

Minutes
Special Committee of the Whole Meeting
Community Rec Center, 900 S. Sycamore St., Villa Grove
January 13, 2025

CALL TO ORDER—The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met as a Committee of the Whole in special session on **Monday, January 13, 2025**, at the conference room of the Community Rec Center at Richman Park. Mayor Eversole-Gunter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Johnson, Blaney, Nieto, Cheely, Pangburn, and Hooker. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, Fire Chief Black, Public Works Director Mixell, Community Ctr. Director Rea, Chief of Police Tibbetts were also in attendance. In addition to the council members and staff, were the presenters/facilitators from the Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies, Strategic Planning Leadership group, Mel Henriksen, Assistant Director, and Alli Hoebing.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Public members that were present and participating were mayoral candidates, Derek Rasmussen, and Bruce Allen. Wayne Clark and Chris Elston were also present, two candidates for seats on the council in the April election.

DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS (NON-VOTING)-

The only agenda item was as follows: This meeting was held to create a new Strategic Plan. 5 years ago we met with this NIU group, who facilitated our first round of Strategic Planning.

Mel Henriksen and Alli Hoebing led the activities to facilitate discussions of where the City of Villa Grove plans to be in the years ahead along with a review of our previous plan and what has been accomplished in the last five years.

Agenda for the evening was as follows:

- I. Introduction and Icebreaker Exercise
- II. Visions of Tomorrow
- III. Environmental Scanning-Stakeholder Input Summary Results
- IV. SWOC Analysis
 - Part I: Small Group Surrender or Lead
 - Part II: Large Group Rapid Fire SWOC Analysis
- V. Goal Progress Update-City Administrator
- VI. Strategic Goal Development, Review, and Discussion
- VII. Final Wrap Up and Next Steps

After this session, we will be sent the summaries and asked to prioritize the list of items that were determined in the sessions.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Blaney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Alderman Pangburn seconded the motion. Roll Call: Johnson, yea, Blaney, Nieto, yea, Pangburn, yea, Cheely, yea, Hooker, yea. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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