

**St. Charles Village Council  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
January 11, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance by President Tithof.

Members present: Ginderske, Harris, Kendall, McSweyn, Nesbit and Tithof.

Members absent: L. Theile.

Others present: Donald Ackerman, Donna Ackerman, Hartmann Aue, Chuck Bussinger, Mary Browne, Terry Browne, Tyler Browne, Julie Church, Scott Crofoot, Jean Fowler, Jay Gardner, Dan Hauman, Mitch Jacquemain, John Kaczor, Richard Kushion, Paul Krzyzaniak, Kay Lake, Mick Levens, Jeanne Marcello, Luann McNally, James McPhail, Sam Meyer, Allyson Ott, Chris Palmer, Marie Roe, Jennifer Rosser-Nesbit, Deanna Sova, Sue Tanney, Ethan Thompson, Cherrie Yankee and Mike Yankee.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Motion by Nesbit, second by Harris to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

During public comment Tri-Township Fire Department Chief Mick Levens introduced himself to the new council members and gave a brief background of the Tri-Township Fire District and thanked council for their service to the community.

Mitch Jacquemain from Spicer updated Council on the projects Spicer is working on for the Village.

There was one correction made to the December 14, 2022 Village Council minutes. The word hero was missing a letter.

Motion by Nesbit, second by Harris to approve the December 14, 2022 Village Council minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Motion Nesbit, second by Harris to accept and file the minutes of the Downtown Development Authority from January 6, 2023. Motion carried.

Accepted and filed the communication from Play in the Parks.

Motion by Nesbit, second by Kendall to approve the payment of claims in the amount of \$114,833.79. Motion carried.

John Kaczor from Municipal Analytics gave Council an overview of the water rate study that was conducted in conjunction with the SAW Grant in 2019. During the water rate study Kaczor created a formula of the future water and sewer rates necessary to pay for the upcoming water system improvements.

As a part of the budget process, the Village Council voted to review and potentially amend the water and sewer rates on a yearly basis. With the upcoming water system improvements, the increases will be required.

Motion by Nesbit, second by McSweyn to approve Resolution 23-1 to Amend Water Rates. Motion carried.

Motion by Harris, second by Nesbit to approve Resolution 23-2 to Amend Sewer Rates. Motion carried.

Annually, MDOT requires approval of the "Performance Resolution for Municipalities" in order to issue an "Individual Permit for Use of State Highway Right of Way" and/or an "Annual Application and Permit for

Miscellaneous Operations within State Highway Right of Way.” These permits and applications are mandatory for all work done on M-52, the right of way, or when a parade is held.

Motion by Harris, second by Nesbit to approve Resolution 23-3 MDOT Performance Resolution for Municipalities. Motion carried.

MDOT submitted a Good Faith Offer for the Consent to Grade rights to the property on Spruce Street in the amount of \$700. The Good Faith Offer is in conjunction with the Recreational Impact Section 4(F) Assessment of the Bad River Bridge that was approved at the December 14, 2022 Village Council meeting.

Motion by Nesbit, second by Harris to approve MDOT Good Faith Offer Consent to Grade rights Spruce Street. Motion carried.

Village Manager Hartmann Aue presented the finalized St. Charles Area Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. The public hearing was held at the Parks and Recreation Meeting that had taken place at 6:30 PM prior to the Village Council Meeting. The plan approves a minimum of \$250,000 into the parks system using grants, public private partnerships, and the general fund. Now the plan will go to the surrounding townships for approval. Nesbit stated it was a well thought out plan.

Motion by Nesbit, second by McSweyn to approve the St. Charles Area Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. Motion carried.

The request for credit to water at 133 N Saginaw Street was discussed.

Motion by Kendall, second by Nesbit to decline request for credit to water at 133 N Saginaw Street. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the proposed Spruce Street/Ithaca Road sidewalk project. Council’s decision was to await the Spruce Street/Ithaca Road sidewalk project from the petitioner to move forward.

Departmental reports from the DPW, Police Department and Building Inspector/Code Enforcement were accepted and filed.

During public comment, Aue thanked council for their hard work and noted he received an email from the DNR that the Village is becoming an Arbor Day Tree City which will open the opportunities for Tree and Beautification grants.

Motion by Harris, second by Nesbit to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. Rosser-Nesbit, Village Clerk