

**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
November 16, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in a special session as a Committee of the Whole on **Monday, November 16, 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 Blaney, Johnson, Pangburn, Griffith and Hooker. Alderman Garrett was absent. Clerk Osborne, City Manager Athey, and Public Works Director Arbuckle, and Matt, Engineer from Fehr Grahams were also in attendance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT-No attendees were present for comment.

Mayoral Report-Cassandra Eversole-Gunter-Decorating for Christmas on Main Street will be held at 10 am on Saturday, Nov. 21 for all who can make it to help.

Business

- 1. Review of 2020 Facility Plan for Wastewater Treatment Plant from Fehr Graham** -Engineer report from Fehr Graham discussing the updates needed for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Executive Summary was presented for the updates to the WWTP. As stated in the first paragraph of the report: "The purpose of the Facilities Plan is to present improvement upgrades for the WWTP... will provide greater treatment capacity, treatment reliability, energy efficiency, and higher levels of treatment that will ensure that the plant is compliant with current and future NPDES permit requirements." The current plant was built in 1977, with the last major update in 2001. The facility is at a critical point for significant improvements. This phase of improvements would cost an estimated \$5.3 million and would extend the life of the plant for about another 5-10 years. Then the Phase Two would take place which would give a total of 20 years and would cost an additional \$10 million, which would require additional rate increases down the road. The type of system recommended is the CAS system with biological nutrient removal. The improvements are meant to meet updated and future requirements, improve energy efficiency, and enhance the environmental impact. Costs for the plant to the Residents would be an increase from \$39.23/user/month to \$58.01/user/month (average total bill), which would be 1.3% increase to pay for improvements for the first phase. Next steps would include submitting plans to IEPA for approval, which takes about 12 months to complete, then reviews and public meetings would be held. Discussion from the Council highlighted the costs associated and trying to keep rates reasonable, especially for lower income households, concern over the cost of the first phase knowing an additional phase will be needed in a very short period of time.

- 2. Other Items Brought Before the Council**-No other items were presented.

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ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Blaney, yea, Pangburn, yea, Johnson, yea, Hooker, yea, Griffith, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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