

**Minutes**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**February 2, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER—ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met in regular session on **Monday, February 2, 2026**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Taylor-Sanford, Fulk, Nieto, Elston, Clark and Hooker. City Administrator Athey, Clerk Osborne, Treasurer Swanson, PD Chief Tibbetts were present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PUBLIC COMMENTS-**

Petra Oberg was in attendance to address the council with concerns about a recent event that happened in late January, where Federal ICE agents came to town and removed some illegal immigrants from their homes. Mrs. Oberg expressed concerns about the process in regards to safety of the residents and of the community and her disappointment this event happened. Council thanked Mrs. Oberg for presenting her concerns.

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

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting, held January 5, 2026
2. Minutes of the regular Committee of the Whole meeting, held January 20, 2026
3. Minutes of the closed session of the Committee of the Whole meeting, held January 20, 2026
4. Authorization for the Payment of Bills
5. Financial Reports for the month ending December 31, 2025
6. Approve emergency repair to fire engine 101

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR/OTHER REPORTS-**

**City Administrator**-Jacki Athey stated the W2 tax forms have been sent out and should be received this week by employees. She will continue working on budget scheduling soon with department heads. She was contacted by a citizen concerning buying a piece of city owned property at Pheasant Pointe that will be beside the new road. The council decided there is not enough information yet to determine if this would be possible.

**Community Recreation Center Director Rea**- No report-absent

**Public Works Director Mixell**- No report-absent..

**Police Chief Tibbetts**-Cole Tibbetts updated on the issue brought to council at the last meeting concerning loose dogs in a neighborhood that have been dangerous. Action is being taken on that issue and should be resolved soon. He is working to create a new shift schedule. New officers are all doing very well.

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**Mayor**-Mayor Rasmussen stated there has been no response from engineering firm BCA after multiple attempts about moving forward on the development on the North end of town. He asked the council if he should look for another firm? He also reported on the meeting with Waster Management and the contract negotiations-looking at a 5% increase overall for residents, but commercial businesses rates will all be the same, which will probably be lower for most businesses. They are willing to try to find ways to avoid damage from the trucks to our streets and curbs. And trying to find a solution for clean up days.

## **BUSINESS**

1. **Jim Crane regarding resident request for Advanced Warning System for UP trains** -Country Engineer Jim Crane spoke about the issue brought up by a resident on warning systems for train stoppages. He stated this is an extremely complex issue that would require federal, state and local authorities to coordinate. At this time, he deemed this project unattainable and impractical.
2. **Approval to waive formal bids and solicit quotes for lighting of RSC ballfield (Field 3)**-Alderman Hooker motioned to waive formal bids for lighting at RSC. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Clark, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
3. **Approve quote for survey of leaf/compost lot** -Alderman Elston motioned to approve getting a quote for the leaf lot to be surveyed. Alderman Fulk seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Clark, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.
4. **Consider creation of new Class A liquor license** -There are no open licenses and consensus was not to create any new ones.
5. **Approve reimbursement to Mayor Rasmussen**-Alderman Nieto motioned to approve a reimbursement to the Mayor for supplies purchased. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, yea, Clark, yea, Hooker, yea. Motion passed.

**CLOSED SESSION-No Closed session.**

**ADJOURNMENT**-With no further business, Alderman Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 pm. Alderman Elston seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Elston, 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