



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN, ILLINOIS,
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2024**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Thursday, July 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 W. 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. Eric Shangraw, Government Contracts Manager for GFL Environmental addressed the Council regarding a contract for trash service. GFL offers contracts that provide weekly trash pick-up, bi-weekly single stream curbside recycling, and town wide clean-up. They provide customers with two carts, one for garbage and one for recycling. If the City chooses to enter into a contract with GFL the price of the town wide clean-up and the trash service for all City locations would be incorporated into everyone's bill. GFL can bill each customer for their service, but will provide a discount if the City manages the billing.

GFL can prepare an RFP by adding up the services that they would be providing along with the cost of the annual clean-up. That cost would then be divided by the number of customers over a twelve month period.

In order to receive services, customers must to live within the City limits. Additional properties can be included in the contract if they are annexed. City utility customers outside the City limits could also receive services if their addresses are included in the contract. These services would only include residential customers not commercial. The contract lengths with GFL are between five to seven years, allowing them to write off the cost of the carts. Under contract, the City would be provided a direct line of contract with GFL in case any issues would arise.

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

Nancy Barker pointed out that there was \$18,000 included in the appropriations for Christmas lights and asked if that would include lighting around the square. Mayor Mossman explained that the line item was for Christmas lights in general, which would include the replacement of some of the older displays, bulbs and cords.

She then asked Commissioner Shook if everyone dumping brush had to be a resident and how this would be monitored. Commissioner Shook responded that the lot can be accessed by both residents and utility customers. The lot is not being manned, but stickers are being issued to contractors and the Street Department is monitoring the lot as they can.

Ms. Barker stated that she would like an explanation for the recent outage published in the newspaper. She added that a lot of people are wondering why the power was out for an extended period of time. Commissioner Kirk explained that the plant is computer generated and the system won't allow the engines to turn on if something is wrong. Contractors came to the plant to trouble shoot the issue and discovered that one of the circuits has somehow become overloaded. The Distribution Crew balanced the load and it is believed that this will correct the issue. Commissioner Kirk is hopeful that this will not happen again. Commissioner Woodworth added that when the power went out the Water Plant wasn't pumping water. The generator at the new plant started but wouldn't pull the load. Nadler Electric looked into the issue and discovered that the generator was trying to send power to the old plant. The issue was corrected and the plant resumed water production.

Mayor Mossman talked about all the activity at Wyman Park including the splash pad, basketball courts and pickleball courts. He thanked Commissioner Sherwood for her diligence to get the project moving forward, the City departments that worked on getting the project completed by the Fourth and the Sullivan American Legion for the work they put into the Fourth of July, the parade and the fireworks.

Nancy Barker asked what would happen if she wasn't satisfied with her garbage pick-up, as she would no longer have a choice. The Mayor is in hopes that the contract would allow the City to make things better for the residents. Commissioner Kirk added that he also has questions about the contract and how it will affect the subdivisions outside the City limits.

Gerry Wood thanked the Police Department for their involvement on the Fourth of July. He explained that seeing their presence throughout the community made him feel safe.

4. Mayor Mossman read the items in the consent agenda:
 - Approval of the minutes of the special meeting held June 6, 2024
 - Approval of the minutes of the special meeting held June 20, 2024
 - Approval of the minutes of the closed meeting held during the special meeting on June 20, 2024
 - Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held June 20, 2024
 - Approval of the minutes of the closed meeting held during the regular meeting on June 20, 2024
 - Approval of Pay Estimate #2 for \$139,815.00 to Building Systems of IL, Inc. for the OSLAD Phase 1 Project
 - Approval of Pay Estimate #2 for \$545,789.43 to Seneca Companies for the Fuel Tank Replacement Project at the Electric Plant

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve the consent agenda. Upon a roll call being taken the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried by omnibus vote.

5. Commissioner Sherwood reported that the splash pad, tennis courts, pickleball courts and basketball courts aren't completely finished but were able to be used for the Fourth of July. She thanked the Street, Sewer, Park and Electric Departments for their help on the project. She is very happy with the work completed by Building Systems of Illinois. Some items still need to be finished around the splash pad, concrete needs poured and lighting needs to be installed. She thanked the Sullivan FFA for coming out and helping clean up the park on July 5th. She also thanked the American Legion for the fireworks display and Stephanie Helmuth for organizing the last minute events.

The Civic Center was closed during the fourth, while the bathroom floors were redone. There is also some approval of work that needs to be completed for the heating system.

Treasurer Waggoner and Commissioner Sherwood have reviewed the budgets and are ready to move forward. She explained that the appropriations are the City's legal allowable limit to spend and that the budgeted amounts are less than the appropriations.

