

**Minutes**  
**City Council Regular Meeting**  
**April 12, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, April 12, 2021** 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, Griffith, Hooker, Pangburn, Garrett. Alderman Johnson and Junior Alderman A. and L. Howard were absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, Public Works Supervisor Lake 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.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda and a second was given by Alderman Pangburn. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea, Pangburn, yea. Motion passed.

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD MARCH 22, 2021**
2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST CLOSED SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, HELD MARCH 22, 2021**
3. **AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS**
4. **CASH BALANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2021**
5. **APPROVE FIRE TRUCK LIGHT BAR PURCHASE**
6. **APPROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT ANTENNA REPAIR**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Representatives of Waste Management (previously Advanced Disposal) were present and discussed the upcoming clean up days logistics, the yard waste clean-up day, and upcoming contract renewals. Council discussed the issues with service that all customers have reported having. This includes slow or no response to problems with waste pickup, billing issues, contact with the customer service team and lack of response by them. Representatives from Waste Management were Chuck Duncan and Matt Cullison. Their response was that the Waste Management takeover of Advanced Disposal happened recently and there has been a large turnover in personnel as well as trying to get new logistics in place. Improvements they are making to address the issues include a ‘green team’ special rapid response crew that can be called out for help with missing route pickups, a newly revamped customer service team and call center. They expect to take about another month to get things running more smoothly.

Yard Waste pickup date: April 24-all waste must be at the curb by 6 am. Same requirements as before-bundle sticks, no wood, and leaves must be in a container.

City Wide Clean-Up Dates: We have asked for June 4-5. They are checking their calendar. This year they propose doing this as curbside pickup at the residents. This allows for better coordination with the crews they send in. They have 2 people per truck and have multiple trucks in town to get things picked up. Trash must be at the curb by 6 am (or possibly a little later), and there is only one run through the neighborhood. if something is missed then it stays on the curb. This would make it much more cost effective, easier, no special labor from city employees is required. They have operated this in other communities, and it has worked very well. Council will discuss it at the next meeting.

**OTHER REPORTS** – Chief Rea reported that all body cameras are installed as well as car cameras. They continue to work on ordinance enforcement.

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Public Works Director Lake reported the playground at Richman needs mulch. The concession stand at Henson needs all the appliances replaced and needs extensive cleaning inside due to mold issues. The restrooms are open at Henson. There were three companies who toured the utilities for the RFP in the past weeks.

Alderman Hooker mentioned the Fire Department is looking for volunteers-especially needed for the day shift. Please put the word out to help get others to sign up. The need is critical.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** – Jacki Athey reported she is responding to additional requests for information from the companies who toured the facility for the RFP. We have our Strategic Plan document from Northern Illinois University. The Donor Wall cost of each plaque in etched aluminum is being priced. EPA loan paperwork came today for the McCoy project, the water treatment plant scrubber, and the tear down of the old water treatment plant. All of the projects will be able to proceed with the final papers being done.

**MAYORAL REPORT** – The Mayor reported the house on Douglas street the city owns has been torn down. Fencing was torn out at Richman Park around the demo derby area due to disrepair.

**BUSINESS**

1. **Approval for settlement of claim against the City** – Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the settlement of a claim against the city. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, no, Griffith, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, present, Pangburn, yea. Motion passed.
2. **Potential lease of concession stand for season** – Alderman Hooker motioned to not open the concession stand this year due to multiple repair issues as well as COVID restrictions. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea, Pangburn, yea. Motion passed.

**CLOSED SESSION** – No closed session was needed.

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Alderman Griffith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Griffith, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea, Pangburn, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle L. Osborne*

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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