



**Preliminary
Minutes
St. Louis Board of Aldermen Meeting
Regular Full Board Meeting
Friday, April 25, 2025
10am**

Board of Aldermen Chambers

Minutes are preliminary and may change until finally approved by the Board

1. Call to Order

President Green called the meeting to order at 10:00am and directed the Assistant Clerk to call the roll.

2. Roll Call

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the following members answered to their names: Ms. Schweitzer, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Mr. Devoti, Mr. Browning, Ms. Clark-Hubbard, Ms. Keys, Mr. Aldridge, and President Green. **9 members were present. A quorum was established.**

The following members joined the meeting while it was in progress making a total of 12 members present: Mr. Oldenburg, Ms. Velázquez, and Ms. Sonnier

3. Opening Reflection or Prayer

President Green recognized Dr. Zaid Numan Mahir of the Arab Cultural Center of St. Louis to lead the members in the opening prayer and reflection.

Dr. Mahir spoke about Arab Heritage Month and led the members in an opening reflection/prayer.

4. Announcement of Any Special Order of the Day

None

5. Introduction of Honored Guests

President Green directed the meeting to the Introduction of Honored Guests.

Ms. Keys welcomed as her honored guests for the day the residents of the 11th Ward and her granddaughter Raynor.

Mr. Devoti recognized as his honored guests for the day Teresa Papis and Sarah Jones. He also welcomed his parents.

Mr. Aldridge recognized as his honored guest for the day Mr. Ben Phillips.

6. Approval of Minutes

President Green recognized Ms. Clark- Hubbard on the motion for the approval of the minutes of the Tuesday, April 15, 2025 full Board of Aldermen Annual meeting.

Ms. Clark-Hubbard moved to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 15, 2025 full Board of Alderman Annual meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Cohn.

President Green called for the vote on the motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, April 15, 2025 full Board of Alderman Annual meeting.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. Report of City Officials

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to the Report of City Officials.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

a) Report of the Clerk of the Board of Aldermen
None

b.) Office of the Mayor
None

c.) Office of the Comptroller
None

d.) Office of the President
None

8. Petitions and Communications
None

9. Board Bills for Perfection, Informal Calendar
None

10. Board Bills for Third Reading, Informal Calendar
None

11. Resolutions, Informal Calendar
None

12. First Reading of Board Bills
President Green recognized Ms. Clark-Hubbard on the motion to suspend the rules in order to introduce Board Bill Numbers 9 and 10.

Ms. Clark-Hubbard moved to suspend the rules in order to introduce Board Bill Numbers 9 and 10.

Seconded by Ms. Velázquez.

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to call the roll on the motion to suspend the rules in order to introduce Board Bill Numbers 9 and 10.

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded:

The following voted Aye:

Ms. Schweitzer, Mr. Oldenburg, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Mr. Devoti, Ms. Velázquez, Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Clark-Hubbard, Ms. Keys, Mr. Aldridge, and President Green. **A total of 12 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:

None

The following voted Present:

None

The following Abstained:

None

The following were present but did not vote:

None

A total of 12 votes were cast. The motion carried.

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to place Board Bill Numbers 9 and 10 at the end of the First Reading of Board Bills Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk acknowledged.

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to the First Reading of Board Bills Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk the following into the record:

Board Bill Number 2

Introduced by Alderman Shane Cohn

An Ordinance recommended by the Planning Commission on March 12, 2025, to change the zoning of property as indicated on the District Map, from the “F” Neighborhood Commercial District to the “A” Single-Family Dwelling District, in City Block 2731 (4535 S. Grand Blvd.), so as to include the described parcel of land in City Block 2731; and containing an emergency clause.

Board Bill Number 3

Introduced by Alderwoman Anne Schweitzer

Pursuant to **Ordinance Number 70333** as amended by **Ordinance Number 71394**, an ordinance directing the Director of Streets to install speed humps to calm the flow of traffic on the 6600 block of Vermont Avenue in the first ward.