6. Commissioner Kirk reported that the Electric Distribution Crew completed sixty-six JULIE

locates in the past three weeks. The crew ran a couple thousand feet of wire and set transformers for the Cedar Dale Subdivision. The installation of the subdivision's electrical infrastructure should be done by the end of the week. He thanked the Distribution Crew for coming in to run the lines during the power outage. This allowed the Plant Crew to work on the getting the City back online.

7. Commissioner Woodworth reported that the sewer for the Cedar Dale subdivision has been completed as well as the water and sewer for the splash pad. The Main Street Water Main project has also been completed. Customers should have received a Cross Connection Control Survey with their utility bills. This is a requirement of the EPA and is done every three years. They also require the City to have a 65% return rate. If the rate isn't met the surveys have to be remailed. Lime is being hauled from the lime pit at the sewer plant.

8. Commissioner Shook reported that the Street Department spent a majority of the past two weeks completing work for the splash pad which included: hauling mulch and rock and laying out landscaping. The Street Department is working on some concrete repairs at Hydro-Gear today. Hydro-Gear drive, the road south of Hydro-Gear, is a public street.

9. Mayor Mossman reported that the Gas Department employees got certified on tapping two inch steel pipe. The ICC was onsite to oversee the training. The Cemetery employees were mulching around the pavilion and trying to clean it up today.

10. A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve the claims. 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 carried.

11. Ordinance 24-15 – An Ordinance Making Appropriations for the City of Sullivan, Moultrie County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025 was presented for the first reading. Mayor Mossman explained that the appropriations aren't the actual budget, but the amount that the City can spend if necessary. The total appropriations were \$42,544,583.00. The ordinance will not be passed until the next meeting and is available on the City website.

12. The Council received information regarding employee raises at a previous meeting. Commissioner Kirk asked if Commissioner Woodworth's union negotiations had been settled. Commissioner Woodworth confirmed that the negotiations are still ongoing. Commissioner Kirk would like to wait to make any decisions on raises until the negotiations have been settled. Mayor Mossman asked to table this item.

13. Well #8 at the Water Plant quit working and was inspected by the Electric Department. They found four shorts in the wiring running from the control building to the well. Commissioner Woodworth requested a bid from Nadler Electric to bore in four inch conduit to well #8 with drops to each well that it runs past. He believes this will be helpful in the future if other wiring need to be replaced. The cost of the project is \$66,403.17, which includes materials, labor and boring. Commissioner Woodworth authorized Nadler Electric to move forward with the repairs,

which are expected to take two days. This expense qualifies for the use of the left over funding from Rural Development.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to waive bidding and approve services with Nadler Electric Contracting Inc. to refeed well #8 at the water plant for a cost of \$66,403.17. 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 carried.

14. Linda Huber has shown interest in bidding the City's entire insurance package. The Mayor would like to know how the Council would prefer to handle this. The City's current policies are being provided by both Loman-Ray and Wood Insurance. Commissioner Shook thought that the insurance should be spread out to both agencies. Danielle Finn from Loman-Ray explained that the market is turbulent at this time and the City should do their due diligence to see what is available. She added that some companies are specializing in certain areas, allowing them to underwrite differently. Gerry Wood stated that some of the insurance companies that are specializing in specific areas have cut out some of the specialized services that the City needs. If the City decides that they no longer wanted coverage with Cincinnati they wouldn't be able to get that coverage back.

Commissioner Kirk asked if the intention was to issue an RFP. Commissioner Woodworth added that issuing an RFP would be better than waiting until the last minute. Mr. Wood believes that this is the last minute due to the complexity of the coverage needed by the City. Carriers won't want to provide a quote until thirty days within the specified time frame, but will likely provide a thirty day guarantee. Commissioner Sherwood explained that Loman-Ray provides the Health, Dental and Life Insurance for the City, while Wood Insurance provides the liability insurance. She believes that it is fair to the community that both agencies continue managing the City's policies. Commissioner Woodworth would prefer to keep the insurance the way it is currently. Mayor Mossman agreed that he likes having both insurance companies involved as well. He is aware that it would take a long time to prepare an RFP and doesn't believe that there is enough time to allow for this. He will talk with both carriers and get the issue straightened out. The Mayor asked to table this item.

15. Commissioner Shook explained that the splash pad and the ADA parking areas were originally going to be oil and chip. After some discussion it was decided that it would make more sense to use concrete. Lane Services started on the concrete forms the day after the decision was made. One of the factors was overlooked when determining the estimated cost, which resulted in an additional expense of \$10,000. This expense will be used as part of the City's fifty percent contribution to the project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to waive bidding and approve the completion of the splash pad parking lot with Lane Services for \$28,750.00. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

Mayor Mike Mossman

- yea

and the motion carried.

