2024 for 20 years, until 2055. This request is being made 6 years before we are required to decide about our energy future.

The energy field is constantly changing and has entered an era of high tech. We want to be in a position to take advantage of new technology such as a utility grade battery storage and small nuclear reactors. Locking us into a 20-year contract extension now would not give us the flexibility to consider alternatives that would benefit St. Charles citizens from both an environmental and cost perspective.

It's difficult to see how renewing this contract now is in St. Charles' best interests. We would be locked into the heavy use of coal for electric generation before we know what new, less polluting technologies will become available. I believe this IMEA contract renewal and extension is premature. I request that the City Council vote NO to renewal and extension.

I also request that City Council hold informational sessions and public hearings to educate the public and find out what your constituents want to do.

Thank you.

Letter from Henry J. Renken

Dear Mayor Vitek & Members of the City Council

12/4/2023

I am the owner of a manufacturing company in the St Charles industrial park. Many of our employees, including my son, are residents of St. Charles. Also, this year our company's average monthly electric bill has been \$11,000 which is a total of \$132,000 per year. These are the reasons why I have written this letter.

Recently it has come to our attention that approximately 78% of the electricity procured by St. Charles under its current contract with IMEA is generated by coal fired power plants. This gives rise to two major concerns.

1. Coal fired electrical plants are amongst the largest contributors of CO2 in our atmosphere. They are a significant cause of global warming, and the burning of coal has been contaminating our water ways with mercury for more than a century. Coal fired plants are a very dirty form of electric production and very harmful to the environment.
2. The cost of producing electricity with green or clean energy has been dropping rapidly over the last decade. Last Monday, the Wall Street Journal published an article called "Good News". In that article it pointed out that in 2023 the cost of wind and/or solar energy has dropped to 50% of the cost of coal fired energy in the United States. There has also been exciting progress in other forms of green energy that will be coming soon and should be considered in the long term.

IMEA is asking for a contract extension nearly a decade early and sticking with the status quo does nothing to reduce pollutants including CO2 emissions that cause global warming. Nor does it do anything to reduce the cost of electricity.

Any future contract with IMEA should include the following:

1. A transition plan to clean energy.
2. Incremental elimination of all coal generated electricity by a specific date.
3. Public hearings throughout the planning process.

Please do not vote to renew or extend the IMEA contract without these requirements. Thank you.

Respectfully yours,

Henry J. Renken

Advance Lifts Inc.

701 Kirk Rd. St. Charles IL. 60174

Phone: 630-584-9881 Fax: 630-584-6837

E-mail: Hank@Advancelifts.com

10. Additional Items from Mayor, Council or Staff

- Mayor Vitek explained the following:
 - We have received other emails regarding the renewal of the IMEA contract. The City has been in conversations about this for over two years. The contract will be discussed over the next 18 to 24 months. There will be future meetings where the public will be invited.

- Mayor Vitek also mentioned the City Council will be back on December 18. She encouraged all to enjoy the holiday season. Mayor Vitek informed all that the City will be closed on December 22 and 25 and January 1, 2024. The next City Council meeting is on January 18, 2024. Finally, she invited all to the First Street ribbon cutting ceremony on January 24, 2024.
- Mayor Vitek thanked Susan Kempf and Tara Strachan for all of their help.
- Ald. Muenz wished Mayor Vitek a happy birthday on December 18th.

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. Lencioni, second by Ald. Gehm to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 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

Nancy Garrison, City Clerk

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL

Nancy Garrison, City Clerk

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 jmcmahon@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