

Minutes
Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting
October 24, 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, October 24, 2022** in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Aldermen Blaney, Johnson, Garrett, Cheely, Hooker. Alderman Pangburn was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Director 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 - Karen Burris, representative of the Douglas County Chapter of the DAR was present to present a Proclamation to the Council recognizing November as National Native American Month. The proclamation was signed by Mayor Eversole-Gunter.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - Jacki Athey stated: The outstanding balance on the remaining water/sewer bills is down to \$2000. She may be able to close the account out next week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Police Report-Chief Rea reported an overview of the incident at the High School Homecoming Bonfire last week. He was very pleased with the response of his two officers who were already on the scene as attendees. Officers Tibbetts and Rasmussen made quick moves to handle the crowd and the situation. A faculty member was a key in bringing the suspect to a calm position, and nothing transpired due to these quick actions. There were, of course, rumors, so an increased police presence was at the school for the rest of the week, and the football game and the dance. Everything went smoothly. Office Mingo has decided to stay at Villa Grove PD, which is great news. Office Campbell is working full time and is training. He has also received many positive comments on the job that SRO Tibbetts is doing at the school.

Public Works: Director Lake reports they picked up the bucket truck from Rockford. Barricades have been placed at the end of each road in Pheasant Pointe that dead end on the North end of the development. This will deter people from using the dirt area there as a shortcut to get from one side of the neighborhood to the other, since this is not an actual roadway. He said the tar pot we have is new, we've had it 4 years, it's never been used, and would like to sell it. Council was in consensus with that.

MAYORAL REPORT - The Mayor commended Chief Rea and the police department for the quick response at the bonfire, as well as the added enforcement and overall handling of this incident at the school to be certain all stayed safe. Great Job!

BUSINESS

1. Selection of 2023 Fireworks date- Consensus was given to do the fireworks on June 30, 2023.
2. Consensus for TIF payment to Villa Grove Schools-consensus was given to make the TIF payment to the school.
3. Consensus to approve Broeren Russo Pay Request No. 4-consensus was given.
4. Establish public hearing date for potential bond issue-November 3 at 5:30 pm will be the Public Hearing date for the potential Bond issue.
5. Tentative tax levy amount/schedule was reviewed.
6. Other items brought before the Council for discussion-Discussed the layout of offices/conference rooms in the Community Center.

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CLOSED SESSION - Alderman Garrett motioned to go into closed session at 7:01 p.m. 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, and for 2(c)(5) possible purchase or lease of real estate for use by City, and Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. No further business to be conducted after. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Alderman Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion carried. Council returned to open session at 8:28 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Cheely, yea, Johnson, yea, Garrett, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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