

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012**

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was convened by Chair. Martin at 7:09 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Chair. Martin, Ald. Stellato, Monken, Payleitner, Turner, Rogina, Krieger, Bessner, and Lewis

Members Absent: Carrignan

Others Present: Brian Townsend, Chris Aiston, Chris Minick, Peggy Forster, Chief Lamkin, Kathy Livernois, Mark Koenen, Rita Tungare and Asst. Fire Chief Schelstreet

3. Omnibus Vote

Budget Revisions – February 2012

Motion by Krieger, second by Stellato to approve the omnibus vote as presented.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays: None; Absent: Carrignan. Chair. Martin did not vote as Chair. **Motion carried.**

4. Police Department

a. Recommend approval of street closures on eight nights in July and August for St. Charles Cruise Nights.

Chief Lamkin: I have before you a request from the Chamber to continue having the St. Charles Cruise Nights. When this request came up this year, we had some discussions. If you recall in the past years we have had it on 1st Street and it would seem that the event has outgrown the size so we started looking at other places downtown. This year what we have outlined is a different place to hold it and would keep the impact of downtown still present. We are able to manage the street closures to be able to do this and provide a little more space to be able to have more cars and more people come and visit the downtown area. Beyond that the sponsors are here if you have any questions and we are recommending that we move it over to Riverside in the area outline in your packet, for eight nights throughout the summer to be held on Tuesdays.

Ald. Payleitner: Where was this event held prior?

Chief Lamkin: We closed off 1st Street by ZaZa's and we closed it off it off at Illinois. We did have some overlap of the parking lot on the south side of Illinois, but not sure we ever

used it. The Harris Bank has also offered to let us use some of their space, so there is quite a bit more space to facilitate this and be able to keep it downtown.

Motion by Ald. Stellato, second by Monken to recommend approval of street closures on eight nights in July and August for St. Charles Cruise Nights .

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays: None; Absent: Carrignan. Chair. Martin did not vote as Chair. **Motion carried.**

5. Finance Department

a. Monthly Update regarding City's financial results for January 2012 – Information Only

Chris Minick: Enclosed are results as of the end of January. January 31 is the end of the City's third quarter and we are coming into the home stretch with FY11/12. Overall our results are trending to finish the year essentially in line with or slightly above expectations. In the four main operating funds we are experiencing revenue trends that are essentially aligned with budget or just slightly above budget in the case of the water fund. We are also experiencing, as projected, expenditure levels across the four major operating funds. In short, we are continuing to match our expenditure levels to our levels of revenue and that has been our mantra as we entered into the economic downturn here a couple of years ago.

Wrt a couple of specific revenue streams in the General Fund, sales taxes are trending up slightly from the prior year. Our share of the state income tax, our hotel tax revenue, and alcohol tax revenue have performed very well in relation to our budgeted expectations for this particular year; but we have seen a bit of a downturn in our communication taxes and we'll keep an eye on this particular revenue trend as we move forward. Any questions?

Ald. Rogina: Looking at the revised budget and the projected revenue, there and then, and the fiscal year forecast which is in line with the original budget, how much can we say is attributed to a mild winter?

Chris: There is no doubt that we did recognize some savings wrt the snow removal cost. We saw that mainly in the area related to overtime. We do have a commitment to purchase a certain level road salt with the state of Illinois, but we did some savings wrt that particular line item this year.

6. Mayor's Office

a. Recommend approval of an Ordinance Amending Title 2, "Administration and Personnel," Chapter 2.24 "Fire and Police Commissioners," Section 2.24.010 "Created – Composition" of the St. Charles Municipal Code.

Mayor DeWitte: Before you this evening for consideration of reducing the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners from its current ordinance of five members back down to three.

Back in 2007 we added two members to this board. One in an effort to add some diversity to their membership, Sandy Wright, a former School District employee joined the organization as well as Craig Livermore, CEO at Delnor Hospital. We thought their backgrounds would be significant advantages coming on with that organization. Two events have now forced us to review that decision. First, Sandy Wright submitted her resignation to the board shortly after the first of the year. She now has family living on the west coast and those family commitments and travel involved has taken a lot of time away from her to actively participate as she felt she should. The other situation as many of you are already aware is Jim Urhausen who continues to heal from a long term health issue. In consultation with his family who had the conversation with Jim, himself, it was determined at this point in time based on his long term recovery, it would probably be best to vacate his seat due to health reasons. The family is on board and Jim is aware of it as well. He concurs.

What it has now created with three active members in a five-member board, is it forces every member to be available for every single meeting in order to have a quorum to conduct business. The conversations with Don Haines, Greg Pacelli and Craig Livermore who are members of the board and wish to remain members, it was determined it would be best for everyone involve that we reduce the board back to three members where it was prior to 2007. It then requires only two members to be available for any particular quorum call and collectively we agreed that this would be the best way to approach the situation in moving forward at this point. So the question before you this evening is to reduce the board from five back to the original three members from 2007 and would ask for approval of this request.

Ald. Rogina: Does the reduction in any way inhibit a review that might come before the board like in a particular hearing?

Mayor DeWitte: I will defer that question to Chief Lamkin and Ass't Chief Schelstreet, but in my opinion I don't think it will. In most significant issues that come before this board, predominantly disciplinary matters, everyone is always represented by legal counsel. The Board has representation when the person who is being looked at regarding his issues is represented as well the Fire or Police Chief or whoever may be involved in a particular situation. I am not concern about having sufficient representation on the board. All three of these gentlemen, Don Haines, Greg Pacelli, and Craig Livermore are very experienced with personnel matters and I am very confident that they can handle them sufficiently. (I see two heads nodding yes.)

Ald. Krieger: I was under the impression that we were just three members for many years before we went to five and I have never heard any complaints, so I support this move.

Motion by Ald. Stellato, second by Monken to recommend approval of an Ordinance Amending Title 2, "Administration and Personnel," Chapter 2.24 "Fire and Police Commissioners," Section 2.24.010 "Created – Composition" of the St. Charles Municipal Code.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays: None; Absent: Carrignan. Chair. Martin did not vote as Chair. **Motion carried.**

7. **Additional Items - None**

8. **Adjournment**

Motion by Stellato second by Monken to adjourn meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays: None; Absent: Carrignan . Chair. Martin did not vote as Chair. **Motion carried.**

:tn