Board Bill Number 4

Introduced by Alderwoman Sharon Tyus

An Ordinance recommended by the Planning Commission on April 9, 2025, to change the zoning of property as indicated on the District Map, from the “C” Multiple-Family Dwelling District and the “F” Neighborhood Commercial District to the “G” Area Commercial and Office District, in City Blocks 3691 (4372-80 St. Louis Avenue) and 3708 (4401, 4413-15, 4417, 4417H, 4419 & 4421 Maffitt Avenue, 4414-

38, 4444-46, 4452, 4454 & 4458-72 St. Louis Avenue and 2820 & 2822 N. Taylor Avenue), so as to include the described parcels of land in City Blocks 3691 and 3708; and containing an emergency clause.

Board Bill Number 5

Introduced by Alderman Michael Browning

An ordinance pertaining to the filing fee of city elected offices including mayor, comptroller, President of the Board of Aldermen, and Aldermen. Containing definitions and a severability clause.

Board Bill Number 6

Introduced by Alderwoman Alisha Sonnier

An Ordinance pertaining to parking in the Gate District neighborhood within the “**Vista Avenue Residential Parking District**,” which establishes the location and restrictions for curb parking in the restricted parking zone in the district established by this ordinance; authorizing the placement of Permit Parking Only signs within the district; and prohibiting the parking, within the district, of any vehicle which does not obtain the authorized permit; containing definitions and a penalty clause.

Board Bill Number 7

Introduced by Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard

An ordinance directing the Director of Streets to install speed humps pursuant to **Ordinance Number 70333** as amended by **Ordinance Number 71394** to calm the flow of traffic on the 400 block of Laurel Avenue, 4500 block of Newberry Terrace, 5100 block of Cates Avenue, and the 100 block of Cabanne Avenue.

Board Bill Number 8

Introduced by Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard

Cosponsor: Alderman Bret Narayan

An ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Board of Public Service, providing for the execution and delivery of an Extension Agreement (the “**Extension Agreement**”), substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, by and between the City of St. Louis (the “**City**”) and CF FOREST PARK ARCIS LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“**Lessee**”), extending the term of Amended and Restated Lease Agreement dated August 31, 2000 by and between the City and Lessee (as assignee of CLP LEASEHOLD GOLF LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“**CLP**”), successor by name change to CNL Income EAGL Leasehold Golf LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (“**CNL**”), assignee of American Golf Corporation, a California corporation (“**AGC**”)) (as amended, extended and assigned from time to time, the “**2000 Lease**”) and adding certain non-discrimination language to the 2000 Lease, and containing an Emergency Clause.

The following Board Bills did not meet the filing deadline to be on this meeting’s agenda and therefore were added by vote of the members.

Board Bill Number 9

Introduced by Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard

Cosponsor: Alderman Bret Narayan

An ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Board of Public Service providing for the execution and delivery of an Extension Agreement (the “**Extension Agreement**”), substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**, by and between the City of St. Louis (the “**City**”) and Evergreen Alliance Golf Limited, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership (“**Lessee**”), extending the term of Amended, Restated and Extended Lease Agreement dated August 18, 2008 by and between the City and Lessee (as amended, extended and assigned from time to time, the “**2008 Lease**”) and adding certain non-discrimination language to the 2008 Lease, and containing an Emergency Clause.

Board Bill Number 10

Introduced by Alderman Thomas Oldenburg

An ordinance prohibiting retail tobacco stores, as defined herein, to be open to the public for business between the hours of 9:00 PM and 8:00 AM; and containing a penalty clause.

13. Reference to Committee of Board Bills

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to the Reference to Committee of Board Bills.

The Assistant Clerk read the Board Bills introduced and referred to the following committees:

Budget and Public Employees
None

Health and Human Development
Board Bill Numbers 8 and 9.

Housing, Urban Development and Zoning Committee
Board Bill Numbers 2 and 4.

Legislation and Rules
Board Bill Number 5.

Personnel and Administration
None

Public Infrastructure and Utilities Committee
Board Bill Numbers 3, 6 and 7.

Public Safety Committee
None

Transportation and Commerce Committee
Board Bill Number 10.

