

Minutes

Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting August 25, 2025

CALL TO ORDER—The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met as a Committee of the Whole session on **Monday, August 25, 2025**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Elston, Fulk, Taylor-Sanford, Nieto, Clark and Hooker. City Administrator/Comptroller Athey, Clerk Osborne, Police Chief Tibbetts, CC Director Rea, and PW Director Mixell were also present.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS-No comments.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Jacki Athey reported the Ambulance bay needed service for hvac. She needs to make payment for the final part of the parking lot at CC. Final payment \$41,235.43-by EOM. Final Payment costs are \$907893.09. Council gave Consensus to pay.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

CPS: DIRECTOR and Public Safety Coordinator Bob Rea said the paved lot has made a huge difference inside of the building for cleaning. The XC trail is progressing and almost done. Jr. High will hold a meet in Sept. Bob Rea is out of town W-Mon.

VGPD-Chief Tibbetts reported -new officer started last Friday-he will go to PTI in fall and graduate in December. Dylan will have training after PTI is done. The Squad car is done, but graphics are delayed. Zach is out on medical leave for 1-2 weeks, creating OT to cover his shifts. 2 ordinance violations go to court on Sept 26. Zone 4 will be more aggressive. There have been reports of speeding on Hancock and Possum Trail in the mornings. Will have officers there to check it out.

Mayor: Mayor -no report.

Other items from council: Alderman Tony Hooker asked about the VG Alumni dance-using space. Talking with the committee to see about having it at Richman Park. Could set up a tent outside for bands, use restrooms at the building. He will report back at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS (NON-VOTING)

1. Consensus for annual CTL Dahnke reindeer contract-This is for the annual tree lighting-the cost will be about 2200 total. Derek will check to see the status of the committee for CTL. No consensus at this time.

2. Consideration of increase/minimum charge for issuance of City permits-The Building inspector suggested this with the permitting process to cover us paying the inspection fees, etc. Suggestion is to go to \$25. Consensus given for 25.

3. General legal questions for the City Attorney with discussion-

Alderman Hooker asked: allowing alcohol on the street for events-how is that done elsewhere? Ans: we can make our own ordinance on what you want to do. example: designated 'cup' to use, define the times to use, and areas to use the cups, or use wristbands, etc. Liability for serving violations is on the place that serves the alcohol, more than what the city liability is.

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From the Mayor: What is the status of the fence ordinance? Ans: It is with PZ and has to go through a hearing process there. etc.

Alderman Elston: Unsafe houses and what can we do about them? Ans: we can only go into a home unless we are invited. Once invited in (ie, fire department helping for lift assistance, etc). We can do something about hazards found-would work with the attorneys to do something about the issues. Would suggest taking pictures of the issues to send to attorneys, since we are proving they are violating the ordinances for occupancy. The goal would probably end up being to get demolition permits by the courts.

CLOSED SESSION: Alderman Elston motioned to enter closed session at 7:02 pm, under Section 2(c)(1) of 5ILCS/12/2 Exceptions to the open meetings act for the discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Alderman Fulk seconded the motion. No further business will occur after returning to open session. Council returned to open session at 7:22 pm.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Elston, yea, Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Clark, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Osborne

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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