

CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LOVES PARK, ILLINOIS

Journal of Proceedings

Regular Meeting, Monday, February 1, 2021

Virtual Meeting held at www.cityoflovespark.com

Mayor Gregory Jury called to order the online live-streamed meeting of the Loves Park City Council, as necessitated by the COVID-19 Virus Pandemic, at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Mark Peterson opened the meeting with an invocation followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Mayor Greg Jury

Aldermen Nancy Warden, Jim Puckett, Clint Little, John Pruitt, Charles Frykman, Mark Peterson, A. Marie Holmes, Robert Schlensker, Doug Allton

Absent: Alderman John Jacobson

Also Present: City Clerk Bob Burden
City Attorney Gino Galluzzo

1. Approve Minutes 01/25/21 The Journal of Proceedings for the regular meeting of January 25, 2021 was approved as submitted by the city clerk on a motion by Alderman Little. Second by Alderman Schlensker. Motion carried. 9 Ayes (Aldermen Warden, Puckett, Little, Pruitt, Frykman, Peterson, Holmes, Schlensker, Allton) 1 Absent (Alderman Jacobson)
2. Comcast Changes Received a notice from Comcast of changes to TV services, effective February 25 thru April 13, 2021. Placed on file.
3. Commerce Commission Hearing Received a notice from the Illinois Commerce Commission of hearings regarding Northern Illinois Gas Company, to be held February 11, 2021, in the offices of the Commission, Chicago, IL. Placed on file.
4. Plowing Snow Mayor Jury thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work with plowing snow.
5. Watermain Break Alderman Pruitt also thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work in repairing a watermain break in his neighborhood.
6. Water Department Bills Alderman Peterson presented the Water Department bills dated January 25, 2021 in the amount of \$52,026.23, and moved that they be paid. Second by Alderman Schlensker. Motion carried. 9 Ayes (Aldermen Warden, Puckett, Little, Pruitt, Frykman, Peterson, Holmes, Schlensker, Allton) 1 Absent (Alderman Jacobson)
7. General Fund Bills Alderman Peterson presented the General Fund and all other bills dated January 25, 2021 in the amount of \$415,209.10, and moved that they be paid. Second by Alderman Pruitt. Motion carried. 9 Ayes (Aldermen Warden, Puckett, Little, Pruitt, Frykman, Peterson, Holmes, Schlensker, Allton) 1 Absent (Alderman Jacobson)
8. Public Safety Alderman Allton presented the Police Department Report dated February 1, 2021, to be placed on file.
9. Public Works Report Alderman Schlensker presented the Street Department Report dated February 1, 2021; presented the Water Department Report for February 1, 2021, to be placed on file.

10. Finance & Administration Committee
Alderman Peterson of the Finance and Administration Committee presented the General Fund and all other bills dated February 1, 2021, in the amount of \$124,900.71, for consideration at next week's city council meeting; presented the minutes from the committee meeting held January 25, 2021, to be placed on file.
11. Public Works Committee
Alderman Schlensker of the Public Works Committee presented the Water Department list of bills dated February 1, 2021, in the amount of \$88,795.89, for consideration at next week's city council meeting.
12. Opposing House Bill 3653 Criminal Justice Reform
Alderman Peterson presented the following resolution opposing House Bill 3653 in its current form and moved for its adoption. **WHEREAS**, the Illinois Legislature has recently passed Senate Floor Amendment No. 2 to House Bill 3653 which would enact sweeping reforms to the criminal justice system of our State if it becomes law; and **WHEREAS**, this Bill, consisting of over 700 pages, was passed in a matter of days with limited debate despite representing wide-ranging, substantive change; and **WHEREAS**, the City agrees that thoughtful and well-reasoned reform of the criminal justice system is both beneficial and necessary, but believes that the process used to bring about the changes represented in House Bill 3653 as amended, were not subject to sufficient study and consideration; and **WHEREAS**, well-intentioned items such as the elimination of cash bail except in cases where harm to specific individuals can be identified does not allow judges to evaluate the threat to the public as a whole in releasing violent offenders; and **WHEREAS**, the provision allowing the use of anonymous complaints against officers does not promote transparency or justice, but rather allows for social media style attacks promoting personal agendas without supporting evidence and without allowing the accused the ability to defend against the allegation; and **WHEREAS**, the bill is rife with unfunded mandates that will place additional strain on local police budgets; and **WHEREAS**, the City supports the Legislature undertaking a thoughtful and measured process for reform that involves all stakeholders and results in positive changes to our criminal justice system to right inequities that exist there in while protecting the community as a whole and not villainizing our police officers performing their duties with honor. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Loves Park, County of Winnebago and County of Boone, Illinois, that by the adoption of this Resolution, that the Mayor and the City Council hereby agree as follows:
1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated into this Resolution as if fully stated herein.
 2. The City commends the professionalism of the Loves Park Police Department and its officers in their work to both protect the City and for acting in a responsible manner in interacting with our citizens.
 3. The City calls upon the Governor to veto House Bill 3653 as amended by Senate Floor Amendment Number 2 and calls upon the Legislature to take-up a process for thoughtful and studied reform of our criminal justice system allowing for meaningful input from all stakeholders.
 4. In the alternative, the City calls upon the Legislature to immediately take-up modifying legislation to clarify, amend, and improve the provisions of House Bill 3653 as amended in order to address the foreseeable harm to the community associated with some of its provisions.
 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.
- Second by Alderman Frykman. Motion carried. 9 Ayes (Aldermen Warden, Puckett, Little, Pruitt, Frykman, Peterson, Holmes, Schlensker, Allton) 1 Absent (Alderman Jacobson)
- RESOLUTION NO. 21-008**
13. Resolution To Police Department
Alderman Allton requested that a copy of the Resolution passed this evening regarding the criminal justice reform be forwarded to the Loves Park Police Department to be posted.

14. Adjourn Alderman Pruitt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Alderman Schlensker. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

APPROVED:

Robert J. Burden, City Clerk

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Community Development:	Following Council Meeting 6:15 p.m.
Finance and Administration:	Prior to Council Meeting 5:40 p.m.
Public Works:	Prior to Council Meeting 5:15 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals:	3 rd Thursday of the Month 5:30 p.m.