



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, July 24, 2023, at 6:05 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. A public hearing for Appropriation Ordinance 23-18 – An Ordinance making appropriations for the City of Sullivan, Moultrie County, Illinois for the fiscal year commencing May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024, was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Mayor Mossman presented the final reading of the Ordinance. The total appropriation was \$53,134,350.00, which is a decrease of seven percent from last year. Nancy Barker asked where the decrease was from. Mayor Mossman stated that it wasn't from one specific account, but that various departments had decreases. There were no comments from the Council. The public hearing was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

3. Brent Castle from Musco Lighting presented lighting options for the middle ball diamond at Wyman Park. Musco submitted a proposal to the City which includes six poles, precast concrete foundations, controls, monitoring, a twenty-five year warranty and the demo and removal of the current system. The controls will allow the City to manage the lighting system through an app. Musco will remotely monitor the system and will notify the warranty contact when repairs are needed. They will also monitor the City's hours of use. A contractor will install the poles and the City will install the underground electrical. A 50/30 lighting design was proposed for the infield, offering twenty-five grid points equaling an average of fifty foot candles. This lighting is increased for safety and playability. Eighty-eight grid points are proposed for the outfield, averaging thirty foot candles. Spill rings will be used to prevent candle spill and glare to nearby homes. An 8500 LED candela would be used, which is less intense than a low beam headlight. Musco Lighting works with a structural engineering firm to design all of their precast foundation bases. The bases include a grounding system that eliminates the need for an external grounding rod. These bases will be stamped for the State of Illinois, letting the contractor know the diameter needed to auger for the poles, how deep it should be and how much concrete is needed for the backfilled. The twenty five year warranty covers parts and labor. The most they would ask the City to do is to check a fuse in the control cabinet or in the remote driver enclosure.

Bob Ingram asked why there was a need for this system. Mayor Mossman explained that the system is old and about half of the lights are working. The estimated cost to replace the lighting system is approximately \$250,000. Nancy

Barker asked if there was an additional charge to maintain the warranty. Mr. Castle stated that there is no additional charge.

Commissioner Sherwood stated that both Kaleb Martin and Chris Parsons have come to her about the lights, as they are dangerous to work on. There is a possibility that the school wouldn't be able to host regionals due to the condition of the lighting system, potentially eliminating them by IHSA rules. She thanked Chris Parsons and Ed Moody for meeting with Mr. Castle on this project.

Precast bases could be onsite two to three weeks after the submission of an order. The poles and fixtures have an eight to twelve week lead time on manufacturing.

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

Nancy Barker asked if the lighting for the ball diamond had been included in the annual budget. Treasurer Bushue confirmed that the project is in the budget. Mayor Mossman stated that the project was included in the Appropriations Ordinance. The project is budgeted under the Electric Department. Mrs. Barker then asked if the cost of \$250,000 was only for one diamond. Commissioner Kirk confirmed that the price was to convert one ball diamond to new led lighting. The poles for the current lighting system are ninety foot tall and the City doesn't have a truck that is capable of maintaining those poles.

5. Mayor Mossman read the items in the consent agenda:

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 10, 2023
- Approval of claims
- Approval of the Treasurer's report for June 2023
- Approval of a Project Authorization with Milano & Grunloh for Preliminary Engineering for the Worth Street Extension
- Approval of Change Order #5 from Grunloh Building for the Water Treatment Plant Project for an increase of \$3,523.91

Commissioner Woodworth explained that the change order for the Water Treatment Plant project is to widen the steps for the fluoride saturator.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve the consent agenda. 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 by omnibus vote.

6. Commissioner Sherwood thanked the Sewer Department for their help with

the sprinkler system at the Park and the Street Department for removing a large limb. The Park Department has been cleaning flower beds and repainted the bathrooms by the skate park. She thanked Ed Moody for helping with the Park Rec program this year.

The Civic Center staff installed new deck bleachers and heaters in the locker rooms. They are seeking estimates to replace a sun deck door. The building was vandalized when someone threw a rock through the door and spray painted the back wall. She thanked the Park Department taking care of the cleanup. They would like to install security cameras on the deck and the back of the building to deter future vandalism. Atchison Electric came to verify the relays and to check the air handler after one phase of the pool circulating pumps failed after a power outage. Birthday parties on the sun deck have started and a new program will be implemented in August for children with sensory needs. The fees for use of the Civic Center gym are being reevaluated.

