

Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
November 23, 2020

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, November 23, 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, Hooker. Aldermen Griffith and Garrett were absent. Clerk Osborne, City Manager Athey, and Public Works Director Arbuckle, Chief Rea were also in attendance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT-No comments.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Jacki Athey reported that attorney Marc Miller has moved his offices in Champaign. We also received a letter from Waste Management stating they have purchased Advanced Disposal. There will be no changes at this time and the same people from Advanced in Charleston will still take care of our accounts. The plexiglass partitions have been installed in the police department and should be completed by the end of the month in City Hall.

OTHER REPORTS-Chief Rea reports they have 4 interviews set up in the coming weeks for the full-time patrol position openings. Public Works director Arbuckle reported the sewer jetter need repair. Consensus was given to proceed with the repair immediately.

Mayoral Report-Cassandra Eversole-Gunter-The Mayor gave a thank you to all who decorated Main Street last weekend, and a special thank you to Alderman Derek Johnson for getting the trees, and to the Public Works Department for all of the work for set up.

Business

- 1. Announcement of the 2020 Tax levy Amount**-City Administrator Athey announced the new levy would be in the amount of \$334,301.50, an increase of 1.69%.
- 2. Proposed Parking Changes to Ordinance**-Police Chief Rea discussed the proposed changes he has recommended to the Ordinance that addresses parking within the City. The updates cover what type of vehicles cannot be parked within the city limits, addresses on street parking, and parking at personal residences.
- 3. Pending Solar Energy and Cannabis Ordinances**-There was discussion about the ordinances that will be regulating solar energy and wind energy and the Cannabis ordinance to review any needed changes.

Minutes
Committee of the Whole Council Meeting
November 23, 2020

4. **Discussion of Office Hours for City Hall OVID prevention**-There was discussion concerning the enhanced mitigations and how that could affect the hours at City Hall. With the installation of the protective shields for customer service and wearing of masks, it is felt at this time it is not necessary to reduce any of the operating hours. Citizens are encouraged to do as much of their business online or on the phone as possible instead of in person.
5. **Discussion of modules for utility billing outreach system**-Administrator Athey presented information on new modules available for the utility billing that would include an outreach system, similar to Code Red previously used by the County, as well as improved billing areas. Council declined to consider this at this time due to all of the COVID related issues with expenses and cash flow.
6. **Discussion of Hartman Consultants LLC review of latest report for the WWTP from Fehr Graham**-Since the presentation last week from the engineers about the proposed updates to the WWTP, the next step is to have Mr. Hartman review this information to be able to determine the best way to proceed for updating or selling the WWTP. We had to wait for this part of the report to be completed to give him complete information to review and determine best action. Consensus was given, with Alderman Blaney dissenting, to send this information to Mr. Hartman as soon as possible.
7. **Other items brought before the Council for Discussion**-no other items were brought up.

CLOSED SESSION-Alderman Blaney motioned to move to Closed Session at 7:06 pm under the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(5) of 5 ILCS/120/2 Exceptions to the open meetings act for the discussion, of purchase or lease of real property for use by the City. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Pangburn, yea, Hooker, yea, Blaney, yea. Motion passed. There will be no further action upon return to open session. Council returned to open session at 7:20 pm.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll call: Blaney, yea, Pangburn, yea, Johnson, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk
XC: Mayor and City Council; Building Inspector; Department Heads; File