

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

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, July 12, 2021** in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Blaney, Johnson, Cheely, Hooker, Garrett. Alderman Pangburn was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, Public Works Supervisor Lake, Police Chief Rea, and Melanie Brooks (ZFL Director) 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 Blaney motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda and a second was given by Alderman Johnson. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

1. **Minutes of the last regular City Council meeting, held June 14, 2021**
2. **Minutes of the last regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held June 28, 2021**
3. **Authorization for the Payment of Bills**
4. **Financial Reports for the Month Ending May 31, 2021**
5. **Cash Balance Report for the Month Ending June 30, 2021**

PUBLIC COMMENTS - No public comments.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS-Chief Rea reported from the police department: still trying to find a grant for the cameras.

Public Works Director Lake reported there are multiple issues with most of the lift stations, with the Adams Street one being down. He is working on repairs at the best cost with the best vendor. There are some failures at the sewer plant also that are being addressed, so he will be working to complete repairs this week.

Zest for Life Director Melanie Brooks was in attendance and gave an update from Sarah Bush Lincoln HC about Peace Meal coming back to full service soon.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Jacki Athey reported that auditing has begun again. She will be out of office for 3 days for a conference next week. She is working on the budgets for August and will be holding budget meetings coming up. The bids for the Community Building are due Friday, July 16, 2021.

MAYORAL REPORT - The Mayor reported: Thank you to so many people who worked to make the July 2 Freedom Festival a success. Public Works Department, Ron Thomas Electric, the Camargo Township District Library, the bicycle parade, all vendors, VGFD and the Dunk Tank. Big success and the fireworks from Melrose were great.

BUSINESS

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1. **Approve request of Mike Beesley for a variance at 208 Bruce Street** - Alderman Blaney motioned to table this for the next meeting. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed to Table until next meeting.
2. **Vote to continue consideration of cost of the RFP deadline to August 6, 2021** - Alderman Blaney motioned to extend the RFP deadline for the sewer and water plant sale to August 6, 2021. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
3. **Approve Pay Request No. 1 for Schomburg & Schomburg Construction** - Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the first payment for the water plant scrubber repair. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
4. **Placement of sod on old water plant lot instead of seeding with straw cover** - Alderman Garrett motioned to go with sod on the old water plant site. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, no, Johnson, no, Cheely, no, Hooker, no, Garrett, no. Motion failed. Lot will be seeded.
5. **Rental proposal for Zest for Life Center usage by public** - Alderman Garrett motioned to approve the rental contract for use of the City Zest for Life Center. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
6. **Replacement of dump bed of truck** - PW Director Lake presented the quote for replacement of the dump bed, hydraulics and lights on the salt truck at a cost of \$8600. Alderman Johnson motioned to approve the repair/replacement. A second was given by Alderman Hooker. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
7. **Replacement of large deck mower** - PW Director Lake stated the current mower has over 3,000 hours and needs replaced. We will keep that one as a back- up once there is a new one in service. Two bids given. One from Sloan was less expensive but didn't include field finishing attachment or fuel saver. The bid from Exmark included those items at a cost of \$18,400. Alderman Garrett motioned to purchase the mower from Exmark to allow use in multiple areas and on for getting the ball diamonds maintained properly. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
8. **Replacement of valves at Adams St Lift Station** - Alderman Blaney motioned to replace/repair the valves of the Adams Street Lift Station. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.
9. **Virtual Newly Elected Officials Conference** - City Administrator Athey supplied information on how to complete the OMA training for each member. This was only informative.
10. **Approve attendance of officials to IML Conference in September** - Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the attendance of council members who wish to attend the IML conference. Alderman

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Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

- 11. Accept resignation of office clerk Libby Neathery** - City Administrator Athey presented a resignation from Office Clerk Libby Neathery. Alderman Hooker motioned to accept the resignation and Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed. A consensus was also given for hiring a replacement chosen by the City Administrator.

CLOSED SESSION - No Closed Session was needed.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Hooker, yea, Cheely, yea, Garrett, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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