

**Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting
March 14, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, March 14, 2022**, 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, Cheely, Hooker, Garrett. Aldermen Pangburn was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PW Director Lake, Police Chief Rea, as well as city engineer Andy Kieser 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 (ITEMS FOR SINGLE-VOTE APPROVAL WITHOUT DISCUSSION) - Alderman Johnson motioned to approve the full consent agenda. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, present, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

1. **Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held February 14, 2022**
2. **Minutes of the closed session of the regular City Council meeting, held February 28, 2022**
3. **Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held February 28, 2022**
4. **Authorization for the Payment of Bills**
5. **Financial Reports for the month ending January 31, 2022**
6. **Cash Balance Report for the month ending February 28, 2022**

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Residents Pete and Madonna Eisenmenger were in attendance to discuss the issues with Hickory Lane repairs done last Fall. They said the dust created by the gravel is horrible and a huge issue. They are very concerned with the quality of the work that was done too late in the season and the rock seems to have been crushed, causing a high level of fine dust that permeates everything. Pete is a former country resident and stated he had never seen a country road that was as bad as this was.

ENGINEERING REPORT - Andy Kieser from Fehr-Graham was in attendance and spoke to the road issues. Although he is not the road engineer, he did explain that he would pass the concerns along to the road engineer for this project to see what can be done to make it correct. He is hopeful that Walker Construction will be able to resolve the issue to the city's satisfaction. The issues have been noted from the citizens' concerns. He is going to recommend using a different gravel vendor for the re-do of this project.

Project updates:

1. Andy spoke to concerns with regard to the McCoy subdivision and some remaining issues there. On December 10, 2021, a letter was sent to update the McCoy residents on the status of the line replacement project. This letter let them know that the lines have been run, but there is some other cleanup work that will be done in the spring after the wet weather lets up, such as re-seeding grass, etc. A few issues came up during the work in McCoy-there are some drainage issues on Ruby Street mostly. Upon inspection it was found that the ditches once were a bit deeper, and the drainage tubes "whistles" that run under the driveways of the homes, have begun to fill in over the years, some of the residents haven't kept up with cleaning out their drainage areas, so the whistles are plugged or covered up in some places. The best way to

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resolve this issue would be to go in with a water jet cleaner to clean out the pipes, which would allow the water to flow as it should. This would have to be a joint effort between the city and contractor. The other issue that goes along with these discussions is that the roads at McCoy really need to be resurfaced. The discussion then focused on the current resurfacing plan that is going to use BAM coating on Pine to Harrison Streets, which was costing \$128,000. Andy suggests reducing that project and using the money to focus on resurfacing the McCoy Streets. Council is in agreement that this is a priority to complete this year. Andy will get some pricing on doing the McCoy streets and then the reduction of the BAM project and get back to us. He will specify using a different stone vendor for this project than what was used last Fall in Henson.

2. The Water plant air scrubber status-they are finishing the water lines and will be running PVC to the building for the piping of the nutrients that will remove the sulfur odor. Weather has been an issue, but they should be back this week to complete things. The President of Pure Air Company which made the scrubber flew in, from Georgia, to look at this project and is trying to get things done as quickly as possible with the contractor. We hope to have this resolved within the coming month.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - Jacki Athey reported: She has been working with the engineers on the issues that have been discussed this evening. Also, she is working on a list that Illinois American Water (IAW) sent for items they need to start working on, and they will most likely have weekly meetings starting soon.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Police Department: Chief Rea reports he has the personnel code and the budget almost completed for the PD.

Public Works: Director Randy Lake reports all of the lighting strike issues at the water plant have been resolved and are working once again. The upcoming baseball/soccer seasons are approaching, which will mean they need some seasonal help plus they will be getting the restrooms ready, fixing the concession stand at Henson Park, and getting porta potties for Richman Park. Andy Kieser reminded Randy about getting the bridge expansion joints replaced by the county on the Front Street bridge. He will contact county engineer Jim Crane about that.

MAYORAL REPORT - The Mayor will be meeting with Walker Construction this week to discuss the issues of road quality that was done last Fall. She thanks the Eisenmengers for coming forth with their concerns. She is also trying to get a commitment for the Clean UP Days date with Waste Management. They want to do this in the Fall this year, and do the door-to-door pickup.

BUSINESS

1. **Approve Resolution No. 2022-R01 – Intent to Reimburse Capital Project Costs**-Alderman Cheely motioned to approve Resolution 2022-R01. Alderman Hooker seconded. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

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2. **Approve Gilmore & Bell engagement letter as Bond Attorneys** - Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the engagement letter for the bond attorneys. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
3. **Approve Toughbook laptop purchases for the PD** - Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the purchase of new computers for the Police Department Squads to replace the ones they have that are over 15 years old. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
4. **Approve Police Dept signage** - Police Chief Rea is asking for a sign to designate the Police Department explicitly. The current sign would be moved down between the ambulance and firetruck bays so the new sign could be put up by the PD. Alderman Garrett motioned to approve. Second was by Alderman Cheely. Roll Call: Blaney, no, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

CLOSED SESSION - No Closed Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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