Treasurer Jill Bushue has been working on the budget. All of the office staff have been bogged down with the preparation of paperwork for the audit.

The last Council created a TIF committee made up of the Mayor, the Commissioner of Accounts and Finance, the Treasurer and the City's TIF Consultant. Commissioner Sherwood would like to continue the practice and asked if the Mayor would consider this. The committee reviewed new TIF applications, presented them to the Council and discussed other ways the City might be able to help.

More equipment is being delivered for the OSLAD project. Commissioner Sherwood attended a meeting with Laurrie Minor and Lee Beckman for Phase 2 of the OSLAD program, which will focus on the ball diamonds. She would like to complete many updates to the park over the next four years.

Wording is being finalized for the downtown ordinance. She would like to apply for a grant for the removal of Ash Trees; the grant opens on August first.

7. Commissioner Kirk reported that the Distribution Crew completed sixty-three JULIE locates in the last two weeks. He is interested in hiring a contractor to complete the JULIE locates for the three utility departments. A pre-bid meeting was held for the tank replacement project at the Power Plant, four contractors were in attendance. BHMG is handling the bid process. Power has been set up for the Habitat for Humanity Caravanners, which will be here until the middle of August. Three pieces of equipment from the Electric Department were sold at auction for \$95,000.00. They will need a new truck in three years. The rate study is being wrapped up and Commissioner Kirk should have something to present at the next meeting. The IMEA awarded lighting incentives to Ace Hardware and Jackson Family Dealerships. The Power Plant received a quote to have a Pielstick engine and two OP engines inspected. Tree trimming is being planned for fall. A quote of \$200.00 per hour was received, which includes two men, a truck and a chipper. Commissioner Kirk would also like to have BH Electric come back; they have reduced their price by \$140.00 per hour. They would be here for five to six months and will be completing jobs to get the department caught up. Regulations require the City to have an ARC flash study and an Electrical System Coordination Study completed every five to ten years. These will be completed by BHMG for a cost of \$62,000.00.

8. Commissioner Woodworth reported that the Distribution Crew repaired a few small leaks and installed a temporary septic tank at the lumber yard. The temporary tank will be removed once the sewer is installed on 1200N. IDOT has reached out to the City regarding some questions they have about the sewer project on 1200N. Lee Beckman is working on the easements for that project. The City Attorney has prepared an Ordinance requiring the installation of water shut-off valves in homes. This would only apply if plumbing changes or upgrades are completed on a home that doesn't currently have a shut off valve. This ordinance was created after numerous shut off requests were received over the winter. Progress is still being made on the Eastview Lift Station Project and the Main Street Water Main Project. Plumbers are installing ten foot sections of twelve inch cast iron pipe for the processing equipment at the new Water Treatment Plant. Once the piping is installed it will be color coded and painted. The concrete forms have been placed for the stairs in the chemical room; this is part of the \$3,000 change order passed in the consent agenda. Wires are still being pulled for the processing equipment and to connect the control panels. There have been delays on some items for the plant causing the startup date to be moved to the middle of August.

Commissioner Kirk asked which side of 1200N the sewer would be installed on. He was approached by a farmer asking if the City was going to pay crop damages and if there is an estimated start date. Commissioner Woodworth responded that the sewer will be installed on the north side and that a start date hasn't been confirmed. Bubba Farris has been working with the farmer on this matter. Commissioner Kirk said that the City paid crop damages when the sewer was put in for the Burdick Subdivision. The farmer believes that the corn will be gone if the project can hold off until sometime in September. Commissioner Woodworth is hopeful that the crops will be harvested prior to the project start date.

9. Commissioner Shook reported that concrete is currently being crushed at the Street Department. He would like to keep this year's regrinds to use for upcoming projects, as it could potentially save money on the purchase of rock. The wood mulching is scheduled to start in the middle of August. Street Foreman Ryan Nuding has talked with Eagle Creek and Wolf Creek and they may be able to use the mulch in the campground and for the horse trails. A sidewalk was replaced by the pavilion on the square; a railing may need to be added for the drop from the pavilion to the sidewalk. The Industrial Way project is almost finished. Commissioner Shook will be contacting the City Engineer regarding the layout for 1200N. He is concerned that the radius at the intersection may be too short and could cause an issue with semi traffic.

