



REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN, ILLINOIS, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, September 11, 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	- absent
Mayor Mike Mossman	- present

2. Rex Gower gave an update on the status of grants and City projects.
- The NOSA for the DCEO water grant has been received. The plans have been completed and reviewed by the city. Construction can begin once the grant agreement is executed.
 - The City was awarded \$1,923,687.00 (90/10 split) from the ITEP grant. The paperwork is at IDOT. Commissioner Kirk would like to submit an ITEP application in the spring for repairs to some of the red concrete sidewalks.
 - The Water Plant will be turned on and should be producing water tomorrow. The plant will be up and running once the temporary equipment is moved and replaced with the equipment from the old plant.
 - The Bernius project has been completed. Finals costs will need to be determined to request the remaining funds from IDOT. The remaining funds from the State Legislative Grant also need to be determined.
 - The City's Rebuild Illinois funds were used to complete the VanBuren St. Overlay and alley improvements from Main St. to Madison Street. The total cost of those projects is \$192,419.22. Post construction paperwork is being completed.
 - A bid opening of November 17th is scheduled for the Safe Routes to School Grant. The plans have been sent to IDOT. The next round of applications is due October 2nd.
 - A change order has been provided for the relocation of the control panels for the Eastview Lift Station. The project will start once all the materials have been delivered.
 - The application for the OSLAD grant has been submitted. The City is eligible to receive up to fifty percent for the project.
 - IDOT has agreed to contribute \$200,000 to deepen the sewer to the lumber yard and \$300,000 to run the sewer to the IDOT yard. This project is planned to start in October. Commissioner Woodworth will notify Milano & Grunloh when he would like to advertise the sewer to IDOT.

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

Nancy Barker asked for an explanation of the claim for the Civic Systems Symposium. Treasurer Bushue explained that the office staff will be going to a training on the City's accounting software.

Bob Ingram asked about Commissioner Shook's travel reimbursement and how he could accumulate so many miles within the city. Mayor Mossman stated that Commissioner Shook has traveled to Effingham to talk to the engineers and uses his vehicle to visit job sites and when driving around town to look at things.

Roger Tice thanked the Council for passing the zoning ordinance. He believes that the first version created barriers that were economically punishing to the property owners and the second version removed some of those barriers. He said that with the ordinance passed the property owners will now have to jump through loop holes.

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

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held August 28, 2023
- Approval of claims
- Approval of travel reimbursement for Commissioner Shook
- Approval of Pay Estimate #14 for \$120,943.36 to Grunloh Building, Inc. for the Water Treatment Plant Project
- Approval of Change Order #6 from Grunloh Building, Inc. for the Water Treatment Plant Project for an increase of \$7,929.35
- Approval of Change Order #1 from Wiggs Excavating, Inc. for the Eastview Lift Station Project for an increase of \$13,120.00

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

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.

5. Commissioner Sherwood reported that a tree in the park was making noise and created a lot of concern to park patrons. The tree was cut down by the Park, Street and Electric Departments.

A bidders meeting was held on Friday for the OSLAD Phase I project, which includes the splash pad and the sports courts. Bids for the project are due on September 18th at 2:00 p.m. An OSLAD grant application was submitted last week for the second phase of improvements to Wyman Park. This was completed by Laurie Minor with the help of Lee Beckman. Commissioner Sherwood thanked Ms. Minor for her work on the application.

The contract for the ball diamond lights is ready to be sent out. Musco Lighting is optimistic that the lights can be installed within the next couple months. The Park Department is getting ready to host regionals for middle school baseball and cross country.

The Civic Center has been hosting a lot of parties, having group swim lessons, private swim lessons and water aerobics. They also hosted a big party on the sun deck. The staff are completing a lot of work on the weight room equipment, painting and upholstery. They are still waiting on the part from Burdick to repair the air handlers at the facility. With the recent heat and humidity, the system hasn't been able to keep up, which has resulted in the basement floor being wet.

The City Building staff continue to work on the audit which should be done soon. Treasurer Bushue has finalized the budget. The office staff will be attending a training this week so the City Building will be closed Wednesday through Friday

6. Commissioner Kirk reported that BH Electric and Nelson's are both in town. BH started replacing transformers and transducers that were unsafe at Mason Point and also worked on Circuit 3 on Edwards Street. Chris Parsons has compiled a list of things he wants the contractor to complete while they are here.

Commissioner Kirk asked where the City stood on the wall from the old City Building. Mayor Mossman said there are still some issues with the building next door and a decision needs to be made on whether the demo contractor or the roofing contractor is liable. Once this issue has been settled then the City can move forward on trying to get the wall sealed before winter.

7. Commissioner Woodworth reported that a pre-construction meeting was held for the Eastview Lift Station. The contractor will start on the project once all of the equipment has been delivered.

At the Sewer Plant, a new roof is being installed on the drying bed and the generator auto transfer switch is completed.

The sewer work on 1200N will begin as soon as the crops have been harvested. There are still a couple of easements that need to be signed.

The new water plant ran this weekend to set chemical settings and to match flow rates to the demand. Underground piping passed pressure testing by holding 100 psi for an hour. The above ground piping will be test this week once all fittings on the processing equipment have been completed.

