

**Minutes**  
**Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting**  
**April 20, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

The City Council Committee of the Whole of the City of Villa Grove met in a budget session on **Wednesday, April 20, 2022** in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Johnson, Garrett, Hooker. Aldermen Blaney, Cheely, and Pangburn were absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Director Rea, Fire Department Heads C. Black and C. Elston 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** - None

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** - Ms. Athey handed out copies of the draft budget and a list from the Fire Department of their equipment needs to begin the Budget review.

**BUSINESS**

**Budget Meeting Review-First one**

1. Chief Black and Assistant Chief Elston were in attendance to discuss the needs of the fire department for the upcoming budget year. They state there is a serious need to replace equipment, some of which is as old as 40 years, but all are related to personal safety. They included a list of the equipment and spoke of the largest needs: AED replacements-very old and need new ones. Try to find a vendor to do the rust abatement on the fire engine-have asked local vendors and cannot find anyone to do the work. New turnout gear is on order. Discuss having fundraisers.
2. Police Dept: Fringe Benefits look high, but the figures used include the possibility of new employees with family taking insurance. No other major changes for the year. Discussed succession planning. Contract renewal for Bob Rea- contract renewal is coming up in July-mayor and administrator will work with him to get it completed. Otherwise, no big changes in the budget this year.
3. Administrative budget was reviewed but will need some additional figures added before the final can be completed. We will go over the Public Works budget when Director Lake is available.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Alderman Garrett seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Garrett, 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