

AGENDA  
CITY OF SALEM  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015  
6:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments
- IV. Mayor's Report and Presentations
  - 1. Proclamation Honoring 2015 Salem 11U District Baseball Team

V. City Council Action

- 1. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2015
  - b. Approval of St. Theresa Color Run Event in Bryan Park, October 24
- 2. Approval of New Charter Franchise Agreement
- 3. Discussion – Reorganizing Veterans with Honorary Street Name
- 4. Approval of Amendments to Ordinance 2015-11 Regarding Hours of Liquor Sales
- 5. Approval of Engineering Agreement for Library Sidewalk Improvement
- 6. Approval of Agreement for Landfill Gas Mitigation

VI. City Manager Report

VII. City Attorney Report

VIII. Finance Director Report

IX. City Council Report

X. Adjournment

Bill Gruen  
City Manager

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MINUTES  
CITY OF SALEM  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Salem City Council was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, as the regular meeting date of Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> fell on the Labor Day Holiday. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rex Barbee at 6:00 p.m.

**Council members present:**

Councilman Jim Baity  
Councilman Craig Morton  
Councilwoman Sue Morgan  
Mayor Rex Barbee

**Council members absent:** Councilman Nic Farley

**Others present:**

City Manager Bill Gruen	City Clerk Bev Quinn
City Attorney Mike Jones	Finance Director Ben Stratemeyer
Chief of Police Sean Reynolds	Assistant Public Works Director Annette Brushwitz
Code Enforcement Officer Brian Hunt	Economic Development Director Jeanne Gustafson
Deputy Chief of Police Susan Miller	Animal Control Officer Paul Wimberly
Members of the Public and Media	

II. **PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Opening Prayer was given by Councilwoman Morgan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

IV. **MAYOR'S REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS**

- **Blue Grass and BBQ** - Mayor Barbee indicated he wanted to give a "hats off" to the Blue Grass Committee for providing an enjoyable, well attended program celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event.
- **Antique Power Days** – Mayor Barbee indicated the Antique Power Days program starts this Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and runs through the weekend. The event is held at the Marion County Fairgrounds, and he encouraged the community to attend.
- **Applefest** – Mayor Barbee indicated the Greater Salem Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the Applefest in Bryan Park on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **Roof over Settling Basin** – Mayor Barbee indicated good progress is being made on the roof over the Water Treatment Plant settling basin.
- **Proclamation Honoring 2015 Salem 11U District Baseball Team** – Mayor Barbee read a Proclamation outlining what the Salem 11U Baseball Team's accomplishments were during the

2015 season, including reaching 4<sup>th</sup> place at State, the names of the coaches and players, and recognizing the assistance they received from the Little League Board, coaches and parents. Players present to accept copies on behalf of the team were Carter Consolino, Quentin Purcell and Carson Parrish.

V. **CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

1. **Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2015.
- b. Approval of St. Theresa Color Run Event in Bryan Park, October 24th  
***Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Baity to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Baity, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

2. **Charter Franchise Agreement**

City Manager Gruen indicated the City has a lapsed franchise agreement with Charter, for which a revised and updated agreement should be approved. The franchise agreement governs the use of City rights-of-way by Charter for its cable system infrastructure. It also provides for a franchise fee payable to the City of 5%, and insurance coverage for work done in ROWs. The proposed franchise agreement has been reviewed by City Attorney Mike Jones and Public Works Director John Pruden, and they have no concerns.

Eddie Trower, Government Affairs Representative, Charter Communications, indicated the term of the franchise agreement is five years, with a five-year renewal upon notification. The agreement also provides a Public Access Channel to the City. City Manager Gruen indicated the PAC is something that could be used by the Tourism Board or the schools. Mr. Trower added that the agreement does not limit usage of the PAC to education or governmental purposes. Mt. Vernon, Fairview Heights, and several communities in the metro area have signed similar franchise agreements. Mayor Barbee asked what the coordination process for the PAC channel is. Mr. Trower indicated that is dependent on the type of equipment the City purchases. The channel is capable of providing live or taped programming. Mr. Trower added that there are some grant funds available to applicants for equipment. ***Motion was made by Councilman Morton and seconded by Councilwoman Morgan to approve Ordinance No. 2015-12 granting a franchise to Rifkin Acquisition Partners, LLC d/b/a Charter Communications, its successors and assigns the right to erect, maintain, and operate a cable system in the City of Salem, Illinois. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Baity, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

