

**Minutes**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**April 22, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, April 22, 2024**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Blaney, Johnson, Nieto, and Hooker. Alderman Pangburn and Cheely were absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Chief Rea, CCS Director Surowka, and PW Director Mixell, and P&Z Committee Chairman Mike Cline were also present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-No comments**

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

1. Revised Financial Reports for the month ending January 31, 2024
2. Consensus for PW truck repair

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**-Jacki Athey reported there will be a meeting about the Embarras River flood map remake. They are going to assess the entire river in a multi-year study. IEMA software training has been delayed. Health Insurance rates workshop is later this week. Brian Moody and Stephanie McMahon talked to her about the county wide Enterprise zone. She will attend the city managers lunch meeting this week.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:** Director of PW Mixell report: The bathrooms were opened at the parks on Wednesday. The parking lots at City Hall have been paved and look great. PW is concentrating on getting some more trees cut down as well as replacing the drainage tin horns in ditches throughout town and jetting them. The dump truck is almost ready to come back after being repaired.

Director of CCS Surowka: Spring sports are in full swing. Working on summer programming for the center. New things-many issues to track for warranty issues, and things are breaking as they are being used. Summer Rec sponsorships brought in about \$5000. Grading of landscaping is progressing and she also asked to have bike racks installed at the park.

Chief of Police Rea: No report.

**MAYORAL REPORT**-The mayor had no updates.

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**BUSINESS**

- 1. Ordinance 2024-MC04 – An Ordinance Approving the City of Villa Grove Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2025 (Commonly Known as the “FY25 Budget Ordinance”)-**Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the FY25 Budget Ordinance. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 2. Approve new Building Permit Application form-**Alderman Hooker motioned to TABLE the new building permit form, which needs to include an informational section on remodels. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion to TABLE. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed to TABLE.
- 3. Approve Broeren Russo Builders Inc Pay Req. 22-**Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the Broeren Russo pay request 22. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 4. Approve quote for ADA door modifications at Community Center-**Alderman Hooker Motioned to approve the quote for ADA door modification at the Community Center. Alderman Hooker seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Pangburn, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 5. Approve Contract for BCA engineering of north end development-**Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the contract for BCA engineering of the north end development. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 6. Approve City administrator’s attendance to IEMA-OHS Grants Pro software training-**Alderman Johnson motioned to deny City Admin’s attendance to IEMA-OHS grants pro software training. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed to deny attendance.
- 7. Approve City administrator’s attendance at Midwest CDI (August economic development training) FY25-**Alderman Hooker motioned to approve attendance to the conference. Second was from Alderman Johnson. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 8. Approve fund transfers: Local Sales Tax Fund to General Fund (repay Arrow contract expense) and Tax Increment Fund #1 to General Fund (pay on long-term debt accrued)-**Alderman Blaney motioned to approve said fund transfers. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 9. Approve materials purchase for reservoir pavilion (Eagle Scout project)**Owen Kneer was present to discuss the materials needed for his project of the pavilion at John Leon Park. Mr. Kneer also mentioned that Paul’s Machine and Welding Co. will donate a custom made picnic grill. The concrete pad will also be a bit larger to help accommodate electrical in the future. Final costs around \$4300 Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the materials purchase/reimbursement and Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

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- 10. Approve Community Center storm shelter louvers repair**-Alderman Blaney motioned to approve the repair/replacement of the storm shelter louvers that were damaged by high winds. This is for the Community Center. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 11. Approve Strategic Plan proposal from Northern Illinois University**-Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the Strategic plan proposal from NIU. Alderman Johnson seconded. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 12. Accept/approve bid from Stark Excavation Inc for Harrison Street Bridge repair work**-Alderman Johnson motioned to approve the bid from Stark Excavation for the bridge repair work on Harrison Street. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
- 13. Approve revised resolution for bridge repairs from Douglas County**-Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the revised resolution from Douglas County for bridge repairs. Second was by Alderman Johnson. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

**CLOSED SESSION**-Alderman Nieto motioned to go into Closed session at 7:01 pm, under Section 2(c)(1) of 5 ILCS/120/2, Exceptions to the open meetings act for the discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed. Mayor Eversole Gunter, Clerk Osborne, City Administrator Athey, and CCS Director Surowka were also present. No action will be taken after the closed session. Council returned to open session at 7:24 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman Blaney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Hooker, yea.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle L. Osborne*

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk  
XC: Mayor and City Council; Building Inspector; Department Heads; File