



## REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN, ILLINOIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Thursday, June 6, 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	- absent
Commissioner Doug Shook	- present
Mayor Mike Mossman	- present

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

Nancy Barker thanked Commissioner Shook for the work being done in the Eastview Subdivision. He responded that the area will get messier in a few weeks when the roads in the subdivision are tilled. Ms. Barker asked if any of the sidewalks along Jackson Street had been looked at. Commissioner Shook has increased this year's sidewalk budget and will use these funds to replace the sidewalks that are in poor condition. Mayor Mossman added that the areas that get the most attention are those that pose trip hazards.

3. Commissioner Woodworth joined the meeting via phone at 6:04 p.m.

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

- Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held May 2, 2024
- Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held May 16, 2024
- Approval of the Acceptance of Proposal to Furnish Materials and Approval of Award to Earl Walker Company for the 2024 Oil & Chip Program
- Approval of Banking Resolution 24-QQ –Opening an account with First Mid Bank & Trust for Phase II of the OSLAD Grant
- Approval of a Design Engineering Agreement with Milano & Grunloh Engineers for the Safe Routes to School Project
- Approval of a Construction Engineering Agreement with Milano & Grunloh Engineers for the Safe Routes to School Project

Commissioner Sherwood asked if the parking lot for OSLAD Phase 1 was included in the oil and chip program. This was included, but Commissioner Shook would like to explore some alternative options for the handicapped parking. He suggested that concrete might be a better option.

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 fence around the tennis courts will be put up next week. The contractors are still pushing for the opening of the splash pad on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The Sewer Distribution will be running the water and sewer for the project next week. The parking lots and the lighting should be completed next month. The Park Department installed new drinking fountains, graded Tabor trails, started trimming trees, have been mowing and mulching the flower beds. There have still been sightings of the eagle by the lake. Park Rec is being held at the Boy Scout cabin. The school has been allowing them to use some of the playground equipment and lunch is provided at the school.

Jason Drury would like to do some research on the Civic Center roof. An 80/20 grant is still being explored for the replacement of the facility's air handler.

Budget drafts were sent out by Treasurer Waggoner, Council members should let her know if adjustments need to be made. Commissioner Sherwood is hopeful to have the process finalized within the next two weeks. HR Director Swisher worked with IMRF on an audit over the past few months. No findings resulted from the audit, which was last done in 2009. The representative from the state was impressed with how everything is being documented and handled on the City's end. Mike Kloack from Meeder Investments will present to the Council at a meeting in September.

The City is averaging \$40,000 a month in interest from the Titus proceeds, which will be used to make the payments on the Water Treatment Plant. The only money spent out of the Titus proceeds is the \$200,000 that was donated to the Historical Society.

6. Commissioner Kirk introduced Jonathon Edwards, a mechanic from the light plant and asked him to speak to the Council about the City's Colt-Pielstick Engine. Mr. Edwards stated that the engine was last overhauled in 1989 with 61,000 hours on it, which broke all kinds of records. The engine ran non-stop from the time it was put into service in 1973 until the overhaul was completed in 1989. Two years ago the crew at the plant noticed inconsistencies in the engine's temperatures and pressures. The engine currently has 81,000 hours and is 11,000 hours past an overhaul. Some of the injectors were changed and a mechanic from Fairbanks-Morse came to inspect the unit. The wear and tear from running the engine has resulted in the liners being mirrored as the hash marks that hold the oil are now gone, some of the bearings are out of alignment, the fuel rack is off a bit and there is cam lobe wear. All of these things are consistent with the need for an overhaul. Fairbanks quoted the overhaul at \$500,445.00. During the overhaul, the engine will be taken out of service for roughly two months so the liners and heads can be pulled and sent to Houston. The liners would then be honed and relapped. The cost to ship the parts to Houston is not included in the quote. A quote of \$15,000 was received from Marvin Keller Trucking to haul the parts to Houston and back both times. The overhaul should be done during the winter, as this is the City's off peak season. It is likely that this will be a few years out due to Fairbanks Morse being booked out for the next year and a half.

Commissioner Kirk wanted to make sure that everyone was aware of the issue and that this project will require TIF funding or bonding. Commissioner Shook agreed that an overhaul was a more economical option. Mayor Mossman suggested getting on a list now to prevent a longer wait time. He believes this is very important to the City and that it needs to be done. Commissioner Woodworth agreed that the City should move forward and keep providing power. Commissioner Kirk plans to present something at the next meeting for the Council's approval.

The Electric Plant has been working on getting the overhaul and a CAT engine include in their budget. They feel that these two items are very important due to the increased need for electricity resulting from the City's growth.

