

Ottawa, Illinois
April 24, 2023

Special meeting of the Council of the City of Ottawa, Illinois.

Present: Wayne A. Eichelkraut Jr., Thomas G. Ganiere, James J. Less, and
Mayor Daniel F. Aussem.

Absent: Marla K. Pearson.

The first public comment was from Michael Brunner, of 121 E. Prospect Avenue, who told the Council he has been practicing for over 15 years. Vanessa Broadhum, who is cofounder of the One River Zen Center also commented on the center and being part of the community. Kathy Slechta of 420 First Avenue, added the parking concerns have not led to any changes in the neighborhood. Morgan Strow, of 225 E. Prospect Avenue, added that the business has integrated into the neighborhood well and that Michael and Vanessa are good neighbors.

A public hearing was held on the proposed Budget for fiscal year 24. Commissioner Eichelkraut noted that the General Corporate Fund will be using around \$485,000.00 of reserves and the budget as a whole for fiscal year 23 is \$2,000,000.00 under spent. With no one else publicly commenting, the Mayor declared the hearing closed at 4:50 p.m.

Commissioner Eichelkraut presented Ordinance.

Moved by Commisisoner Eichelkraut that an Ordinance adopting the Operating Budget for the fiscal year commencing May 1, 2023, be passed and approved.

Second by Ganiere.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Commissioner Ganiere wished Commissioner Less a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Aussem presented Ordinance.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that an Ordinance amending Section 10-51 of the Municipal Code of the City of Ottawa, LaSalle County, Illinois, regarding special event liquor licenses, be passed and approved.

Second by Ganiere.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Aussem presented Tabled Motion.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that the Tabled Motion regarding the conditional use permit request from Michael Brunner for 121 E. Prospect Avenue, be returned to the table.

Second by Ganiere.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

A discussion ensued.

Mayor Aussem noted that the monument is blocked on Prospect Avenue. He thought we could paint the curb yellow and restrict on-street parking to the West. The violations of the conditional use could be removed. Commissioner Ganiere thought that it seems more like a business than a place of worship. Commissioner Eichelkraut said that they have been operating without a conditional use permit and that he is sympathetic to both sides and understands the parking situation. Mayor Aussem added that he was inclined to support the Plan Commission recommendation.

Mayor Aussem presented Motion.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that this Council concur with the Plan Commission recommendation with the additional condition of no parking to the West of 121 E. Prospect Avenue.

Second by Less.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: Ganiere. Motion carried.

Mayor Aussem presented motion to recess.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that this Council recess into Closed Session to discuss a matter of collective bargaining.

Second by Ganiere.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried. Council recessed at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Aussem presented motion to reconvene.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that this Council reconvene from Closed Session.

Second by Ganiere.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Aussem presented motion to adjourn.

Moved by Mayor Aussem that this special meeting be adjourned.

Second by Less.

Ayes: Eichelkraut, Ganiere, Less, and Mayor Aussem.

Nays: None. Motion carried. Council adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly L. Munks

Shelly L. Munks City Clerk