

**Minutes**  
**City of Villa Grove, Illinois**  
**City Council Regular Meeting**  
**December 11, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, December 11, 2017**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Leon, Blaney, Cheely, Allen, Stipp, and Junior Alderman Shunk. Junior Alderman Gulick, was not present. Clerk Osborne and Department Heads Athey and Gire were also present. Various Public members were in attendance. Alderman Griffith came in at 6:07 pm, after the approval of closed session minutes.

**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 11/27/17.**

Alderman Allen motioned to approve the minutes of the last regular council meeting held on November 27, 2017. Alderman Leon seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE CLOSED SESSION OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD OCTOBER 10, 2017.** Alderman Allen moved to approve the content of the minutes of the closed session meeting held on October 10, 2017. Second by Alderman Leon. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$188,066.67** [Alderman Griffith joined the meeting at this point]. Alderman Leon motioned to approve the claims in the amount of **\$188,066.67** to be paid. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, present, Allen, yea, Stipp, no, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried with 4 yeas, 1 present and 1 No vote.

**ENGINEER REPORT-Andy Kieser**-Not in attendance, but Alderman Stipp gave some updates on the status of the plans. They are 90% complete and a meeting of the Public Works committee should be scheduled within the next week. Committee agreed to set the meeting for Monday, December 18, 2017 at 4:15 pm in council chambers.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**- Resident Herschel Hooven had comments, but council advised him to work with his lawyer on the issues brought forth. Tony Hooker informed that there would be 31 schools attending the Dance competition held at the school on Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.

Leaf burning discussion with various members and some options discussed for yard waste were bagging, mulching, and vacuum machine. Concerns are public health issues, the cost involved in using the alternative options, and enforcement of any violations. Current ordinance prohibits burning on streets, and fire must be distinguished by dusk.

**BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 2017-MC11-AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR ALL CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE CITY OF VILLA GROVE, DOUGLAS COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2017 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2018** - Alderman Leon motioned to approve Ordinance 2017-MC11, for the Tax Levy. Seconded by Alderman Allen. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

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**APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2017-MC12-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 111 OF THE CITY OF VILLA GROVE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL CLASS "A" LIQUOR LICENSE AND TO CREATE THE POSITION OF DEPUTY LIQUOR COMMISSIONER-**Alderman Leon motioned to approve Ordinance 2017 MC-12. Alderman Stipp seconded the motion. Alderman Allen recused himself from the vote. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2017-MC13-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE REVISED CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF VILLA GROVE PROHIBITING SEXUAL HARRASSMENT-** Alderman Cheely motioned to approve the ordinance prohibiting sexual harassment of any person by any municipal officials, municipal agents, municipal employees and municipal agencies or offices, regardless of any employment relationship or lack thereof. Alderman Leon seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF RENOVATION PROPOSAL FOR CITY OFFICES-**Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the proposed renovations to the City Hall Building submitted by Finishing Touch Builders. Alderman Leon seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, no, Allen, no, Stipp, no, JA Shunk, yea. Tie vote was broken with a Yes vote by Mayor Cassandra Eversole-Gunter. Motion carried 4 yeas to 3 nos.

**APPROVAL FOR HIRING OF PART TIME POLICE OFFICER-**Chief Gire explained the need for additional part time police officers to work when full time officers and other part time officers are unable to work. With one part time officer being deployed with the Navy in the spring, this will create a need for more manpower. This also avoids and reduces overtime costs. Alderman Griffith motioned to approve hiring additional part time officer, with Alderman Allen seconding the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FOR TREE REMOVAL WORK-** 32 trees need to be removed within the city. All but 2 of those are diseased Ash trees. Arbor One submitted a quote for \$11,325 for cutting the trees down with the City removing all debris and doing cleanup. Work begins ASAP. Alderman Leon motioned to approve Arbor One removing the trees. Alderman Allen seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, no, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, no, JA Shunk, present. Motion carried 4 yeas to 2 nos.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES AND AUTHORIZATION FOR MAYOR TO SIGN SUCH CONTRACT-**Alderman Allen motioned to approve a contract with Steve Duke to begin Feb. 1, 2018, as an independent contractor to perform the duties of a Class A Certified Water System Operator. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Allen, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, yea. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BASKETBALL SUPPLIES FOR THE RECREATION PROGRAM-** A quote of \$476.79 was submitted for supplies for the basketball program. Alderman Allen motioned to approve the purchase. Alderman Leon seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Cheely, yea, Blaney, no, Griffith, yea, Allen, no, Stipp, yea, JA Shunk, no. Motion carried 4 yeas and 2 nos.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative & Risk Management-Chair Blaney –Nothing to report

Community Development-Chair Allen Reports there is continued planning for seasonal gatherings and next meeting will be after the first of next year.

Emergency Services-Chair Leon- Nothing to report.

Franchise Development-Chair Cheely Mediacom is raising rates in January 2018.

Public Works- Chair Griffith- Next meeting is Dec. 18, 2017 at 4:15 pm. Fire hydrant maintenance is in process.

Senior Center-Chair Stipp- October meals were 243 and November meals served were 220.

Mayoral Report- Mayor Eversole-Gunter-Nothing to report

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-NO Closed session**

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman **Blaney** motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Alderman Griffith seconded the motion. Roll call: Leon, yea, Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Allen, yea, Griffith, yea, Stipp, yea, JA Sunk, yea. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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