8. Mayor Mossman reported that there have been issues with people living in the park. The City would like to do everything it can to help those individuals and get them the services they need. Mayor Mossman will be working with the Police Chief on modifications to the Park Ordinance. Currently, the ordinance only imposes hours that people can be in the park.

At the end of the last Council's term, an amendment of TIF IV was proposed. Mayor Mossman would like the Council to discuss whether or not they wish to move forward with the amendment. If adopted, additional properties on the west end of town would be added to the TIF district. Mayor Mossman would like the Council to review the proposed amendment and how it will affect the City and other taxing

bodies. Commissioner Sherwood asked the Clerk to provide the Council with the necessary information. Gwen Crawford is seeking direction from the City on whether to move forward with the amendment or to leave it as is. Commissioner Kirk asked if Ms. Crawford could explain the amendment at a meeting and to answer any questions the Council may have. He believes that adding properties to the TIF IV will provide additional funding for infrastructure projects that serves that area. Commissioner Woodworth would also like to discuss the amendment with Ms. Crawford at a meeting. Mayor Mossman suggested holding a special meeting to discuss the issue with Ms. Crawford.

9. Mayor Mossman asked the Council for their input on setting this year's dates for trick-or-treating. On October 31st, the Chamber will have safe trick-or treating from 4-6 p.m. and the Ambuc's will have a parade at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Sherwood said there was only one day of trick-or-treating last year and several parents were upset. She recommended having two days because a lot of people are rushed for safe trick-or-treating and still have other places to go in town. Commissioner Kirk suggested having trick-or-treating on Monday and the other festivities on the square on Tuesday. Commissioner Sherwood then suggested Monday and Tuesday evening from 6-9 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve trick-or-treat hours for the City of Sullivan for Monday, October 30th and Tuesday, October 31st, 2023 from 6-9 p.m. both evenings. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

10. Wood Insurance has found a new provider for the City's workman's comp insurance at a savings of \$20,000 a year. This company will provide the same coverage the City currently carries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood for the approval of a Pooling Agreement with Illinois Public Risk Fund for workers' compensation insurance. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

11. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner

Sherwood to approve an Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 Article III – Electric Rates of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Sullivan.

Commissioner Kirk stated that the rate study initiated by the last Council has been completed. Per the rate study, the electric service rate and the energy charge for all customers will increase on October 1st. If at some point the rates need to be increased, the fixed costs will not be raised, they should stay static. This increase is the absolute least that Commissioner Kirk is comfortable with and will still allow the City to keep the Electric Plant and the transmission lines up to date. Another change in the structure is that all meters for City accounts will be billed under the class in which they qualify. Residents were subsidizing the City's accounts that were being charged a reduced rate. Commissioner Kirk would like an ordinance prepared stating that the City accounts will be charged based on their usage classification. Treasurer Bushue increased the budget for City utilities to accommodate the increase.

Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

12. At the last meeting, the Council discussed the idea of providing an economic Grant for the cardboard recycling program at the Moultrie County Beacon. The program is operating at a loss of \$6,624.00 per year. The City can provide funding for the program because it generates an economic benefit to the city and its residents. Mayor Mossman thinks this is a great program that is utilized by many of the City's residents. The Beacon employs clients to bail and process the cardboard, which prevents it from ending up in a landfill.

A motion was made by Mayor Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Sherwood to grant the Beacon \$6,624.00 to help them with their cardboard recycling program and revisit that again next year to see what is going on with that. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

13. Mayor Mossman stated that a representative from Meeder Public Funds had spoke to the Council previously about the City's investments and how they were handled. By moving some of the Electric Operating Funds to an account with Meeder, a significantly higher interest rate could be earned. Commissioner Kirk added that the funds can be moved back into the original account at any time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to allow the transfer of the City funds into a sweeping account with Meeder Public Funds at the direction of the Treasurer. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

14. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve this Memorandum of Agreement for a Coordination Study.

Mayor Mossman stated that the cost of the study is \$47,500.00.

Commissioner Woodworth asked what the study entailed. Commissioner Kirk explained that the circuit breakers throughout the city work with each other and back each other up. If they stop working as they should it could possibly cause the Electric Department to shut down. The engineers will use a machine to inspect all of the circuit breaks to make sure they are operating correctly. Mayor Mossman stated that this is critical to protect the circuits at the plant.

Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

15. Mayor Mossman stated that the cost of the Arc Flash Study is \$14,500. Commissioner Kirk explained that dust can accumulate inside transformers and transclosure boxes, which will result in an arc when someone opens the doors. BHMGM will clean the transformers, make sure the correct PPE is being used when working around the equipment and will update the safety stickers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Woodworth to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with BHMGM for an Arc Flash Study. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

16. Commissioner Woodworth explained that the Construction Agreement with

IDOT is for their sewer extension. They have agreed to pay the additional costs to deepen the sewer on 1200N and to run gravity sewer down Route 32 from the IDOT yard to the sewer on 1200N. The use of the gravity flow will eliminate the need for a lift station.

A motion was made by Commission Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Kirk for the approval of the Sanitary Sewer Construction Agreement with IDOT for the Route 32 Sewer Extension. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

17. A motion was made by Commissioner Woodworth and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to adjourn into closed session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss the minutes of meetings lawfully closed (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

18. The meeting was reconvened at 7:19 p.m.

19. 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
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