7. Commissioner Woodworth explained that he is in Grand Rapids, Michigan for a work conference.

The contractor for the water main project should be back this week to do some dirt work and additional clean up. All of the houses along Main St. are now connected to the new main. The Operating Permit has been received and the samples were collected and came back good. The crew will return in the fall to do some seeding, laying of straw and to fill in any sink holes prior to seeding.

Upgrades and repairs are still being made at the Sewer Plant as requested by the EPA. They are still waiting on a couple of the pumps that were sent off to be rebuilt. There are still a few items on the to-do list to be completed at the Water Plant.

Commissioner Woodworth and HR Director Swisher met with the City's Labor Attorney Jill Leka and a union representative. They talked with the attorney representing the employees about those that didn't want to be in the union and the fact that some of the employees didn't know about the vote to join. Commissioner Woodworth was given permission to take a roll call vote of the employees on whether or not they wanted to be in the union. A majority of the gas, street and water and sewer departments do not want any representation. All of the Water Plant employees and one employee in the Gas Department did want representations and one employee from the Water and Sewer Department wasn't sure. Ms. Leka would like to speak with the Council in closed session at the next meeting.

8. Commissioner Shook reported that the Street Department completed storm clean up, hauled rock for the OSLAD project, and did a lot of mowing and equipment maintenance. The drainage at Eastview was finished and curb inlets were installed. In June, that area will be tilled and two coats of oil and chip will be added.

Commissioner Shook was notified that the City received a \$650,000 grant for storm sewer improvements on Parkway Drive. A line will be ran from Parkway Drive down Hamilton Street and onto Strain Street. From there, the water will be discharged into Asa Creek. The project will be completed in 2025. The only expense to the City will be the project engineering.

The City received the MFT Compliance Review from IDOT for 2022 and 2023.

9. Mayor Mossman thanked Gerry and Gordie Wood for their \$1,000 donation for the replacement of flags. The flags were Gerry's Eagle Scout project in 1985. The fund is open if anyone else would like to make a donation.

The grant that Commissioner Shook mentioned was announced at 2:45 this afternoon; this is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that grant. The Clerk and the Treasurer will attend a meeting as the Financial Officer and the Grant Administrator.

The Mayor and Commissioner Kirk have been negotiating the union contract for the Police Department and will present the information to the Council prior to its passage. There are a few items that are still being discussed but very few terms have changed.

This year, it was decided that one wreath would be placed at the front of the cemetery to honor everyone. This eliminated two or three additional wreaths. The American Legion also places a wreath at the cemetery. He added that if anyone has any questions about the wreaths they can call him to address their concerns.

10. A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to pay the claims. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion carried.

11. Mike Keown from the Sullivan American Legion presented on their 2024 fundraiser for fireworks. This year's show will cost \$21,000; the down payment of \$10,500 was paid in February. The money donated by the City is always used as the down payment for the next year's show. This year there will be a new carnival from Gratis, Ohio. The legion is hoping that they will offer a better show with an increased amount of nicer equipment. Funds that are donated by the community go strictly to the firework fund. There are some extra costs that the Legion incurs such as \$1,200 for potty houses and \$600 for dumpsters for the carnival. It take the involvement of a lot of people for the Fourth of July festivities including the fireworks show that is always held on the fourth of July.

Commissioner Shook thought that the City should provide the same amount of funding that they did in 2023 (\$11,000). Commissioner Sherwood asked Mr. Keown if he expected an increase in costs. Mr. Keown stated that the Legion needed to raise \$11,000 to break even. If they aren't able to raise that much he intends to revisit the funding with the Council again in August. Nancy Barker asked if there was a fund that people could make contributions towards. Mayor Mossman responded that anyone can donate money towards the fireworks. Commissioner Kirk explained that the Electric Department has a line item for materials that are sold for scrap, which currently has a balance of \$4,000 for the year, \$6,200 for the fiscal year. In the past the money accrued in this account has been contributed to the American Legion for the fireworks.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to fund the fireworks at the same level as last year, at \$11,000. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion carried.

12. Commissioner Sherwood suggested that the funding for the Fire Department be paid from the City's income tax that is transferred into Gen Corp. Last year the income tax for the fiscal year was \$722,000 and the City only spent \$490,000. Mayor Mossman confirmed that the attorney had reviewed the document and that the first payment is due on October 10<sup>th</sup> of this year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sullivan Fire Protection District for the payment of \$40,000 per year over a ten year time period for the purchase of a new fire truck. 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.

