

**Minutes
City Council Regular Meeting
May 26, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, May 26, 2020** in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Johnson, Pangburn, Blaney, Hooker, Griffith, and Garrett. Clerk Osborne, City Administrator Athey, and Public Works Director Arbuckle, and City Attorney Marc Miller were also present. Council followed all COVID 19 protocols for social distancing.

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA-Alderman Garrett motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda and a second was given by Alderman Johnson. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, present, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD March April 27, 2020**
2. **MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD March 20,2020**
3. **CLAIMS FOR FY20 PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 83,813.46**
4. **CLAIMS FOR FY21 PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 83,923.54**
5. **APPROVAL OF HARTMAN CONTRACT FOR UTILITY ASSESSMENT**
6. **TREASURER'S CASH BALANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2020**

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Ag Days Chairman Bruce Allen reported they are still waiting to make the decision about holding Ag Days, but also asked if the City had a definitive answer right now. It was agreed to wait until the next meeting to determine what will happen.

ENGINEERING REPORT-Andy Kieser was not in attendance. Scott Arbuckle reported on the status of the sewer plant and McCoy. There were more repairs required at MCCoy and Scott asked about moving forward with the replacement of lines there. Consensus was also given to pay for the repairs to the sewer plant boiler at a cost of \$7200.

ATTORNEY REPORT-Marc Miller gave some information about ordinance considerations for windmills, solar power, and cannabis, stating there will need to be public hearings on the zoning for all of these items before voting on the ordinances. The zoning meetings are planned for later in June 2020. Mr. Miller also stated that the water analysis study being done by Mr. Gerald Hartman, a professional engineer who is only 1 of 20 in the US who have the capability to appraise water and sewer systems, will let the council know what systems they have, evaluation of the systems and their worth, and will present recommendations for moving forward.

MAYORAL REPORT-The Mayor reported on improvements happening at El Rancho Grande on Main Street. They will be expanding to the south to the lot where Pete's coin ship used to be. this will become an outdoor garden area for them. The Mayor also noted that a decision about the fireworks needs to be made before May 31, 2020.

BUSINESS

1. **Continuation/modification of Local Emergency Order**- Alderman Garrett motioned to discontinue the local emergency order. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

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2. **Discuss Soft Reopening of City offices and properties-** With discontinuing the local emergency order, the city offices will reopen with limited access to the office for social distancing.
3. **Approve Return to regular utility billing procedures concerning penalties and shutoffs-**Alderman Blaney motioned to return to the regular utility billing procedures with shutoffs beginning in July. Also a payment plan may be arranged through the administrative offices if one is needed. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Garrett, yea. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
4. **Ordinance 2020-MC07 - An Ordinance Approving Outdoor Cafes-**Alderman Blaney motioned to approve Ordinance 2020-MC07 approving Outdoor Cafes. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
5. **Ag Days/other community event planning restrictions-**Alderman Johnson moved to table this discussion. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed to Table.
6. **July Fireworks planning-**Alderman Hooker motioned to continue with plans to hold the fireworks on the 5th of July, as planned. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
7. **Approve payment to Cross Construction - \$153,594.00 (77% completion less retainage)-**Alderman Garrett motioned to approve the payment to Cross Construction in the amount of \$153,594. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
8. **Proposed creation of a community dog park as scouting project-**Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the plan for a Girl Scout project of making a dog park. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
9. **Accept/approve retirement notice from Chief of Police-**Alderman Blaney motioned to accept the resignation for retirement of Police Chief Dennis Gire as of June 30, 2020. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Thanks were given to Chief Gire for all of the years of dedication and the job he has done for the City of Villa Grove. It will be a huge loss to the City with his retirement. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION-Alderman Hooker motioned to move to Closed Session under the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS/120/2 Exceptions to the open meetings act for the discussion, appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; 2(c)(2) Collective bargaining negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedule for one or more classes of employees; and 2(c)(5) the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body including for discussion of whether a particular parcel should be acquired. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion to enter at 7:40 pm. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed. There will be further action upon return to open session. Council returned to open session at 8:57 pm.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Blaney, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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