

**Minutes**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**October 15, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Tuesday, October 15, 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. Aldermen Cheely, Pangburn, and Hooker were absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PD Chief Tibbetts, and PW Director Mixell, CPS Director Rea, and VGFD Chief Black were present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-No comments**

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

1. Minutes of the closed session of the COTW meeting, held August 26, 2024
2. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held September 12, 2024
3. Minutes of the closed session of the regular City Council meeting, held September 12, 2024
4. Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held September 23, 2024
5. Authorization for the Payment of Bills
6. Financial Reports for the month ending August 31, 2024

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**-Jacki Athey reported: The Strategic Planning group from NIU will be in touch with everyone for 1 on 1 interviews in the upcoming weeks. The TIF 2 letters were mailed to residents and some questions have come in. She spoke to the Civics class on 10/9/24 at the High School. Attended the Economic Development committee meeting on 10/9/24 also. On 10/14 the Village of Fisher was here to see the Community Center. She attended a web seminar for grant funds for the VGPD. Meeting on 10/16 was a managers meeting for leadership series, 10/24 she will go to Dietrich, IL to visit and hear about their community showcase. The auditors have new requirements for reporting about. The ice skating rink vendor needs insurance, which is being required by Longview State Bank before they can set up in their parking lot for the CTL festival.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:** Director of PW Mixell report: The Reservoir at John Leon Park is cleaned up again-there were lots of large items in the water (appliances and such). The water was stocked with trout. Marc is getting pricing on how to remove the foliage from the water to help make the pond much healthier. Leaf pick up begins this week. The Rotary Club will paint the pavilion at Harrison park. The Christmas decorations have been checked and lights replaced, etc. that needed to be. Ready to go. We do need to replace the wreaths-they are getting quotes for these. The splash pad has been winterized by C-U Under Construction plumbing. Talked about the compost pile of leaves being a BIG pile! Snow plows are ready to go. REplacing a broken storm sewer pipe. Tree trimming is happening. Richman Park diagram for the retention area was discussed and wanted to move it to the back of the lot away from the building to avoid flooding. Will have the parking lot surveyed for the after construction survey that has not been completed yet.

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CPS/PUBLIC SAFETY: Director Rea reported: 10/27 the DCPHD Wellness Fair will be held 1-5 pm at the center. 10/31: 6:45-8:30 the Halloween costume contest will be held. The Big gym is busy with basketball practices and games for 5-6 grades. The Staff has helped with the transition for him and things have gone well. Stacey has taken over running the concession stand. Hired a new PT person. Volleyball, Badminton, PickleBall have all been mentioned to be added along with other ideas such as craft fairs, etc. Donor for the sound system has come forward and wants to have it purchased from Premier Sound and Design. Rea showed the plans and council gave consensus to move forward. The social media is up and going as VG Community Rec Center.

Fire Dept: Chuck Black reported he requested an online meeting with KME for the new Fire Truck. Eng. 102 will be getting some quotes done soon for painting. They may have a buyer for the old Engine 103.

VGPD: Chief Tibbetts reported about the ongoing issues with cleanup on North Oak Street residence. The residents won't clean it up, so we are looking at other solutions through court. The ISP will be giving a crime scene presentation at Mrs. Wertz class at the school. Ben Mingo, Officer, is interested in doing the SRO job. They have gotten a grant for new tasers. They are having more activity with speeding traffic.

**MAYORAL REPORT**-The mayor mentioned she is working on sponsorships for CTL.

## **BUSINESS**

1. **Ordinance 2024-MC09—An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Employment Agreements by the City of Villa Grove for the Positions of Director of Community Programs and Services and Public Safety Director**--Alderman Nieto motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-MC09. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.
2. **Ordinance 2024-MC10—An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Employment Agreement by the City of Villa Grove for the Position of Chief of Police**  
Alderman Blaney motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-MC10. Alderman Nieto seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.
3. **Swearing in of new Police Chief**-Public Safety Director Rea swore in the new Police Chief, Cole Tibbetts.
4. **Approve treasurer's attendance to Institute training (November)**-Alderman Nieto motioned to approve the training for City Treasurer Athey. Alderman Johnson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.
5. **Approve CPS Director's attendance to IPRA training (January)**-Alderman Johnson motioned to approve CPS Director Rea attending training at IPRA. Alderman Nieto seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.

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6. **Reimburse mileage costs for Alderman Nieto for IML Conference**-Alderman Johnson motioned to approve reimbursement to Alderman Nieto for IML Conference attendance. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, Recuse, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.
  
7. **Approve purchase of Fire Prevention materials for FD**-Alderman Nieto motioned to approve the purchase of fire prevention materials for the VGFD presentation in November. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.

**CLOSED SESSION**-No Closed Session needed.

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. Alderman Blaney seconded the motion. Roll Call: Blaney, yea, Johnson, yea, Nieto, yea, Mayor, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle L. Osborne*

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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