

Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting
February 12, 2024

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, February 12, 2024**, 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, Cheely, Nieto, and Hooker. Alderman Pangburn was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PW Director Mixell, CCPS Director Surowka were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Owen Kneer was present to ask for the city's permission and assistance with his Eagle Scout project. He wants to build a pavilion in a park. Material will be cedar to last longer and stay nice with less maintenance. He is thinking about locating it near the boat dock at John Leon Park. He would also like to have some dugouts for the soccer fields at Richman Park. Council likes both projects and agrees to 50% funding of the cost.

CONSENT AGENDA-Alderman Johnson motioned to approve the consent agenda items. Second was from Alderman Blaney. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held January 8, 2024
2. Minutes of the closed session of the regular City Council meeting, held January 8, 2024
3. Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held January 22, 2024
4. Minutes of the closed session of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held January 22, 2024
5. Authorization for the Payment of Bills
6. Revised Financial Reports for the month ending October 31, 2023
7. Financial Reports for the month ending November 30, 2023
8. Financial Reports for the month ending December 31, 2023
9. Cash Balance Report for the month ending January 31, 2024

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Jacki Athey reported she's been working on all of the first of the year financial items. The October '23 report has been revised. Audit entries will change amounts in the reports. Audit of the grant is completed and we should get it this week. Budget meetings agenda will be up soon and needs to be approved by April.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Director of PW Mixell report: Both of the offices at the Harrison Street building are done as are the halls and the bathrooms. Melanie's office (Peace Meal coordinator) will be next in the ZFL area. They were working on a regular schedule of pick up for yard waste. Getting list of items at McCoy to be completed by the contractor in the Spring. Patching roads-and also finding yards that will need grass patching done leftover from the water line project.

Director of CCS Surowka: Volleyball has 2 games this week and tournament this weekend and will be done. The exterior sign will be up this week. The Marquis is being installed next week and cleanup by the first of next week. The weights will go in last after all cleaning is completed to avoid tracking more dust all over the building. The internet hook up is ready, cameras will be online soon. Interviews will begin this week for positions at the community center. Lockers and benches are coming on Tuesday. Bethany is coordinating with the landscaping

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vendor. Have to get the kitchen certified by Public Health asap. The donor wall deadline is Tuesday, 2/20/24-for tiles that anyone wants there by the Grand Opening.

Chief of Police Rea: No report.

MAYORAL REPORT-The mayor spoke with Brian Moody again and she got more information on how the structure of the board would be set up for the county economic development. There will be 1 representative from each town. She also got some clarification on the ordinance for immigrants. She has had a few meetings with developers interested in the north end property. The city office will make their move back to the building on Harrison Street by March 1. The Grand Opening at the Community Center will be on March 17 from 12:30-8pm, as well as having other city buildings open from 1-3pm to show improvements. The mayor also questioned the council about updating the strategic plan-it has been almost 5 years. Moran Economic Development has been in touch and Emily is working on the marketing analysis.

BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance 2024-MC01 – An Ordinance Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Villa Grove and the County of Douglas, the City of Arcola and the City of Tuscola Regarding County-Wide Economic Development Organization** -Alderman Blaney motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-MC01. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
2. **Ordinance 2024-MC02 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Employment Agreement By the City of Villa Grove For the Position of Accounting/Administrative Assistant**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the Ordinance 2024-MC02 for contract of office assistant. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
3. **Finishing of parking areas for the Community Center.** Alderman Hooker motioned to approve ERA Consultants (Jake Wolf) plan for paving the parking lot. With Marc Mixell adding that the drainage needs to be addressed before paving happens. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
4. **Moran Economic Development – contract approvals for marketing analysis and TIF2 District creation** -Alderman Nieto Motioned to approve a contract with Moran Economic Development for the marketing analysis and the creation of TIF2 District. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
5. **Scott Lindley - Walldogs MOU 2024-** Alderman Hooker motioned to table this due to needing more information on the MOU. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed to TABLE.
6. **Quotes for flag pole replacements in front of Community Center**-Alderman Nieto motioned to approve the purchase of new flap poles of the 25 foot height at Richman Park. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

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7. Alderman Hooker motioned to TABLE approval of **provisional support** of the county-wide resolution on immigrants. Alderman Blaney seconded. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed to TABLE.

CLOSED SESSION-No closed session held.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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