

**Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting
August 14, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, August 14, 2023**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Lorenz, Blaney, Johnson, Cheely, and Hooker. Alderman Pangburn, PW Director Mixell, and City Administrator Athey were absent. Office Clerk Jessica Endres, Clerk Osborne, PD Chief Rea, CPS Director Surowka were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - The Mayor stood and led all attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEMS FOR SINGLE-VOTE APPROVAL WITHOUT DISCUSSION) - Blaney motioned to approve the full consent agenda. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held July 10, 2023
2. Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held July 24, 2023
3. Authorization for the Payment for Bills
4. Financial Reports for the month ending May 31, 2023
5. Broeren Russo Builders Change Orders 09 and 16
6. Agreement with Moran Economic Development
7. Approval of tree removals post-storm

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Resident Robert Finley was in attendance to ask the council about having chickens and the alley access to his lot at 7 Hancock Dr. Mr. Finley was told by the council the issue of chickens in town was resolved a long time ago and the ordinance will stand as it is. He will have to get rid of his chickens. The fact that his backyard has no access should have been reported at the time of sale. His only recourse is to go to the zoning committee.

Mike Cline and Berton Rund were present to give an update on the caboose project at Henson Park. The project is almost complete. The vendor has finished. In summary: they had some issues with the paint not sticking well, so they had to use a primer. They used an airless sprayer to apply the paint because the use of rollers was not going to work well. It took 30 gallons of paint instead of the original 14 gallons estimated. The Lions Club will remove the fencing this week.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - Reporting in place of Jacki Athey, the mayor reported that the audit is done. The community center figures information will be available for the next meeting for voting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Chief of Police Rea: Ag Days went very well, with no incidents reported. The rodeo went very smoothly and was well organized. The resident in the old Henson house with the downed tree said he is having a contractor come next week to clean up the rest of the tree that was downed and also to remove the dead tree in the yard.

Director of PW Mixell report: No report-director was absent.

Director of CCS Surowka: Reports the Community Center rooftop units are both here now, so they should be

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installing those within the next weeks. Programs: Summer Daze ended last week. Wiffle Ball is over. Pickleball is going well and they had 13 there last week. The soccer program has about 60 registered and it begins 8/28/23 for practice. ZFL programs: will be charging \$2 to play Euchre. On Sept. 22, there will be a 'Melon Mingle' held and it will be a program about melons, with food to taste. Website: the rec website is up and running and now has 176 members signed up! It is being utilized for online payments by people and posting calendars for activities, so it seems to be received well.

MAYORAL REPORT - The mayor reported the sad news that Keith Moran, our TIF consultant, has passed away. We sent a condolence to his services. We are sorry for this great loss. His company continues to operate with Emily leading the business. We look forward to our continuing work with Moran Consulting.

BUSINESS

1. **Broeren Russo Pay Req No 14 (July work)**-Alderman Hooker motioned to approve to pay Broeren Russo Req No 14. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
2. **Approve reimbursement for Mayor Eversole-Gunter (flowers on Main Street)**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve reimbursement to Mayor for flowers on Main Street. Alderman Lorenz seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
3. **Approve hiring of two full-time officers (and related PTI attendance/expense)**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve hiring of two police officers and PTI expenses. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
4. **Approve quote from Arrow Glass for door replacements**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the quote from Arrow Glass for doors, and Alderman Lorenz seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
5. **Approve change of August 28 committee meeting to a voting meeting**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the Aug 28 as a voting meeting. Alderman Lorenz seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

CLOSED SESSION-Alderman Cheely motioned to move into closed session under the exception to the Open Meetings Act according to Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS/120/2, discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion, with no further action upon return to open session. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

Council returned to open session at 7:22 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Lorenz motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

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Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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