

**Minutes**  
**Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting**  
**March 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, March 28, 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, Garrett, Hooker, Cheely and Pangburn. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PW Director Lake, PD Director Rea 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Mike Leon was present from the VFW to ask for permission to begin having a Queen of Hearts raffle. He said they will need an approval letter from the City, which Jacki will supply. Mike also stated the Loyalty Day parade will happen on May 14, 2022.

Jerry Jenks, owner of the Korner Beehive was present to discuss some upcoming events. The Korner Beehive continues to do some fundraising. They raised over \$6,000 for the military fund drive they had earlier in the year and thank the community for that support. Their next project will be to fundraise for service dogs for military people who suffer from PTSD. They are asking for permission to block off the end of Main Street for a Battle of the Bands contest on May 14, 2022. The event will begin before noon and will go throughout the day. It will be family oriented and have vendor tables and the Plaza will be in use for this. Planning is still happening for the activities. With Mike Leon from the VFW there, everyone suggested they work together on that day for the parade and for this event, which will hopefully benefit both places.

Mr. Jenks also said that they had applied for a charter for the Sea Bee Veterans of America and they are now a designated lodge for them. This is a great honor and will help to bring people in from all over who are SeaBees, thus helping to promote Villa Grove. The Council was very supportive of their event.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** - Ms. Athey reports we have the signed extension from the State of the grant for the Community Center. Soccer sign ups are completed. Emily Schlueter is taking over this year from Luis Rund. Illinois American has contacted Jacki for their first meeting and will continue in weekly meetings now. The budget numbers should be up this week.

**OTHER REPORTS** - Public Works: Randy Lake reported the parts are shipping for the Adams Street lift station. The scrubber has stalled due to needing a wiring diagram. MFT draft for resealing of Henson roads, for the McCoy roads, and the Akers road to their house by the railroad tracks is being compiled. The Concession stand at Henson is almost complete-but a fridge still has to be put in there. Leaf vacuuming date will be the first week of April, weather permitting.

Police Department: Chief Rea said there has been a May opening in PTI so we can hire someone. They have filled the SRO position for the school.

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**MAYORAL REPORT** - Mayor Eversole-Gunter congratulated Mr. Jenks on their designation as a Lodge for the SeaBees veterans. One request she made to Mr. Jenks is that any alcohol that is served on May 14, must be kept within the confines of the Main Street Plaza and not on the street. He agreed. Also, they had asked about permission to serve some alcoholic drinks for Mother's Day Brunch. It was suggested for them to work with another business who already has a liquor license to do this. The Mayor also got some suggested dates for the Clean Up Day from Waste Management-they gave her 5/21 or 6/25. Council agreed on June 25, 2022, for the date. She also said there will be Yard Waste Pickup in April, no date yet.

**BUSINESS**

1. **Community Center update** - The value engineering was resulting in higher costs from the contractors, so we stopped that process and we will be signing the contract this week.
2. **Other items brought before the Council** - Alderman Johnson brought up the possibility of changing the times for liquor sales on Sundays. This is to alleviate the Liquor Commissioner having to approve special requests for events that begin before noon on Sundays and makes it more consistent. He asks that this be put to a vote at a regular meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION:** No Closed Session was required.

**ADJOURNMENT** - With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Cheely, yea, Pangburn, 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