



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, October 9, 2023, 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. Lee Beckman from Milano & Grunloh gave an update on the status of grants and City projects.
- Mr. Beckman is hopeful that the agreement for the DCEO Grant for the Main Street project will be received soon. The project will be bid once the agreement is received.
 - A grant for storm sewer improvements south of the school is being explored. Once the project area is determined, IRWA will video the inside of the sewer to identify any drainage issues. DCEO Grant applications are due January 18, 2024 for a project maximum of \$1.5 million.
 - The engineering agreement and joint agreement for the ITEP grant were submitted to IDOT. The earliest the project could be bid out will be late next year.
 - The Water Plant is now online and has been in operation for 20-30 days. A majority of the project has been completed. There is a one year warranty on all plant parts and components.
 - Industrial Way has been completed and the striping will be done within the next few weeks. Once the final pay estimate has been settled, the City will need to determine the amount of funds remaining from the State Legislative Grant.
 - The Rebuild Illinois projects should now be finalized. Any remaining funds can be used for the 1200N road improvements. Those funds must be committed by 2024, expended by 2025 and must be used on a bondable project.
 - The NOFO for the Unsewered Grant should be released this fall and could fund 100% of the project construction.
 - The bid opening for Phase I of the Safe Routes to School grant is scheduled for November 17th and will take place in Springfield. The application for Phase II was submitted on October 2nd, awards are expected in the first quarter of 2024.
 - The panels for the Eastview Lift Station will not be delivered until the first of December.
 - The grant application for OSLAD Grant (Phase II) was submitted and awards are expected the first quarter of 2024.

- EDP funding of \$300,000 has been secured for the 1200N Road Improvements. The NOFO for TARP applications should be released soon, with a due date of October or November. The City could possibly receive \$30,550 in funding from the TARP grant. After TARP and EDP funds have been applied, there will be \$173,774 needed for the project. The City could use remaining State Legislative Funds or Rebuild Illinois funds for this project.
- Easements for the sewer on 1200N have been secured and the plans for the sewer to the IDOT yard have been completed. The project portion on Route 32 can be bid out once those easements have been secured.
- A TARP grant could be explored for the Worth Street Extension if a qualifying business opened and created jobs in that location.

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

Brian Gill addressed the Council to request a contribution to the Sullivan-Okaw Valley JFL. Mayor Mossman stated that the council would take it under consideration.

Nancy Barker thanked Commissioner Shook for addressing the drainage issue in Eastview Subdivision. She was also appreciative of what the City has done to keep the brush fire contained. Mayor Mossman stated that Eastview has had a drainage problem for years and the City continues to try new ways to alleviate the issue.

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

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held September 25, 2023
- Approval of claims
- Approval of Pay Estimate #15 for \$56,354.21 to Grunloh Building, Inc. for the Water Treatment 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 City is moving forward with Phase I of the OSLAD project. A demo date is anticipated for late fall/early winter with construction in the spring of 2024. The OSLAD application for Phase II was submitted and awards should be announced on December 15th.

The Park Department has been removing a lot of dead trees and grinding stumps. They will be replacing the trees with trees from the City's nursery this fall.

New opportunities for Civic Center members are being offered and include: dance class, a swimming program for special needs children, swim lessons, pickleball and basketball. The items that were sitting on the roof of the facility have been removed. Commissioner Sherwood believes that the City will need to address the roof issue within the next few years because the liner flops around when it is windy. Over the years many roof options have been explored, including the possibility of a metal roof. Mayor Mossman added that the last company that worked on the roof went out of business, but came back and put screws and washers in the liner to hold it down.

The City Building staff has been finalizing information for the audit. Commissioner Sherwood and Treasurer Bushue have discussed concerns about budget items. Ms. Bushue will be reaching out to each Commissioner to address these concerns. A year-to-date budget should be presented within the next few weeks, which will show where each department currently stands for the budget year.

Commissioner Sherwood congratulated Chris Wright on being named as the new Fire Chief. She spoke with the previous Fire Chief about the department's need for a new fire truck. The price of these trucks has skyrocketed and is more than the department can budget or plan for. She suggested that the Council consider what the City can do to help with the expense.

6. Commissioner Kirk reported that the company completing the Fuel Tank Replacement Project anticipates the delivery of materials to take fifteen weeks. A May 1st start date is anticipated for the project that will take eight weeks to complete. The Electric Department currently has two additional companies helping them: the tree trimming company and the electrical contractor. These companies are being used because the City doesn't have enough manpower or the right classifications to complete everything that needs to be done. The electrical contractor has set new poles, installed a 3 phase transformer and a single phase transformer near the park, worked on a project at the Sewer Plant, replaced a transclosure at the Eastview nursing home and set primary and 3 phase with a 3 phase riser on a corner of Graham Street. The Distribution Crew and the BH Electric crew worked on Sunday to complete work on a transformer in front of Hydro-Gear. The department completed fifty-six JULIE located in the last 2 weeks.

7. Commissioner Woodworth reported that the equipment has been moved in for the sewer project on 1200N and should start soon. He will be meeting with property owners regarding easements for the Route 32 sewer extension. The project will be bid out once the easements have been executed.

Commissioner Woodworth stated that a land owner affected by the Eastview Lift Station had questions about the project. He visited the home on two occasions and no one answered the door.

An open house will be held on November 15th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the new Water Plant. Commissioner Woodworth would also like to have a ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m. before the open house starts. It was suggested that the event be held during the week, so the contractors could be in attendance. Commissioner Woodworth is willing to give private tours to anyone that is unable to attend. He would like everyone to see the plant and added that everyone has done a great job on this project.

