

Minutes
City of Villa Grove, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting
August 22, 2024

Call to Order—Roll Call: The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in committee session on Thursday, August 22, 2024, in Conference Room B of the Community Center. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Aldermen Blaney, Johnson, Nieto and Pangburn. City Administrator Athey, CPS Director Surowka, Police Chief Rea and PW Director Mixell were present as well. City Clerk Osborne was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Mayor stood and led all attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: No residents were present for comment.

Discussion of Pending Business:

Mayor Eversole-Gunter stated that the meeting was convened regarding the Union Pacific Steam Engine visit and the pending change of personnel.

The Mayor noted what events are being planned and the general layout of where the Engine will be parked in relation to Trisa's Quilting Corner and the south end of Main Street. Some businesses are normally closed on Mondays, so the Mexican restaurant requested the use of street parking for outdoor dining (which she approved). There will be a couple of food trucks in town, and bleachers will be situated to allow viewing while the engine is parked here. Anticipating the number of visitors to the City will be hard.

Bethany's resignation and Bob's desire to take over the position were then discussed. Conversation followed for some time concerning the need for an additional full-time position for recreation planning, and how Bob's transition might allow him to learn from Bethany before her departure and still be a resource for the Police Department. The City might want to create a Public Safety Director position that Bob could fill while another officer would become interim Police Chief. Budget considerations were discussed for multiple positions.

Consensus was to allow Bob to begin training with Bethany immediately and to continue discussion with the (hopefully) full Council at its upcoming meeting on 8/26.

City of Villa Grove, Illinois
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2024
Page 2

Adjournment: With no further items to be discussed, all members concurred to conclude the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacki Athey

Jacqueline S. Athey, CIMT, CPFA, CPFIM
City Administrator

xc: Mayor
City Council
Building Inspector
Department Heads
File