

**Minutes**  
**City of Villa Grove, Illinois**  
**City Council Regular Meeting**  
**November 13, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, November 13, 2017**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Leon, Blaney, Cheely, Griffith, and Junior Alderman Gulick. Junior Alderman Shunk, Aldermen Stipp and Allen were not present. Clerk Osborne and city attorney Marc Miller, Department Heads Craig, and Gire were also present. Ross Elston, Chris Elston and Patrick Lake from the VG Fire Department were also present, as well as Police Officer Mike Bradley. Various Public members were in attendance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** -The Mayor stood and led all attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10/23/17.**

Alderman Leon motioned to correct the minutes from October 23, 2017, to show the subject of the discussion in McCoy area was in relation to replacing water mains, and not the lift station as was initially recorded in the minutes. The minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on 10/23/17, including the change in wording, was motioned by Alderman Leon. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$198,802.19** Alderman Leon motioned to approve the claims in the amount of **\$198,802.19** to be paid. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, present, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried.

**Alderman Allen arrived after this vote at 6:05 pm.**

**ENGINEER REPORT-Andy Kieser**-Not in attendance and no updates to report.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-Ross Elston, Chris Elston, and Patrick Lake** spoke on behalf of the Fire Department. R. Elston presented that the Fire Department is in need of a utility truck that can be used in brush fires, for towing the department boat and other trailers, and for other general purposes where a large fire truck cannot be used. They have a proposal to purchase a used truck from the Montrose Fire Department at a cost of \$6000. In order to purchase at this price, they must pay by Dec. 1. They are currently fundraising, but in the event they cannot raise enough in time, they ask the council to consider allowing them to obtain a loan from VG State Bank, at a rate of 4.3% for the difference of the amount they fund raised and the purchase price. They will continue to fund raise for the full price. Council gave a consensus to this project, and asked for it to be put on the agenda at next meeting for a vote. Council commended the Fire Department for their initiative in fundraising for this purchase and thanked them for their fiscal conservativeness.

Dale Black spoke about the fire hydrants that have been tagged as non compliant/inoperable, and when those will be addressed. This is a concern for insurance in the areas affected.

Herschel Hooven was present to discuss the fire that occurred at his residence and the treatment by the police department concerning an alleged altercation the resident was involved in. Council recognized his message and thanked him for his presentation.

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**BUSINESS**

**OPENING OF BIDS FOR 409 WILSON STREET PROPERTY.** Alderman Blaney motioned to table this issue due to lack of bids being submitted. Attorney Miller recommended he send some information on how to proceed with this and the options available. Seconded by Alderman Allen. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried to Table this issue for further study of options.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BUD'S AUTO PARTS MONTHLY BILL.** Alderman Leon motioned to approve payment of the Bud's Auto Parts bill in the amount of \$746.58. Alderman Allen recused himself from the vote. Alderman Griffith seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, recused, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF TENTATIVE TAX LEVY AMOUNT-**Mayor Eversole-Gunter announced the tax levy *tentative* amount to be \$294,914.70. Alderman Allen motioned to approve the *announcement of the tentative* tax levy amount. Alderman Leon seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative & Risk Management-Chair Blaney –Chairman Blaney will meet with the construction company owner Dave Shaefer to review changes in what is needed and obtain and updated quote for remodeling the office.

Community Development-Chair Allen- Meeting after council meeting to discuss Christmas event, and other upcoming plans. The Window paintings on the store windows downtown are coming along and look nice. The Turkey Trot, hosted by Chix in Training, will be Thanksgiving morning at 7 am. All proceeds will be donated to the Beautify Villa Grove Committee. The Community Development committee discussed their support of the event and will meet at the Turkey Trot, 7 am, Nov. 23, 2017, at Chix in Training on Main Street and invites the entire council and citizens to participate.

Emergency Services-Chair Leon- Nothing to report.

Franchise Development-Chair Cheely Nothing to report.

Public Works- Chair Griffith- Nothing to report.

Senior Center-Chair Stipp- Nothing to report.

Mayoral Report- Mayor Eversole-Gunter The Christmas Tree lighting is Nov. 25, and plans are coming together for a successful event. There are two shuttles planned for the evening, being provided by the Pentecostal Church and the First Christian Church. Can't wait for the Christmas Festival! All are invited to attend.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-**Alderman Leon moved for the council to go into Executive Session at 7:10 pm, under the Open Meetings Act according to Section 2(c) (5) Discussion of purchase or lease of property for use by the City and Section 2(c) (11) Discussion of probable or imminent litigation. Mayor Eversole-Gunter announced there will be no further action taken upon returning to open session. Alderman Griffith seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, JA Gulick, yea. Motion carried. JA Alderman Gulick left the meeting at this time.


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Council returned to open session at 7:15 pm, with Mayor Eversole-Gunter calling to re-open the regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman *Allen* motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Allen, yea, Griffith, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

XC: Mayor and City Council; Building Inspector; Department Heads; File