

**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
October 28, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session as a Committee of the Whole on **Monday, October 28, 2019**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Hooker, Blaney, Griffith and Garrett. Alderman Allen, Junior Alderman Hutchison were absent. Clerk Osborne and City Manager Athey, and Police Chief Gire, and Public Works Director Arbuckle were in attendance. Various Public members were in attendance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS-No public comments.

City Administrator Report-Jacky Athey-reported the audit, TIF report, and Treasurer's reports are all completed. The tax levy will be discussed at the next council meeting. The PTI graduation is 12/18/19 for our current officers.

Public Works-Scott Arbuckle- Work is ready to begin on the Rte. 130 bridge. The bids will be let in November by IDOT. The crosswalk at the Christian Church will be put in after signatures are obtained by correct parties. Cross Construction will be doing the moving of the lines for the bridge project. There will be a meeting soon with Andy Kieser to discuss the Streetscape project for Main street. The air scrubber issue has not been resolved yet and waiting for Fehr Graham to get the fix completed. PW is also patching holes on the streets left from road repairs.

Mayoral Report-Cassandra Eversole-Gunter-The State of Illinois announced we have been given a \$2.1 Million grant to build a new Community Building at Richman Park. This is the result of the work by City Administrator Athey and the Mayor completing a successful grant proposal. The rest of the money for this project will be solicited through private donations, with the total amount projected to be \$3 Million. Also, the Christmas Tree Lighting Festival Committee is holding a Trivia contest on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 pm at the VFW.

Other Reports-City Clerk Osborne gave a report on the Municipal Clerk Institute held Oct. 13-18 in Springfield.

BUSINESS

1. **Consultation with Walldogs Rep for potential future project festival**-Carl Scott Lindley came to give a presentation about the Walldogs Festival and possible dates for us to have one. He stated they are booked out until 2023 or 2024. The project draws artists from all over the world to come and paint murals for multiple days. They come in on a Wednesday and leave on a Sunday in June. A cost of around 110,000 to 120,000 is what would be involved. These events draw people from all around and that will bring in money. Discussion was also about expanding this to a street festival for an even bigger draw. Consensus was to get on their schedule. He will get back to us on an open date.
2. **Proposed changes to the ordinances concerning landlord rental house property management and water/sewer utility services (and enforcement of same)**-Discussion resulted in agreement that the landlords will be responsible for any ordinance violations and they will have to address this with their tenants.

Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
October 28, 2019

3. **Fall leaf vac schedule**-The leaf vac schedule will be Tuesday on the East side of Rte. 130 and Wednesday on the West Side of Rte. 130. Following week will have the ones picked up that were missed.
4. **Fall clean up days with Advanced Disposal**-November 9 is the day that Advanced Disposal will be in town to pick up leaves that are in totes or in paper bags.
5. **Use of Alcohol in City Buildings**-Discussion was that when there are rentals this would be addressed in the contract. But, the biggest issue is knowing what is legal and what isn't and may result in changing our Ordinance 111.35. The lawyer will be consulted on how to move forward.
6. **Directional signs for City Buildings**-Alderman Blaney discussed there is a need to post signs around town on where to find the city buildings and also be sure each building has an identifying sign. Scott Arbuckle will check on costs and the process for this.
7. **Purchase of Lift Truck and bucket**-There is a truck being auctioned off that PW wants to bid on. The truck is \$6510 and the bucket for the endloader is \$1,075. Consensus was to proceed to try to purchase these items.
8. **Purchase/rental of Bobcat loader accessories**-Road planer rental is \$1400 per week. Consensus to rent the road planer. Purchase of a broom attachment of \$5700 was given consensus also.
9. **Approval of Landscaping proposal for the water plant**-tabled for further research
10. **Payment to Camargo Township Library for second phase of building renovations**-The library submitted the invoices required for approval of a TIF payment for the work on the building. Consensus to approve.
11. **Review of September financial statements**-consensus to approve.
12. **Annual treasurer's report publication**-report will be published in the paper as required.
13. **Evaluation of new dual website/online code hosting site**-Discussion of getting a software package that would host the ordinances, website, and do other things that we currently pay for separately. This may possibly save money and time in the end. Jacki will get a demo of the Municode software system set up for the next council meeting.
14. **Christmas Tree Lighting planning / donation of trees**-PW will decorate the large tree on Main Street. the set up for the festival will be similar to last year. Live trees will be available for purchase during the festival and the Catholic Men's Organization will be selling them.

Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
October 28, 2019

- 15. City holiday business hours schedule-November:** closed for Thanksgiving and the day after.
December: Closed for Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
- 16. Other items brought before the Council for discussion-nothing was discussed.**

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Hooker, yea, Blaney, yea, Girffith, yea Garrett, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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