

Minutes
City of Villa Grove, Illinois
City Council Meeting
December 9, 2019

Call to Order—Roll Call: The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on Monday, December 9, 2019, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Aldermen Blaney, Garrett, Griffith, Hooker, Johnson and Pangburn. Advisory members Hutchison and Mixell were present, as well as City Administrator Athey, Police Chief Gire and Fire Chief Elston. City Clerk Osborne was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Mayor stood and led all attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Consent Agenda: 1) MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2019; 2) CLOSED MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2019; 3) MINUTES OF THE LAST SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD NOVEMBER 25, 2019; 4) MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING, HELD NOVEMBER 25, 2019; 5) CLAIMS FOR PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$303,910.49; 6) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE MONTH ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2019; 7) CASH BALANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2019; AND 8) ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020. Alderman Garrett motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: Mr. Mike Gordon of the McCoy subdivision was present to ask that the dam be fixed at Leon Park; he also inquired when the fish would be restocked because it was a good recreational activity/area for kids. Mayor Eversole-Gunter noted that Public Works Director Arbuckle was absent but that she would forward the request to him. Mr. Gordon offered to assist the City with the physical work needed.

Engineer Reports: In the absence of Mr. Andrew Kieser of Fehr Graham, Mayor Eversole-Gunter reported on a meeting held at the engineer's office the prior week concerning the progress on the Streetscape planning, as well as resolution of the scrubber issue at the water plant.

Committee of the Whole Reports: Alderman Hooker stated that a resident had contacted him to thank the public works department for fixing a street issue that she had previously brought forward. Alderman Johnson brought up thanks to everyone involved in the Christmas

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Tree Lighting event, commenting that it was well attended. Alderman Hooker also commented how well received Leroy the Reindeer was. The Mayor also thanked the advisory members for their recruitment and participation of other students, who were also pleased to visit the reindeer.

City Administrator Reports: Athey reported that it had been a short two weeks/short month for November with the Thanksgiving holidays. She stated that she had met with a potential new auditor and would be expecting a proposal soon. She noted that the Streetscape meeting reminded her to let everyone know that there would be a meeting on Wednesday (12/11) with Attorney Marc Miller and TIF Consultant Keith Moran to review EAV issues and potential wind and solar energy ordinances. The final tax levy notice is in paper, so everyone was reminded of public hearing on 12/23. IDNR grant revisions for submission are nearly complete to receive the formal grant agreement. Athey also commented that she was pleased to receive the paperwork from Douglas County concerning the grant funds for repair of the Front Street Bridge tracks; the routine inspection process was also discussed with Jim Crane who sent the most recent report as well. Alderman Blaney asked about the potential Park board meeting, and Athey confirmed that it will be Thursday 12/12 at 8:00 p.m. at the Tri-City Country Club. Alderman Hooker asked for clarification as to how soon we could begin engineering plans for the community center, and Athey explained the steps before any expenses can be incurred.

Other Reports: Chief Gire reported that Officer Oakley was doing well in PTI; Chief Elston commented that he was in attendance concerning the potential boat purchase. Scott absent, WATERCON and Effingham seminars. Elston reiterated desire to have a bay added to the new proposed community center to have a fire truck south of the tracks.

Mayoral Reports: The Mayor touched on the prior meetings and Christmas tree lighting event, commenting how wonderful it is to have so many residents participating in these events.

A conference call was then held with Dr. Greg Kuhn, Ms. Jeanna Ballard and Ms. Mel Henriksen of Northern Illinois University's Center for Governmental Studies to provide information and answer multiple questions of the Council members. A PowerPoint presentation provided by NIU was referred to informally entitled "Strategic Planning, Stakeholder Input & Goal

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Identification Initiative". Each NIU representative spoke to parts of the planning process and answered multiple questions specific to controlling the cost of the plan implementation.

Council members asked that various department heads provide a listing of goals for the next Council meeting to review internally.

Business:

Alderman Garrett motioned to move forward with the NIU strategic planning proposal. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Blaney, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Blaney motioned to approve Resolution 2019-R04. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the County Bridge Fund Petition to the Douglas County Board for joint repairs to the Front Street bridge, which will provide 50% aid funding for the repair expense (estimated to be \$76,000.00). Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

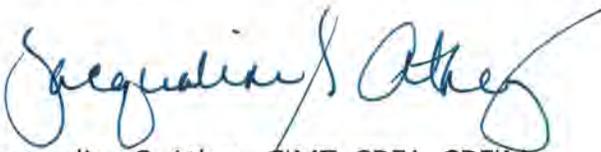
Alderman Blaney motioned to approve Quote 4721774 from C-U HVAC for a new senior center furnace in the amount of \$6,197.00. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Garrett motioned to approve the purchase of an inflatable raft boat from Fire Department Restricted Funds, in the amount of \$1,794.00. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call: Johnson, yea; Pangburn, yea; Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

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Adjournment: With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Alderman Griffith seconded the motion. Roll call: Pangburn, yea; Blaney, yea; Garrett, yea; Griffith, yea; Hooker, yea; Johnson, yea; Hutchison, yea; Mixell, yea. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline S. Athey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jacqueline S. Athey, CIMT, CPFA, CPFIM
City Administrator

xc: Mayor
City Council
Building Inspector
Department Heads
File