13. Commissioner Shook explained that Bruder Tank has a Hamilton Street address, the proposed Ordinance 24-12 would officially name the roadway "Industrial Way"

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to approve Ordinance 24-12 – An Ordinance Naming Industrial Way. 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.

14. Mayor Mossman stated that the City's TIF Consultant has provided them with two options for an agreement with Booker Realty LLC, 75/25 and 80/20. He believed that most agreements have been 80/20, allowing the developer time to get their money back. Commissioner Kirk questioned why the totals for both the 75% and 80% were the same. It was believed that this was a typo. Commissioner Sherwood confirmed that most of the agreements have been 80/20 with a few of them being 75/25.

Commissioner Kirk believed that when he was on the Council previously they offered larger percentages on older TIF districts due to there being less time left in the TIF district. This helped developers recoup their costs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve a TIF Agreement for 80/20 with Booker Realty LLC. 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.

15. Commissioner Woodworth explained that there is \$273,100 left from the Rural Development loan fund after the completion of the Water Treatment plant. The City can do one of two things with the remaining funds: give the money back to Rural Development or designate the remaining funds for the purchase of items to improve the operation of the new plant. The City is currently earning more interest on invested funds than it would pay in interest on the remaining \$273,100. The items Commissioner Woodworth would like to purchase for the plant includes operational controls for the claricones, 2 Miox feed pumps, brass valves, PVC fitting o-rings, carbon dioxide, lime, ammonia, chlorine, a Nexgrid water module, surveillance cameras, concrete for the drive, lime removal, five fire hydrants, a clearwell vented through the roof and 25 new meters.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to designate \$273,100 from the Rural Development loan money to be applied to special projects at the water plant in the near future. 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.

16. At the last meeting, it was asked that the Intergovernmental Agreement with the School District be sent to the City Attorney for review. A few small changes were made and the School District was in agreement with those changes. Commissioner Kirk thinks that this is a great program and is glad that the City can do this, but thinks the City is on the losing side of the agreement due to the cost of insurance, wages, and vehicles. Mayor Mossman explained that the agreement was not to made to make the City whole.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to accept the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sullivan Community District No. 300 for a School Resource Officer for school years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026. 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.

17. Commissioner Shook stated that Unwind Rewind acquired a special use permit last year for a fundraiser they held. A portion of the west side of the square was blocked off for a food and beverage area and the band was restricted from playing after 10:00 p.m. Unwind Rewind has requested another special use permit to host a second event. Commissioner Kirk asked if insurance would be provided for the event. The City Clerk confirmed that the insurance had already been received.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve a Special Use Permit for Junie B LLC for a class reunion being held on July 6, 2024 at Unwind Rewind. 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 carried.

18. Mayor Mossman called a brief recess at 7:07 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:09 p.m.

19. Mayor Mossman confirmed that the raises for full time employees was only for discussion. He asked the council to think about what they would like to do with raises prior to having it on the agenda for a vote. HR Director Swisher prepared documentation for the Council proposing raises of fifty cents, seventy-five cents and one dollar along with percentage increases of 2.25%, 2.5% and 2.75%. The information excluded any union or negotiating union employees. In May, the members of the IBEW in the Electric Distribution received a 2.5% raise. Those raises were between \$1.07 and \$1.26 per hour. The previous Council was against percentages due to the fact that employees making a higher pay rate receive a larger raise. They felt that this wasn't fair to all employees. The information shows the total increase to each department as well as a City-wide increase. Commissioner Shook stated that the inflation over the past year has been 3.05%. Commissioner Kirk would like to wait to make a decision on raises until after the union negotiations have been settled. When the Council does make a decision on raises, they would be retroactive to May 1, 2024. Commissioner Sherwood thought that the overtime for the employees might also influence the decision on raises. Mayor Mossman encouraged the Council to talk with HR Director Swisher or Treasurer Waggoner for any additional information they may need. Treasurer Waggoner confirmed that she had included overtime in the budget. Commissioner

Woodworth would rather implement a flat amount raise than a percentage due to the fact that higher paid employees receive larger raises.

Commissioner Kirk has previously talked with a City Manager that gave a \$1.00 an hour raise split between two dates. Employees were given a fifty cent raise at the normal time and got the remaining fifty cents at Christmas. This was done to help the employees with the withholdings. He agreed with Commissioner Woodworth and doesn't know how to make the raises fair for everyone.

20. A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to adjourn into closed session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)). 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.

21. The meeting was reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

22. A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Shook to adjourn the meeting. 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 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

  
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Mayor Mike Mossman

Attest   
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Carrie Creek, City Clerk