16. The RISE Grant is for the extension of Worth Street to 1200N, which is located in TIF IV. The estimated cost of the project is \$2.66 million but grant funding could provide \$2 million. In order for the City to receive the grant, they have to commit to paying the remaining balance for the project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve Resolution 24-TT – A Resolution of Support and Commitment of Local Funds for the RISE Grant for the Worth Street Extension. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion carried.

17. The pumps at the Sewer Plant quit working and C & C Pumps started pumping water to the lagoon. There is currently a lag time on pumps, so Commissioner Woodworth asked them to get replacements as soon as possible. The pumps will be purchased using the General Maintenance Fund for the Sewer Plant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to waive bidding and approve the installation and purchase of wastewater pumps from C & C Pumps and Supply for \$58,621.13. 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 carried.

18. Treasurer Waggoner provided a document showing the Electric Department's revenues and expenses for the past ten years, with the last five years showing a loss. Part of the increase in the cost of materials is due to COVID. A rate study was ordered by the previous Commissioner and was finished after Commissioner Kirk took office. Last year's rate increase was the rate suggested by the study. The study outlined what expenses should be applied to the base charge which included: the operation of the meter, the maintenance and replacement cost of the meter, the installation cost of the meter readers, the billing cost, the customer service department, service into the customer's homes and a portion of the distribution system based on a minimum system and the transportation charges. The transportation charges, which have increased over the past few years, are imposed by Ameren for the use of their lines. Last year the meter charge was raised to \$11.80. The study suggests that the City increase this year's rate to \$14.60 as well as a 4.7% increase in the kilowatt charge. Commissioner Shook asked if the increase would be enough or if it should be more. Commissioner Kirk would like to stay at the 4.7% increase to stay competitive. Commissioner Woodworth added that part of the increase in expenses was due to using contractors. Commissioner Kirk would like to refrain

from using them this year, if at all possible. Commissioner Sherwood believes that the expenses may level out once some of the City's development is completed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve Ordinance 24-16 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 Article III – Electric Rates 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 Doug Shook	- yea
Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- yea
Mayor Mike Mossman	- yea

and the motion carried.

19. Commissioner Kirk asked if the information received in April from the City Attorney was correct on what the City can and can't do regarding the Peterson bankruptcy. Mayor Mossman said the only thing the City is allowed to do is to secure a large deposit on the accounts. The deposits have not yet been secured. Commissioner Kirk would like to keep track of the accounts and follow up on them to make sure they don't become unmanageable.

20. Mayor Mossman called a recess from 7:34 p.m. until 7:36 p.m.

21. Commissioner Shook believes that the Sullivan Chamber and Economic Development organization has been essential to the development that has occurred within the last year. Laurrie Minor and Lee Beckman are working together on a two million dollar project for the Worth Street Extension and on the North Point Homes project. Commissioner Shook would like to increase the Chamber's annual funding to \$140,000 for a three or four year contract. He believes that the City will get that money back in the dividends that are paid out over the years in property taxes. He added that the Director received a large job offer and declined in order to stay in Sullivan. He encouraged the Council to consider his suggestion. Commissioner Woodworth suggested that the City offer a grant administration fee which would provide a percentage of all the grants that the SCED helps secure. Commissioner Sherwood feels that the Director is doing more than writing grants. She meets with the Foremen and is in constant contact with them on what needs to be done. Commissioner Kirk would like to see the Chamber's profit and loss sheets. He added that the Council is supposed to receive an annual report, which isn't being provided. Commissioner Shook thought that the Chamber would be willing to go over that with Commissioner Kirk if he went and talked with them. Commissioner Woodworth thought that the Chamber was supposed to be coming to the Council meetings and giving updates, which hasn't occurred in quite some time.

22. A customer came into the office last week and was unhappy with how their solar is working. Solar customers are paid for the solar generation that they push back onto the system. Commissioner Kirk doesn't believe it makes sense for the City to pay solar customers more than what is being paid to the IMEA for power. In January, the City requested that the IMEA perform a review of the fair solar credit. This number is figured by reviewing the value of energy, the value of the capacity savings for the City, the value of the transmission saving to the City and the value of the avoided distribution system losses to the City.

23. A motion was made by Mayor Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to adjourn into closed session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel

for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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


and the motion carried.

24. The meeting was reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

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

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

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.



Mayor Mike Mossman

Attest 

Carrie Creek, City Clerk

