

**Minutes
Committee of the Whole Meeting
July 22, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL-The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met as a Committee of the Whole session on **Monday, July 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, Nieto, and Cheely. Aldermen Blaney, Pangburn, and Hooker were absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PW Director Mixell and CCPS Director Surowka were also present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE -The Mayor stood and led all attendees in The Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Resident Petra Oberg was present to talk about landlords and asked the city about possible rent controls and having landlords be told not to spread rumors or derogatory comments about other landlords.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Jacki Athey stated: The audit went well. Have to get the community center information split out for expenses, costs, depreciation, etc. now that it is completed and running on its own. The Strategic Plan kick off meeting needs to be scheduled-all agreed for dates Nov. 2-Dec. 4 to send to them to consider for one 5-hour meeting. She reminds us the next meeting is 3 weeks from tonight (instead of just two) and she will be gone for that meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

PUBLIC WORKS-DIRECTOR MIXELL reported they are getting ready for Ag days and the rodeo. the gym set came in damaged, so that is being replaced. Mark will meet with Jake Wolfe on Thursday to discuss the parking plans. The road work will begin in 1 ½ weeks. The rodeo setup is planned. The Eagle Scout Pavillion is completed. They are re-doing railings on the scorers box at Richman Park. On Sept. 9 the Big Steam Engine will be in town at the depot, so we may have lots of visitors in town for that. He also said that new docks for the pond at Leon Park cost around \$2500 each, and ADA ones are more expensive. The pond is stocked by the State DNR. There is a need for aeration to be added to prevent issues with algae and to keep the fish healthy.

VGPD: CHIEF REA absent-no report.

CPS: DIRECTOR SUROWKA reported on sports: They will have the concession stand at the CC open for the rodeo on Aug. 3. The school has asked to use the fields at Richman for Jr. High Softball, due to issues with their fields being repaired. The vending machine is in and working. Bidy Basketball has 15 signed up. Adult Pickleball league is happening as well as Soccer Registration is opening tomorrow. Gymnastics Fall Session and Fall baseball for boys has sign ups. The Marketing video ads are done but a discussion on budget for advertising has to be determined.

MAYOR: Mayor Eversole-Gunter reminded everyone to attend Ag Days and the Rodeo!

DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS (NON-VOTING)

1. **Review TIF District Redevelopment Plan** Discussion of the new TIF plan for the Henson Area.
2. **Review TIF2 public hearing date ordinance for approval**-consensus for October 28 Public Hearing at 5:30 pm.
3. **Consideration of model IML ordinance regarding public camping**-it was decided to put this on the agenda when our city attorney is here next to help with the discussion and what we should include.
4. **Consideration of Prairie Fire development questions**-need more time to discuss information.

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5. **Consideration of possible additions to the Douglas County/VG Enterprise Zone**-need more time to discuss information.
6. **Consensus for Pheasant Pointe Street Improvement by Berns Clancy & Associates** -Consensus was given by the council for this.
7. **Consensus to rename checking account for credit card receipt transactions only**- Consensus given.
8. **Consensus on type of retreat training to be used in upcoming Strategic Planning**-Consensus given on dates chosen.
9. **General legal questions for the City Attorney with discussion**-City attorney was not in attendance but will be next month.
10. **Other items brought before the Council for discussion**

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Blaney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Alderman Cheely seconded the motion. Roll Call: Alderman Blaney, yea, Nieto, yea, Cheely, yea. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

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