14. Second Reading and Report of Standing Committees

None

15. Report of Special Committees

None

16a. Board Bills for Perfection – Consent Calendar

None

16b. Perfection Calendar

None

17. Report of Engrossment

None

18a. Third Reading and Final Passage of Board Bills – Consent

None

18b. Third Reading and Final Passage of Board Bills

None

19. Report of Finally Passed Board Bills and Signage by the President

None

20. First Reading of Resolutions

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to the First Reading of Resolutions.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 6

A RESOLUTION RE-AUTHORIZING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REDUCING RED TAPE

WHEREAS, the Special Committee on Reducing Red Tape was first established in 2023 for the purpose of updating and streamlining permitting, licensing, and inspection requirements at the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, the City’s lack of sufficient personnel across departments combined with onerous and outdated city permitting and licensing requirements presents an immediate and urgent threat to equitable economic development and inclusive growth in the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis restaurant owners continue to report an understaffed excise department, a difficult and unpredictable application and public input process, lengthy wait times, and an inability to transfer a license to a new owner, among other issues; and

WHEREAS, the Institute for Justice compared the local regulatory barriers across twenty cities in their February 2022 report “Barriers to Business,” for five different types of businesses. They found that at \$6,642, St. Louis was the fourth most expensive city to start a restaurant, after San Francisco, Minneapolis, and Seattle; and

WHEREAS, during the 2024-2025 Board of Aldermen session, this committee held numerous listening sessions to hear from community members, business owners, and entrepreneurs about the issues with red tape they have faced while navigating City processes; and

WHEREAS, during the 2024-2025 Board of Aldermen session, this committee deliberated on several pieces of legislation related to food trucks, outdated regulations around barber shops, onerous limits on cottage food production, and more; and

WHEREAS, this committee will continue to work to reduce unnecessary laws and regulations that slow the growth of our local economy and identify burdensome red tape that makes it difficult to own, open, and operate a business in our city; and

WHEREAS, the top priorities of the Special Committee on Reducing Red Tape are to hear directly from various groups of business owners in the City about the specific challenges they face; develop a “one-stop-shop” for permitting, licensing, and inspection processes; and enhance City technology to allow more processes to take place online.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis reauthorizes the Special Committee on Reducing Red Tape for the purpose of updating and streamlining permitting, licensing, and inspection requirements at the City of St. Louis. The committee will continue to work to identify strategies to protect the investments of business owners and entrepreneurs; to reduce unnecessary laws and regulations that might be a barrier to the growth of the local economy; to recommend other actions or policies that could improve and strengthen the City; and to perform other duties assigned by the Chair of the Special Committee. The Committee shall not extend past the Board of Aldermen 2025-2026 Legislative Session.

Introduced this 15th day of April, 2025 by:

The Honorable Daniela Velázquez, Alderwoman 6th Ward

Cosponsor:

The Honorable Megan Green, President of the Board of Aldermen

President Green recognized Ms. Velázquez on the motion to adopt Resolution Number 6.

Ms. Velázquez requested unanimous consent.

Hearing no objection President Green directed Ms. Velázquez to continue.

Ms. Velázquez moved to adopt Resolution Number 6.

Seconded by Ms. Clark-Hubbard.

Ms. Velázquez discussed her motion.

President Green called for the vote on the motion to adopt Resolution Number 6.

The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

21. Second Reading of Resolutions, Committee Reports and Adoptions

Report of the Personnel and Administration Committee

Closed Session

President Green moved to close the meeting to the public under the provisions of Section 610.021 (3) and Section 610.022 in order to permit the members of the Board to discuss matters related to the hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of employees of the Board of Aldermen.

Seconded by Mr. Narayan.

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to call the roll on the motion to close the meeting.

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded:

The following voted Aye:

Ms. Schweitzer, Mr. Oldenburg, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Mr. DeVoti, Mr. Browning, Ms. Clark-Hubbard, Ms. Keys, Mr. Aldridge, and President Green. **A total of 10 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:
None

The following voted Present:
Ms. Velázquez and Ms. Sonnier. **2 Present votes were cast.**

The following Abstained:
None

The following were present but did not vote:
None

A total of 12 votes were cast. The motion carried.

President Green closed the meeting to the public at 10:21am.

A Closed Session was held.

Ending Closed Session

Mr. Aldridge moved to leave the Closed Session.

Seconded by Ms. Velázquez.

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to call the roll on the motion to leave the closed the session.

