

Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting
January 5, 2026

CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, January 5, 2026**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Taylor-Sanford, Fulk, Nieto, Elston, and Hooker. Alderman Clark was absent. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, PW Director Mixell, PD Chief Tibbetts were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS-

Chief Of Police Tibbetts proceeded to swear in the new police officer, Richard Reidel for full time duty, after his graduation from the PTI Academy. Congratulations to Officer Readel.

CONSENT AGENDA (ITEMS FOR SINGLE-VOTE APPROVAL WITHOUT DISCUSSION)-Alderman Nieto motioned to approve the consent agenda items. Second was given by Alderman Elston. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held December 1, 2025
2. Authorization for the Payment of Bills
3. Financial Reports for the month ending November 30, 2025

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS-

City Administrator-Jacki Athey stated she learned about the updated reporting for overtime on W-2's for 2025. She worked on changes for IMRF reporting and other changes where needed, to support the new law that is in effect. She is requesting the transfer of funds in the amount of \$138,000 to pay some of the cost of the parking lot at the community center that is owed to general fund. Her suggestion is to split the amounts between the TIF and Grant funds back to General fund of the amount of \$138,000, which will leave a balance of 863,000 to pay off back to general fund. A short discussion was given on the grocery tax that will begin Jan. 1, 2026. Work on the budgets will begin soon, so Department heads need to be preparing information.

Community Recreation Center Director Rea- No report-absent

Public Works Director Mixell-Marc Mixell reported snow removal has gone well. Repairs to the plow need to happen. The garage doors are done. Henson Park water line repairs will begin this week by CU-UC company, and the Christmas decorations are almost all down, save the very top lights on the tree. They are waiting to get the lift to remove those lights and are hoping that will happen this week. There will not be any further leaf collections-the surprise snowstorm interrupted collections and many people piled leaves at the road in anticipation before that, but with the weather decline and other issues, it is not viable to bring the leaf vac out of storage at this point. Residents are advised to remove the piles themselves and are encouraged to bring the to the polebarn at the pile on the west side of town and Public works crew will then dump them at the leaf pile.

Police Chief Tibbetts-Cole Tibbetts -Reports that the new officers are doing well on their ride alongs that just began. Hoping to hire a new part time officer to begin on Friday.

Mayor-Mayor Rasmussen discussed trying to meet with BCA company for engineering on the new subdivision,

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which they have not given us updates in over a year. He has made multiple calls and a personal visit to the office to find out when they can schedule a meeting. Arrow ambulance has given us a 10% extension on the current contract through 2026, but negotiations will resume for the 2027 contract and higher costs are to be expected. The holiday party will be held Jan. 24 at the VFW. Alderman Fulk also reports from people on the large house/apartment building on Wilson street that needs attention to the stairway up to the second floor that is falling apart.

BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance 2026-MC01—An Ordinance Amending Title III, Chapter 30 of the Villa Grove, Illinois Code of Ordinances as They Relate to City Council Meetings** -Alderman Hooker motioned to approve the amendment to the council meetings schedule. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
2. **Ordinance 2026-MC02—An Ordinance Revising A Policy Governing Access to Public Records Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)** -Alderman Elston motioned to approve revisions to management of FOIA access. Alderman Taylor-Sanford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
3. **Reimbursement transfers to General Fund (from Grants and TIF#1)** -Alderman Taylor-Sanford motioned to approve the transfer of funds from grants and TIF to the general fund. Alderman Nieto seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
4. **Approval for ILCMA Winter Conference (February '26)** -Alderman Taylor-Sanford motioned to approve attendance at the ILCMA conference for Jacki (if she is able to attend). Seconded by Alderman Nieto. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
5. **Approval for IMTA Annual Conference (June '26 = FY27)**-Alderman Elston motioned to approve attendance to the IMTA conference, if Jacki is able to attend. Alderman Fulk seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
6. **Approve purchase of street sign blades from MFT** - Alderman Nieto motioned to approve and Elston seconded motion to approve purchase of street signs. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
7. **Approve bucket truck lift repairs**-Alderman Elston motioned and Alderman Fulk seconded to motion to approve repairs for the bucket truck. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
8. **Approve purchase of portable pitching mound**-Alderman Nieto motioned approval of the purchase with Fulk giving a second approval. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
9. **Approve lease purchase of new Bobcat**-Alderman Elston motioned to approve leasing a new Bobcat for

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a five year lease. Alderman Taylor-Sanford seconded. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

CLOSED SESSION-No Closed session.

ADJOURNMENT-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, 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