



REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN, ILLINOIS, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike Mossman. A roll call was taken.

Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- present
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- present
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- present
Commissioner Doug Shook	- present
Mayor Mike Mossman	- present

2. Mayor Mossman asked if there were any comments from the public.

Nancy Barker heard that the City was awarded a grant exceeding one million dollars and asked where the funding would come from. Mayor Mossman explained that this is a matching grant and that the City would need to discuss how the project would be funded. The City is allowed to use man hours towards their portion of the project.

Bob Ingram asked when the City would start working on the metering service on Cottontail Lane. Mayor Mossman thought that the crew has already started setting new meter pads for the project. He added that the residents will be notified before their power is shut off.

3. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held February 13, 2024
- Approval of claims
- Approval of the Treasurer's report for January 2024
- Approval of Pay Estimate #1 for \$100,247.73 from Seneca Companies for the Fuel Tank Replacement Project at the Power Plant
- Approval of Resolution 24-D – A Resolution Regarding the Release of Executive Session Minutes
- Approval of the Amended 2024 Council Meeting Schedule
- Approval of Resolution 24-F – Opening an account with First Community Bank of Moultrie County for the DCEO CDBG Grant for the Main Street Water Main Project

Mayor Mossman explained that the amended 2024 Council Meeting Schedule will change the meetings to the first and third Thursdays. The next meeting will be held on March 7th.

Commissioner Woodworth explained that the DCEO CDBG grant guidelines require the City to open a separate checking account for the expenditure of the grant funds.

Commissioner Kirk questioned the claim to Clark Baird Smith. The City has paid the firm \$5,000 for the last two months and asked to pull the claim from the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve the consent agenda minus the claim for Clark Baird Smith. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried by omnibus vote.

4. Commissioner Sherwood loves being able to represent her community and has spent most of her free time for the past five years dedicated to her position. She stated that she has received reoccurring disrespect and name calling from several Council members. She believes that the Mayor has demanded expectations from her that are not expected of the other members. She is aware that the Council may not always be happy with her decisions but believes that they should hold a level of respect for each other. She will no longer tolerate this behavior.

5. Commissioner Kirk reported that the contractors have been working on the bank and the firehouse, replaced a transformer, scheduled an outage for a pole replacement where they transferred the primary, terminated the three phase primary and two secondary runs.

6. Commissioner Woodworth reported that the Distribution Crew has been making repairs at the Sewer Plant. He thanked Darren Tull from the Electric Department for helping pull the SBR pumps. The IEPA violation notice has been completed and returned. The return sludge line from the lagoon has been cleaned out and is now able to return to the plant. Sludge is being spread on the fields. The lime pits at the Water Plant are being cleaned out and material is being hauled to the lime pit in town for drying. Adjustments continue to be made to the treatment process at the Water Plant to improve the quality of the water.

Commissioner Woodworth stated that a notice was sent out with utility bills informing customers that the City has not met the monitoring requirements. He explained that the City was one day late on submitting the sample for the September 2023 sampling period. This was due to the start-up of the new Water Plant. EPA regulations restrict sampling until the plant has produced water for forty-five days. The City met the forty-five day restriction the day after the sampling was due.

Water mains for the Cedar Dale Subdivision have been installed and flushed. The crew will start installing the tap fittings once they are received.

7. Commissioner Shook reported that the Street Department has been completing vehicle maintenance, loaded regrid and dirt, completed some grading and cleaned up the lot.

The contractor for the Safe Routes to School project wants to start in March, allowing them to schedule their pours while school is in session. This will allow them to keep people from walking on the sidewalks while they are curing.

A resident near the brush lot is interested in buying a mulching unit and offering his services to the City for two-thirds of what the previous contractor charged.

Commissioner Shook asked if the payment method for the City Hall rent was going to change, as he doesn't think it should be paid out of TIF IV.

8. Mayor Mossman reported that someone is ready to start building at the Cedar Dale Subdivision. The Gas Department will be installing the last gas line, which will then be tapped to the main by USDI. Once this is done, the gas for the first half of the subdivision will be complete.

Mayor Mossman explained that the Gas Department has hired an employee to fill a vacant position. The Gas Foreman had asked for the Council to consider hiring another person as he has an employee that is likely to retire within the next few years. Mr. Herschberger would like to get someone hired before that happens because it takes three years for a gas employee to become certified. Commissioners Shook, Kirk and Woodworth were ok with the idea.

9. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve Resolution 24-E – Authorizing the City Clerk to Update the Official Zoning Map and to Publish a Notice of the Zoning Map Update. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

10. Commissioner Woodworth proposed the approval of the Project Authorization with Milano & Grunloh for the preparation of plans, specs and IEPA permits for the Cedar Dale Subdivision sewer extension. To prevent cutting the road for each lot, a new main will be installed on the south side of Mattox Street and connected to the current main. This will allow for the roadway to be cut one time. He estimated that the main would be ten foot deep so it could handle any flow from basements,

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve the Project Authorization with Milano & Grunloh for the preparation of plans and specs and IEPA permits for the Cedar Dale Subdivision. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

11. Mayor Mossman stated that the City had previously received a bid for directional boring for the Cedar Dale Subdivision. At the last meeting Commissioner Kirk asked to reject the bid and to seek quotes from other contractors, as he thought the bid was high. Seabaugh Underground Construction Inc. and Gardner Excavating and Directional Boring LLC submitted quotes. The quotes were as follows:

Seabaugh Underground Construction Inc.	\$45,556.00
Gardner Excavating & Direction Boring LLC	\$54,924.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve the quote from Seabaugh providing the specs meet the Superintendent at the Electric Department's specs to move forward and approve it. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

12. Commissioner Kirk explained that Council has the ability to review the avoided cost for solar customers once a year and to adjust it accordingly. The IMEA completes a study to determine the avoided cost rate for the City. This rate is the amount that solar customers receive for the kilowatts they push back onto the City's system. The ordinance will add the avoided cost rate to the City's Electric Code.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to accept Ordinance 24-5 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 – Electric Department of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Sullivan, Illinois. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

13. Commissioner Woodworth stated that the City has an agreement with IDOT to deepen the sewer on 1200N and to the IDOT yard. A change was made to plans after a sand vein was discovered and started to flood the project out. In order to continue the sewer to the IDOT shed, an amendment has to be made to the original agreement stating that it won't be as deep and that a lift station will be installed. IDOT will pay up to \$221,000 for the lift station.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by

Commissioner Shook to approve the Amendment #1 to the Sanitary Sewer Construction Agreement with IDOT. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

14. A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to adjourn into closed session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

15. The meeting reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

16. Commissioner Kirk stated that there isn't currently any fuel in place at the Electric Plant if a storm were to occur tomorrow night due to the Fuel Tank Replacement Project. John England is willing to hold a load of diesel at his lot for the City. Commissioner Kirk received a call from FS stating that they have a contract with the City to haul fuel. He asked them to provide a load and park it at the plant and was told that it is against the law. The Council was in agreement that they needed to do whatever was best to prevent the electricity from going off. The Clerk was asked to provide a copy of the contract to Commissioner Kirk.

17. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Doug Shook	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.


Mayor Mike Mossman

Attest Carrie Creek
Carrie Creek, City Clerk