8. Commissioner Shook reported that someone set a fire at the brush pile two weeks ago. The fire then spread to a mulch pile and has been smoldering for two weeks. The fire cannot be extinguished by water because the combination of wood ash and water creates a high alkalinity level, which is toxic for the waterways near the site. The Street Department tried to pull the pile apart but was unable to reach the top of the pile with a backhoe. An excavator was brought in and used to take the pile apart. The middle of the pile wasn't burnt, which confirmed that it did not spontaneously combust. Approximately 80% of the pile was able to be salvaged and the fire was completely extinguished by 2:30 p.m. this afternoon. Commissioner Shook thanked the Sewer Department for using their jetter truck to dampen the mulch to keep it from catching on fire and helping to push the mulch aside. Steps are being taken to improve the security at the site.

A storm sewer line is being run along the north side of Kennedy Drive to alleviate the runoff from the farm ground north of the subdivision. Next year Commissioner Shook plans to remove the swales in the road and to have the streets in the subdivision tilled and regraded. He will continue to explore ideas to fix the main drainage issue.

On Monday, the culvert on 1200N leading to Bradford Hills will be replaced. The culvert was originally going to be concrete, but after some research, Street Foreman Ryan Nuding found a better option at a reduced price. This option will allow a portion of the roadway to remain open because the project can be completed in two phases.

Commissioner Shook and Commissioner Woodworth are working together on a project on Hamilton Street from the railroad tracks to Maddox Street. A 6x6 square will be cut in the concrete around the manholes. A concrete collar will be poured to support the structure and create a smoother roadway. They would like to get this done before IDOT mills and overlays the highway next year.

The Street Department trained on the new CAT loader that was delivered a few weeks ago.

9. Mayor Mossman reminded the Council that a meeting would be held with Gwen Crawford in the small conference room at the Library on October 27th at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to get everyone up to date on TIF IV and to have any necessary questions answered. After this meeting, Mayor Mossman would like the Council and the taxing bodies to meet and discuss the proposed TIF IV amendment, which will add and remove properties from the district. Mayor Mossman asked the Council to review the proposed map and to have questions ready for the meeting with Ms. Crawford.

Mayor Mossman read a letter from the Moultrie County Beacon thanking the City for its' economic contribution to the agency's cardboard recycling program.

10. Mayor Mossman stated that the City Attorney has made the necessary revisions to Ordinance 23-34 since it's' review at the last meeting. Commissioner Kirk asked if the Police knew what the ordinance required of them. Mayor Mossman confirmed that they are aware and will check with shelters in the area to see if they have vacancies for these individuals.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve the Ordinance relating to the prohibited uses of public parks in the City. 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.

11. Commissioner Woodworth explained that the Sewer Department recently bought a UTV and no longer has a need for their Cushman. He would like to dispose of the piece of equipment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Shook to approve Ordinance 23-35 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Personal Property Owned by the City of Sullivan. 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.

12. Mayor Mossman stated that no bids were received for the 300kVA 3-Phase Padmount Transformer. Commissioner Kirk confirmed this and explained that this would be a replacement transformer for Kite Woodworking. Commissioner Kirk would like to leave this open for bids.

13. Commissioner Shook explained that the Hot Box delivered by CMW Equipment was sent back because it didn't have the overnight heat option the City requested. This option will cost an additional \$2,500. Commissioner Shook would like to move forward with the purchase of a Hot Box with this option.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to waive bidding and approve the purchase of a 4 Ton Falcon Hot Box from CMW Equipment for \$39,723.00. 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.

14. Mayor Mossman explained that someone addressed the Council at the last meeting requesting that the City allow chickens. He then asked for the Council's input.

Commissioner Woodworth stated that the previous Council had discussed this and an ordinance copying the City of Champaign's Ordinance was prepared. The ordinance restricted roosters and allowed six to nine hens. Commissioner Woodworth added that he would be in favor of making changes to the current ordinance. Commissioner Shook would like to get input from the community before making a decision, but agreed that limitations should be imposed. Commissioner Kirk grew up around chickens and is not in favor of making a change. Mayor Mossman would like to get some additional information before moving forward.

A member of the public spoke about his previous experience in owning chickens. He stated that he was able to provide eggs to his household and three other families. He added that smell could be an issue but is something that could be addressed in the ordinance by stating that "they must be kept in a clean condition". He explained that chickens are good composters and reduce waste by eating scraps.

Mayor Mossman stated that the Council would take this under consideration.

15. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Shook to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Seneca for the fuel systems upgrades at the Electric Plant. 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. Mayor Mossman informed the Council that Gregg Foster has applied for a Special Use Permit for an event at the 1225 Building. Commissioner Shook added that a local business has asked Mr. Foster to serve alcohol for a holiday party.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to approve a Special Use Permit for Gregg Foster doing business as The Toy Bar at the 1225 Building. 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 was declared carried.

17. HR Director Nakayla Swisher presented the retiree Health Alliance Prescription Drug Plan & Amwins Medicare Supplement Plan F renewals for 2024. The increase for 2023 was 11% for an annual cost of \$113,340. The increase for 2024 is 8% and will cost \$122,484. The dependent portion doesn't need to be voted

on at this time and can be discussed when the regular health plan renewal is presented. She was informed by Loman-Ray that rates are coming in at 7.5 to 8.1%, so the 8% quoted to the City is a good renewal rate. The retirees, which were all hired on or before July 25, 1988 and had 15 years of service, were grandfathered in with this plan. There are currently 15 retirees and 10 spouses covered by this policy.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve the retiree Health Alliance Prescription Drug Plan & Amwins Medicare Supplement Plan F renewals for 2024 and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement. 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.

18. A motion was made by Commissioner Shook and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to adjourn the meeting. 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 was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



Mayor Mike Mossman

Attest Carrie Creek
Carrie Creek, City Clerk