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded:

The following voted Aye:
Ms. Schweitzer, Mr. Oldenburg, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Mr. DeVoti, Ms. Velázquez, Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Clark-Hubbard, Ms. Keys, Mr. Aldridge, and President Green. **A total of 12 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:
None

The following voted Present:
None

The following Abstained:
None

The following were present but did not vote:
None

A total of 12 votes were cast. The motion carried.

The Closed Session was ended.

President Green resumed the open meeting at 10:29am.

22. Courtesy Resolutions

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

RESOLUTION NUMBER 7 HONORING MAHATMA G. PORTIS

WHEREAS, Mahatma G Portis was born on January 3, 1969, to the union of Ronald D Portis and Lillie Portis in Chicago IL. He was baptized and attended Zion Lutheran School in St. Louis MO.; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma graduated from Lutheran North high School in 1987 and then went on to attend CMSU and pledged Omega Psi Phi in spring 1989 where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in finance in 199; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma was employed by Monsanto/ICL for 30 years where he worked various roles at the company and was a proud union member committee man with the United Chemical Worker Local 81 c; and

WHEREAS, growing up Mahatma was always the "younger brother" looking out the window wanting to hang until he grew up...and then no one could hang with him. He enjoyed golfing and spending time with family and friends. He was known for being the life of the party, always being warm and welcoming to everyone he met offering a comforting smile and witty commentary; and

WHEREAS, as an Omega brother Mahatma was known as "HQT DAWG" #5 from DeathRow - Spring of 1989. Memberships consisted of Mighty Iota Sigma - Undergraduate Chapter, Upsilon Omega - Graduate Chapter life member #63, Foundation life member #13, District Life member #43, and Omega Life member #9282. He was a dedicated volunteer and multi committee member. Our #5 Dawg Saw it through "til" the end. RQQ TO OUR GOOD BROTHER! And give a set to our dean Robert Ford; and

WHEREAS, Mahatma departed this life on April 8, 2025. He was proceeded in death by his father Ronald D Portis Sr and his mother Lillie Portis. He leaves his beloved wife of 10 years, Leslie Portis, to mourn his passing as well as three sons Mahatma A. Portis, Xavier Portis, and Solomon Portis, four brothers, seven sisters and a host of other relatives, family and friends.

PEACE HAS FOUND HIM AND PEACE WILL BE GOOD TO HIM.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to celebrate the life and honor the legacy of Mr. Mahatma G. Portis and by the adoption of this Resolution we offer our continued prayers and condolences. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it might be presented to the family at a time and place deemed appropriate by its sponsor.

Introduced this 21st day of April, 2025 by:

The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman 10th Ward

RESOLUTION NUMBER 8 HONORING JOHN LEE BERNARD

WHEREAS, John Lee Bernard was born on September 4, 1935 in Saint Louis, Missouri to parents Rainey Bernard and Cleola Shepard; and

WHEREAS, John grew up in the close-knit Carr Square Village and Compton Hill communities. John attended Carr Elementary and L'Ouverture Elementary Schools. He graduated from Vashon High School. While attending Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, John was inducted into Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. After earning a B. S. Degree, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, where he achieved the distinction of being an Airborne Ranger. John earned his Master's Degree at Southern Illinois in Edwardsville; and

WHEREAS, John was employed by the St. Louis Board of Education for thirty-six years. During his tenure, he worked at many schools as a teacher and administrator. After serving twenty-three years as a principal, he retired in 2000. One of John's proudest accomplishments was the comprehensive Mathews-Dickey/Scullin After-School Program, a partnership among Scullin School, Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club, AmeriCorps and the Danforth Foundation. This innovative program was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the ten most outstanding after-school programs in the country; and

WHEREAS, during his youth, John attended Camp Rivercliff free of charge almost every summer. As an adult, he learned that benevolent persons unknown to him sponsored his camp experiences and adventures. Because of these wonderful memories, John devoted much of his time and energy to organizations like the YMCA Olde Tymers that provided opportunities and scholarships to children. John was a member of the Monsanto YMCA Board of Directors as well as a member of the St. Louis Children's Hospital Community Advisory Committee. He was also a member of the St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation Board of Directors where he served as Chair of the Earl Wilson General Scholarship Committee; and

