

**Minutes  
Regular City Council Meeting  
November 27, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, November 27, 2023**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Lorenz, Blaney, Johnson, Pangburn, Cheely and Hooker. PW Director Mixell, City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, and CPS Director Surowka were also present.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the full consent agenda. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS**-No comments

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**-Jacki Athey reported on the projected tax levy amount. The changes this year were influenced by the sale of the utility to American Water, changes in how department employees were paid after the sale, and the raises received by the employees as well as a significant increase in the audit costs. She also shared information on changing the representation from electing officials from each ward to going to an At-Large election to help with finding more people to serve. This would have to go on a referendum vote in the Spring of 2024.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:** Director of PW Mixell report: The leaf collection is over as of December 6, 2023. After that time, the PW department will be able to focus more on the regular duties that need to be done. He has received many kudos on the uptown decorations and all that was done to present such a great appearance for the festival. He also stated the new doors have been installed at the Harrison Street building, but they are coming next week to replace the locks. So until then, he has the only key.

Director of CPS Surowka: reported there will be a craft night on Thursday, Nov. 30, at the ZFL Center. There is still room for people, but registration ends on 11/28/23. The CC building prep is ongoing. Flooring is almost done. Appliances ordered, and sports equipment also-Black Friday sales gave some nice savings on these pieces. The Grand Opening has been postponed. The school is happy to host the games until the center is ready. She also asked for a consensus on the Broeren Russo Change order request 23 and the council gave it. This will keep the project moving forward.

**MAYORAL REPORT**-The mayor thanked the Public Works Department for all of the hard work in decorating the town for the holidays and also the refurbishment of decorations to save money instead of buying new ones. Mayor is still working on the rodeo contract. The tree lighting festival had a great turnout.

**BUSINESS**

1. **Tri-City Country Club Request to amend Resolution on amount of TIF funding**-Alderman Hooker motioned to table the request from Tri City to get more definite information about what they are

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requesting. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved to TABLE.

2. **2023-R10—A Resolution Authorizing the Illinois Municipal League to Collect Foreign Fire Insurance License Fees**-Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the Resolution 2023-R10. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
3. **2023-MC18 – An Ordinance Regarding Paid Leave for All Workers Act** -Alderman Pangburn motioned to approve the 2023 MC18 Ordinance. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
4. **Approve ordinance work needed to change from Ward to At-Large Election of City Officials**-Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the ordinance work and changes needed for conducting an at-large election in the Spring. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
5. **Approval of calendar year 2024 meeting dates**-Alderman Johnson motioned to approve the calendar year meeting dates for 2024. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.
6. **Announcement of tentative 2023 tax levy amount**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the tentative Tax Levy amount of \$463,327.30. Alderman Lorenz seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion approved.

**CLOSED SESSION**-No closed session was needed.

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Lorenz, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, 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