

**Minutes
Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting
October 23, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in the regular Committee of the Whole session on **October 23, 2023**, 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, Lorenz, Pangburn, Cheely, and Hooker. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Chief Rea, and PW Director Mixell and CPS Director Surowka were also present.

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: She attended the required grant training session the State offered, so going forward she will not have to repeat the class and will be eligible to apply for grants. The ZFL sign for the side of the building is on order. The Tuscola Economic Development Committee has changed their name to encompass the entire county and is called Douglas County Economic Development. This will cover all of the county and get municipalities working together for developing larger projects. There will be an IGA to sign in early 2024. In order to annex the Tri City Country Club, there has to be a public hearing first with Planning and Zoning and then the council. Will be finding a date for that meeting. Jess reported on the Berns Clancy Associates plat map, and handed out copies. The lots are larger, as we asked and they corrected the roads. There will be an informational planning meeting for the Walldogs event being held June 2024, 1 pm.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS-Public Works: Director Mixell said leaf collection has begun. The Henson Park restrooms and Harrison Park are now closed for the winter. Getting roof estimates for the ZFL building. Starting the remodel of city offices on Harrison Street. The Christmas decorations will start being installed soon while the weather is still cooperative. The tree cutting service has a two week delay due to weather issues. Ameren is fixing poles and lights. They will have to redo the power lines in McCoy, on Ruby and Paul because they are too low.

Police Department: Chief Rea is pursuing how to get the two abandoned homes taken care of and get them both torn down-they are not able to be rehabilitated.

Community Programs/Services: Bethany said the vendor that is doing the main marquis in front of the community center is supposed to come this week to look over the site. Memberships are available now and can be purchased online. Bethany asked to waive the bidding requirements for the purchase of equipment for the center.

MAYORAL REPORT-The Mayor had nothing to add for a report.

BUSINESS

1. Elite Outdoors landscaping-they were unable to be here tonight and we hope they will be at our next meeting.
2. Rep. Miller issue concerning potential local immigrant relocation
3. Light bulb replacements for Harrison Avenue properties-consensus given to purchase
4. 2024 Rodeo event planning-there are changes to the company for the rodeo-we are choosing to go with Garrett Miller. There will be one show on the Friday night that Ag Days begins. Name of new company formed is DD Rodeo.
5. Revision of ACH agreement with Villa Grove State Bank-required updates of forms
6. Other items brought before the Council for discussion-NA

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CLOSED SESSION: No Closed Session

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Pangburn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:02p.m. Alderman Hooker Seconded the motion. Roll Call: Alderman Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, 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