WHEREAS, John was a proud member of Antioch Baptist Church where he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He also chaired the three million dollar building expansion committee. John was a member and past president of the St. Louis Chapter of the Lincoln University Greater St. Louis Alumni Chapter, a member of the Vashon Alumni Association, and a member of Mended Hearts, Inc., a support group for heart surgery survivors. He was also a member of the St. Louis Chapter of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Association; and

WHEREAS, John was widely recognized for his outstanding performance and service. He was inducted into the Vashon Hall of Fame and the Missouri Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame. He was twice voted "Man of the Year" by the YMCA Olde Tymers. He also received the Monsanto Family YMCA Zealot Award. John enjoyed playing baseball with the championship Mathews-Dickey Knights, bowling, and fine dining. But more than anything, John loved and enjoyed his family; and

WHEREAS, after a brief illness, the Lord called John home on the morning of April 14, 2025. He was proceeded in death by his first wife Carolyn S. Bernard; their sons Keith Edward and John Aaron, their daughter Diane Carol, their grandson John Jr., and leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, Wilma Wells Bernard, his daughter Vicki L. Petty (Harold), his sisters Doris, Emelda, Ann, and Sharron, daughters-in-law Della and Cynthia (Quincy), grandchildren Keith (Niesha), Lance (Valencia), Jason, Keisha (Obie), and Courtney, Darren, Demetrius, Justin, Keith, Elijah, Jordan G., Mackenzie, Jordan B. and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to honor and celebrate the life, the journey, and the legacy of John Lee Bernard. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these

proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to the family at a time and place deemed appropriate by its Sponsor.

Introduced this 25th day of April, 2025 by:
The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman 10th Ward

RESOLUTION NUMBER 10
HONORING ANTHONY "TONY" THOMPSON

WHEREAS, Anthony “Tony” Thompson is a proud native of St. Louis whose commitment to philanthropy, economic equity, and community development is deeply rooted in his family’s legacy of public service. As the Chairman and CEO of KWAME Building Group, Inc., Tony leads one of the nation’s premier construction management firms—one he founded in 1991 with a mission to create opportunity through excellence, representation, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, with over 30 years of industry success, KWAME Building Group is widely recognized for its ability to manage complex, high-impact projects across the country. The firm delivers exceptional construction management services with a strong emphasis on detailed project leadership, accountability, and client service. KWAME is known for completing projects on time and on budget, with a proven track record of executing project goals with precision and care; and

WHEREAS, recent high-profile projects include the St. Vincent Greenway Completion, the transformative Brickline Greenway—a bold initiative connecting neighborhoods across St. Louis through trails and public space—and the Freedom Suits Memorial, honoring the enslaved men who sued for their freedom in the St. Louis courts; and

WHEREAS, KWAME currently employs over 40 staff members—50% of whom are licensed Professional Engineers, including LEED Accredited Professionals and Certified Construction Managers. The team is 80% composed of minorities and women, reflecting Tony’s intentional commitment to equity and representation. The KWAME team also prioritizes MBE/WBE and local firm inclusion on every project, setting a high standard for diverse participation in the construction industry; and

WHEREAS, Tony’s personal and professional leadership is informed by his family’s legacy—most notably his late mother, the Honorable Betty L. Thompson, a former Missouri State Representative and lifelong civil rights activist. In 2022, he established the \$100,000 Betty L. Thompson Endowed Scholarship at Harris-Stowe State University to honor her and support first-generation college students; and

WHEREAS, in addition to leading KWAME, Tony serves in key civic leadership roles across the St. Louis region. His board service includes: St. Louis Regional Business Council (RBC) – *Vice Chair*, Executive Committee, K-12 Education Committee, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Government and Public Policy Committee, and Workforce Development Committee; Maryville University; St. Louis Police Foundation; and Missouri Baptist Foundation; and

WHEREAS, in December 2024, Tony was appointed to the St. Louis County Board of Police Commissioners, further extending his commitment to public accountability and institutional trust; and

WHEREAS, a respected voice in both business and civic spaces, Tony was named the *St. Louis American’s* 2021 Person of the Year for his leadership, innovation, and deep investment in uplifting underserved communities. His impact continues to shape the future of St. Louis—both in what’s built and in who benefits. For all the accomplishments mentioned above—and the many more not listed—the Urban League is proud to bestow its Lifetime Achievement Award to Anthony “Tony” Thompson.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to honor Anthony “Tony” Thompson on his many accomplishments and contributions to our community. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to the family at a time and place deemed appropriate by its Sponsor.

