



# City Council ACTION

The following is a summary of select City Council action items from the April 28, 2025 City Council meeting.

## Boards & Commissions Appointments

The following board and commission nominations were approved:

- Lee Sawyer – St. Joseph Regional Port Authority

## Summarized City Council Actions

Following is an explanation of select items that were taken up by the City Council:

**City Fireworks Display Agreement** (Item #7 Bill #1227-22): The City Council authorized a three-year agreement with Premier Pyrotechnics, Inc. to provide the City's fourth of July fireworks display. Premier Pyrotechnics Inc. has provided fireworks displays for the City of St. Joseph for several years. The shoot site will once again be at the North Shoppes for the 2025 fireworks display, but the site for each subsequent year will be determined by city staff and property owners.

**Wastewater Blower Replacement Project** (Item #10 Bill #1230-22): The City Council authorized acceptance of a grant through the 2022 Water Resources Development Act, allocated by the Army Corps of Engineers, to support the blower replacement project at the Water Protection Facility. HDR has been contracted for design services, and the City plans to use the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) delivery method to help fast-track the project. This approach allows for earlier equipment purchase, which is essential due to the long lead time for blowers. The current blowers and associated electrical components have exceeded their useful life and are in urgent need of replacement.

**Landfill Equipment Purchase** (Item #11 Bill #1231-22): The City Council authorized the purchase of one portable gas extraction monitor and related accessories from QED Environmental Systems, Inc. to be used at the St. Joseph Sanitary Landfill. An engineering firm currently performs DNR-required gas readings at the landfill, costing over \$65,000 annually. By purchasing a portable gas monitor and having a landfill employee handle the readings, the City can bring the service in-house and save more than \$39,000 in the first year.

**On-Call Service Agreements** (Items #13-17): The City Council authorized Master Agreements with the following companies for on-call services:

- Auxier Construction Company – General Construction Services
- John Jackson Plumbing, LLC – Routine & Emergency Sewer Repair Services
- JD Bishop Construction, LLC – General Construction Services

- Sprague Excavating Company, LLC – General Construction Services, Routine & Emergency Sewer Repair Services
- M-Con, LLC – Routine & Emergency Sewer Repair Services

To prevent delays in repairs, the City implemented an on-call system that has been successfully utilized by multiple departments. These agreements allow the City to respond quickly to urgent projects and those requiring coordination between teams. This streamlined approach improves efficiency and timeliness while avoiding the extended procurement and contracting process typically needed for individual projects, especially those that don't require detailed design plans.

**Bode Ice Arena Equipment Purchase** (Item #20 Bill #1241-22): The City Council authorized acceptance of a donation from the George Bode, Jr. Benevolent Trust to be used for the purchase of a new Zamboni from Zamboni Company USA, Inc. and an auto ice painter from Becker Arena Products for use at the Bode Ice Arena. The Zamboni is essential for maintaining a safe, high-quality ice surface. The current 12-year-old machine is nearing the end of its useful life and requires increasing maintenance. Delivery of a new Zamboni takes 16–18 months. Additionally, a new ice painting device will assist staff in painting lines for ice sports, replacing the current manual process.

**Hyde Park Facilities** (Item #22 Bill #1244-22): The City Council authorized a Work Order with R/S Electric Corp. for the installation of electrical service for a new maintenance building at Hyde Park. As part of the Park Sales Tax project selection, the Park Tax Citizen Committee added a new maintenance building to the project list. This facility is needed to house and secure maintenance equipment, materials, and operations currently at the Hyde Park Bath House, which will be renovated through the Northside & Hyde Park Aquatics Facilities project, expected to go out for bid in spring/summer 2025. Before construction, electrical service must be installed at the site. The City Council previously allocated Park Sales Tax funding for both the new building and the necessary electrical easement.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Mike Schumacher reported the following:

- A Public Hearing to consider a Sewer Rate Increase will be announced on Friday and is scheduled for June 7.
- Construction of Landfill Cell 8 is progressing smoothly, with the clay layer now complete.
- The City's budget will be ready for submission by the charter-mandated deadline of Wednesday, April 30th at midnight.