

**Minutes  
Committee of the Whole  
City Council Meeting  
February 17, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER—The City Council of the City of Villa Grove met as a Committee of the Whole session on **February 17, 2026**, in Council Chambers. Mayor Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call found the following members present: Alderman Taylor-Sanford, Fulk, Nieto, Clark. Aldermen Elston and Hooker were absent. City Administrator/Comptroller Athey, Treasurer Swanson, Clerk Osborne, Police Chief Tibbetts, CC Director Rea, and PW Director Mixell, and City Attorney Miller 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 Budget planning has begun. There is an extra meeting on the calendar at the end of March if needed for budget discussion. The final has to be passed before April 30, 2026. Jacki will be out next week for a few days.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**CPS:** DIRECTOR Rea did not have anything to report, other than to say sports teams are in full action and doing well.

**VGPD**-Chief Tibbetts No updates.

**PUBLIC WORKS**-Director Mixell reported the new Bobcat skid steer is here. Quotes for the budget are being worked on. The truck is being fixed by 3C's due to the front end having issues. The fire department gave PW a boat, but he needs information on the boat. Spring equipment is being readied for use.

**Mayor:** Mayor Rasmussen no report.

**DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS (NON-VOTING)**

**1. Kyle Lester, from Waste Management, regarding upcoming franchise renewal**-Kyle Lester, District manager for Waste Management was in attendance to report on agreement terms for the contract, after meeting today with the mayor and alderman Fulk. The residential increase will be 5%;the commercial businesses will have an update that will probably reduce many fees for them; he met with Marc about the damages to streets and curbs; all agreed to a new definition of 'bulk items'; there will be a change so that residents can have more frequent pickup of bulk items, which should replace the need for 'clean up days'. They will send out an educational mailer to residents on how this will proceed.

**2. Planning of America250 events** - Talks centered around forming a committee to hopefully include the following people: Jackie Joines, Charolie Burris, Clay Taylor-Sanford, and Andrew Fulk, as well as Bob Rea. The mayor asked them to get some meetings scheduled as soon as possible.

**3. Planning for FY26 and future audits**-Jacki stated we used West and Company from Mattoon last year and there was a significant fee increase. She asked the council if they wanted her to get some other quotes this year and the consensus was yes to that. It never hurts to have some other quotes.

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**CLOSED SESSION:** No closed session needed.

**ADJOURNMENT-**With no further business, Alderman Nieto motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 pm. Alderman Fulk seconded the motion. Roll Call: Taylor-Sanford, yea, Fulk, yea, Nieto, yea, Clark, yea. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle L. Osborne*

Michelle L. Osborne, City Clerk

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