10. Mayor Mossman reported that the Gas Department performed the annual exercising of gas valves and discovered that three of the six inch valves won't turn. One valve will be replaced and the other two will be removed. This work has already been scheduled with a contractor, as the City can't work on six inch piping. The time capsule will be opened in August to see if its' contents are in good condition. If so, a celebration will be held. The Historical Society is gathering items to be placed in the vault to be reburied for another fifty years. It was announced on this evening's news that the State and Federal Governments are considering adding

Moultrie County as part of the grant for storm clean up. An ordinance is being discussed for the columbarium at the cemetery.

11. A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve Ordinance 23-18 – An Ordinance making appropriations for the City of Sullivan, Moultrie County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year commencing May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

12. Commissioner Shook suggested allowing all Council members to electronically participate in future meetings as needed in accordance with Illinois law, rather than this being specific to him. Commissioner Kirk believes that this is already allowed through the City's Ordinance. The City Clerk confirmed that this is in place and includes the approval of the Council. This was reviewed by the attorney and he believes that a Council member can participate electronically without a Council vote, but refusing to allow someone to participate electronically would take a Council vote. Commissioner Shook would like something in the minutes stating that the Council has agreed to this. Mayor Mossman then stated for the minutes that Council members can participate electronically due to being out of town for the specified reasons the state allows.

13. Mayor Mossman explained that the moratorium on liquor licenses expires tomorrow. The moratorium restricts the issuance of liquor licenses, but licenses can be approved by the Council on a case-by-case basis. Mayor Mossman stated that even though he is the Liquor Commissioner, he will not move on anything without the Council's approval. He then asked if the Council would like to extend the moratorium. Commissioner Shook is interested in moving forward with the moratorium until someone is interested in opening an eating establishment. Commissioner Sherwood believes that evaluating licenses on a case-by-case basis shows that the Council wants to look at each license and approve it together. Commissioner Kirk thinks that a moratorium may deter potential businesses from opening in the City. Commissioner Shook would like to move forward on a case-by-case basis. Mayor Mossman assured the Council that all liquor issues will be brought before them for discussion. Commissioner Woodworth was in agreement to remove the moratorium if licenses would be discussed on a case-by-case basis. Mayor Mossman believes that it is important that the Council is involved because this affects all of them. The Council will allow the moratorium to expire and will move forward by discussing liquor issues on a case-by-case basis.

14. Commissioner Shook is concerned with problems that cannabis sales may cause. Police Chief Andy Pistorius explained that the biggest issue with cannabis sales is public perception. The City can impose up to a three percent tax on cannabis sales; regulate the location of the facility and what type of business it can go into. Cannabis dispensaries wouldn't be allowed on the square and cannot be located near parks, daycares or schools. The sale of cannabis hasn't been a big issue for other towns. Mayor Mossman stated that if the City wants to allow retail cannabis establishments it should adopt a tax ordinance and a zoning regulation allowing special use permits for cannabis facilities. Illinois State Law imposes regulations on the products that are sold and the presence of security. Commissioner Kirk will look into the state regulations and how the tax revenue is being disbursed. Harristown is getting a new dispensary; there are also dispensaries in Springfield, Champaign, Effingham and Charleston. The dispensaries have increased the traffic through the communities, but haven't significantly increased the traffic through the Police Departments. Mayor Mossman would like to let the moratorium expire with the option to put it back in place at any time. Commissioner Kirk will research the issue and the Council can discuss his findings at a later meeting.

Commissioner Woodworth asked for input from the public in attendance. John Bell commented that the facilities are clean and have their own security, but that they do get a lot of traffic. Nancy Barker asked if it would be worth the added revenue.

Mayor Mossman asked that the item be tabled until more information is received. Commissioner Sherwood asked if the Council wanted to extend the moratorium until that information is received, as the moratorium expires tomorrow. If there is any interest in a dispensary this is an item that will be discussed by the Council as a whole.

15. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Shook to accept the rezoning for Pin # 08-08-11-400-049, 1088 CR 1200N, Sullivan from R-1 to B-1 for a dance studio. 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.

16. A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to deny the rezoning request from Mike & Donna Fowler for PIN# 08-08-02-119-008, 405 N. Camfield St., Sullivan from R-3 to B-1 for storage buildings. 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.

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

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

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



Mayor Mike Mossman

Attest 

Carrie Creek, City Clerk