**Introduced this 25th day of April, 2025 by:
The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman 10th Ward**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 11
HONORING EMERSON – CORPORATE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

WHEREAS, The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis proudly honors Emerson with the Corporate Citizen of the Year Award for its extraordinary legacy of business leadership, community investment, and commitment to equity and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, founded in St. Louis, Emerson transformed into a global powerhouse under the visionary leadership of W.R. “Buck” Persons, growing from two plants and \$56 million in sales in 1954 to 82 plants and \$800 million by 1973. Charles F. “Chuck” Knight continued the momentum through the 1990s, expanding international production and growing revenue to \$15 billion. Under David Farr’s leadership, Emerson surpassed \$20 billion in sales by 2006, and, for the first time, international sales outpaced domestic. Today, under CEO Lal Karsanbhai—only the fourth CEO since 1954—Emerson continues to lead on sustainability, innovation, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, with a purpose to drive innovation that makes the world healthier, safer, smarter, and more sustainable, Emerson backs this mission with action: investing in global STEM programs, launching a diversity and inclusion office, earning top rankings for workplace equality, and committing to net zero emissions by 2045.

Through the Emerson Charitable Trust, the company has invested millions into local schools, nonprofits, and civic institutions—most notably its long-standing support of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. Emerson has also been a national leader in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion within the corporate sector, under the guidance of leaders like Akberet Boykin Farr, Vice President of Human Resources and former VP of Diversity and Social Responsibility; and

WHEREAS, in the St. Louis region, Emerson’s impact is especially profound. Following the unrest in Ferguson, Emerson partnered with the Urban League to launch the Save Our Sons program in 2015, helping thousands of young Black men gain job training and employment. Emerson was the first corporate partner to invest in the Urban League Ferguson Community Empowerment Center and pledged \$200 million to early childhood education programs regionwide. In 2023 alone, Emerson contributed \$15.1 million in cash and in-kind donations to St. Louis-based efforts. Under Karsanbhai’s leadership, the company has raised its annual community giving from \$20 million to \$30 million and is actively encouraging other corporations to invest in jobs, education, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, for more than a century, Emerson has not only built industry—it has built community. The Urban League is proud to recognize Emerson’s unwavering leadership, generosity, and enduring commitment to a brighter future for all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to honor Emerson on their many contributions to our community. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to the family at a time and place deemed appropriate by its Sponsor.

**Introduced this 25th day of April, 2025 by:
The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman 10th Ward**

President Green recognized Ms. Clark-Hubbard on the motion to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

Ms. Clark-Hubbard moved to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.
Second by Mr. Aldridge.

President Green called for the vote to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

23. Miscellaneous and Unfinished Business

Recognition of Newly Elected Committee Chairs

President Green took a point of personal privilege and recognized and called to the dais the following new committee chairs: Ms. Velázquez, Ms. Schweitzer, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Ms. Clark-Hubbard, and Mr. Aldridge.

President Green provided a gift of a meeting gavel to each of the new chairs, spoke of their roles as chairs and thanked them for their service.

24. Announcements

President Green directed the Assistant Clerk to Announcements.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025
NONE

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025
NONE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025
NONE

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025
NONE

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025
FULL BOARD MEETING – CHAMBERS – 10AM

25. Excused Aldermen

President Green recognized Ms. Clark-Hubbard on the motion to excuse.

Ms. Clark-Hubbard moved to excuse the following members for necessary absence: Ms. Boyd and Ms. Tyus.

Seconded by Ms. Keys.

President Green called for the vote on the motion to excuse Ms. Boyd and Ms. Tyus for necessary absence.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

26. Adjournment

President Green recognized Ms. Clark-Hubbard on the adjournment motion.

Ms. Clark-Hubbard moved to adjourn the meeting under rules until Friday May 2, 2025 at 10am in the Chambers.

Seconded Mr. Cohn.

President Green called for the vote on the motion to adjourn the meeting under rules until Friday, May 2, 2025 at 10am in the Chambers.

The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.

**Minutes Submitted by:
Terry Kennedy
Clerk of the Board**