3. **Discussion – Recognizing Veterans with Honorary Street Name**

City Manager Gruen indicated the City Council had been approached by Earl White of the Department of Veteran's Affairs regarding his desire that veterans be recognized by naming a street in their honor. Mr. White had suggested that either Kinney Blvd. or Mitchell Street be renamed. Mr. Gruen indicated that he would suggest, as an alternative, that Main Street receive a "sub name" honoring veterans, as Main Street does not currently have any naming significance. Mr. Gruen also provided was a copy of a page showing signage examples and pricing for the sub street names. Mr. Gruen indicated this is not a planned purchase, but would fit into the current budget. Mr. Gruen added that he had discussed this with Chief of Police Sean Reynolds, and giving the street a sub-name would not cause confusion to emergency personnel, as the actual street addresses would not change. The sub-name would be honorary, only. Mayor Barbee indicated he likes the idea of having a Veteran's Blvd. or Soldiers and Sailors Street or something like that, and also likes the idea of doing this as a sub-name, rather than changing actual street names or addresses. Councilwoman Morgan indicated she has spoken with some citizens who would object to renaming Kinney Blvd., because it was named for Roger Kinney. Mayor Barbee added that Main Street is more prominent. City Manager Gruen indicated he would bring back specific options for street names to the next meeting. Councilwoman Morgan added that it would be nice to hold an actual dedication ceremony for the honorary name, involving local veterans, particularly as Veteran's Day is approaching.

4. **Approval of Amendments to Ordinance 2015-11 Regarding Hours of Liquor Sales**

City Manager Gruen indicated during the recent reclassification of liquor licensees, several Class D license holders became Class G, and the Class G license hours call for a 12:00 a.m. closing on Friday and Saturday nights, rather than the 2:00 a.m. closing time Class D licensees have. This was inadvertently missed on the last ordinance. Additionally, the ordinance did not list that Class C license holders must cease selling liquor at 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, as they have in the past. The proposed ordinance makes these corrections. ***Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Baity to approve Ordinance 2015-13 Amending Chapter 3 of the Zoning Code. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Baity, Councilman Morton, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

**5. Approval of Engineering Agreement for Library Sidewalk Improvement**

City Manager Gruen indicated Senator McCarter had awarded a \$70,000 grant from IDOT to the Library for sidewalk replacement. These funds are funded through bond proceeds issued by the Governor, but Governor Rauner has not issued bonds for the project. Representatives of the Bryan Bennett Library and Council have expressed interest in moving forward as soon as possible on the sidewalk improvement project. Mr. Gruen indicated if the City incurs costs for the project before having a grant agreement with IDOT, engineering expenses may be disqualified from grant reimbursement. If the Council is inclined to move forward on design, we could stop Rhutasel from taking any additional action or incurring any costs over the engineering until either the grant is awarded or the Council decides to move forward without grant support. Questions arose as to the necessity of having engineering done on the project. City Manager Gruen responded that there are ADA requirements that must be met, which require engineering design. Assistant Public Works Director Brushwitz added that IDOT has become very particular as to grade, and has gone so far as to take a level or other projects. Brushwitz added that it is very important that we get it right the first time, and the slope will need to be from the building out. Councilwoman Morgan indicated she feels it is very important that we keep up our City buildings, and make sure they are handicapped accessible. **Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Morton that the Engineering Agreement with Rhutasel and Associates for the Library Sidewalk Improvement project be approved. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Baity, Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

**6. Approval of Agreement for Landfill Gas Mitigation**

City Manager Gruen indicated EPA requires the City to install trenches that collect and lead landfill methane gases to a flare. This is a budgeted item, and the low bid received was from Blankenship Construction in the amount of \$25,200 for the trench, plus an extra \$2,500 for installation of the flare and blower. **Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Baity to approve award of the bid for the Landfill Gas Mitigation to Blankenship Construction in the amount of \$25,200 for the trench and \$2,500 for the flare and blower. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilman Morton, Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Baity, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

**VI. CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Gruen indicated he recently spoke with a friend in the legislature who indicated that the group of people who get together to hammer out the budget have not met since May. Portions of the budget have been approved, and other portions paid by court order. The portion of income taxes provided to municipalities through LGDF is a “big ticket item”, and there is no guarantee that these funds won’t still be cut in an effort to plug the deficit.

**VII. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT – None.**

**VIII. FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – None.**

**IX. CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Mayor Barbee indicated that Councilman Farley, Jeanne Gustafson and Annette Brushwitz recently visited Purina in St. Louis, and met the “Dream Dog Park Team”. Ms. Gustafson indicated it was amazing, and they provided some very helpful suggestions and ideas. Gustafson added that they pointed out that a great number of people travel with their dogs, and dog parks can be a tourism attraction for a community. Councilwoman Morgan asked if Purina offers any grants. Ms. Gustafson indicated they do not at this time, but Councilman Farley make it clear that we would appreciate any assistance they could provide.

City Manager Gruen asked Chief of Police Reynolds to share how many views the Police Department’s recent PSA regarding credit card skimmers who have hit several area gas stations. Chief Reynolds indicated the announcement, made on the Police Department’s Facebook page, has received 107,000 views.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion was made by Councilwoman Morgan and seconded by Councilman Baity to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Roll call vote: AYES: Councilwoman Morgan, Councilman Baity, Councilman Morton, Mayor Barbee. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

Bev Quinn, CMC  
City Clerk

Minutes approved: \_\_\_\_\_