

Minutes
Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting
August 22, 2022

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in the regular Committee of the Whole session on **Monday, August 22, 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, Cheely, Pangburn. Alderman Hooker was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Chief Rea, and PW Director 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - No public comments.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - Jacki Athey stated: The State is opening OSLAD grants for Parks-only giving 50% grants up to \$1.1 mil for land acquisition for park expansions and \$600k for development. Some ideas to consider would be to upgrade John Leon Park with aerators, cart-bike-hiking path from Henson to Route 130 to connect both sides of town. At Richman Park, now that the Demo Derby is done, that space could be for tractor pulls, rodeo, or more ball fields. She will contact The Farnsworth Group about assisting with the grant.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - P.D. Report-Chief Rea: The Active Shooter training drill at the school went very well. Bob also participated in a county wide exercise last week for law enforcement coordination for large emergencies. Public Works: Director Lake reports the lift stations are not working well. He got an estimate on a shop addition to hold our equipment that will be moved due to the utility sale and it was \$175k.

MAYORAL REPORT - The Mayor stated the first Christmas Tree Lighting committee meeting will be held 9/1/22 at 6 pm at the ZFL Center. Fall movie on the plaza possible date is October 1 with the Wine Walk event maybe? The ILAW Open House will be August 31 and all council members are asked to attend.

BUSINESS

1. **Swearing in of police officer**-did not take place at this time.
2. **Other items to discuss**-City Administrator said the MX Electric cost for updates to electrical power uptown to prepare for Ag Days was \$9300. The cost of this will be split with the Ag Days Committee, so she will contact Bruce Allen about the amount.

CLOSED SESSION: Alderman Cheely motioned to go into closed session at 6:58 pm to under the Open Meetings Act according to section 2(c)(1) of 5ILCS/120/2 Exceptions to Open Meetings Act for the discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. No further business to be conducted after. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Alderman Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Pangburn, yea. Motion carried. Council returned to open session at 7:00 pm.

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ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Garrett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Alderman Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Pangburn, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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