



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,  
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Short. A roll call was taken.

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- present
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- present
Commissioner Grant Wade	- present
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- present
Mayor Ann Short	- present

2. The minutes of the regular meeting held on April 24, 2017, were submitted by the City Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk that the foregoing minutes be approved as printed. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

3. The Treasurer's Report by City Treasurer Sarah Golden for the period of April 2017 was read by the Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Wade that the foregoing report be approved as read and placed on file in the records of the Council. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

4. The claims were read by Mayor Short. Commissioner Kirk explained that there are some disbursements from the Electric Department for trees purchased. Homeowners agreed to let the City cut down old trees that were in the way of power lines, and the City agreed to replace them with appropriate trees. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to approve the claims report as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea

Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

5. Commissioner Mossman reported that his departments have been running well with the new City Administrator in place.

6. Commissioner Kirk explained that there is a sufficient balance and income for the electric fund, so there is no need to raise electric rates this year. The rates should stay the same as they have for the past seven years. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Risley to keep the electric rates the same and have a 0% increase in those rates for the next fiscal year. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

7. Commissioner Kirk explained that many events are held in the City that need special electric hook ups. Thus far the City has not charged anything for setting up these services, and some of the setups require a great deal of time and sometimes overtime to be paid to employees. At some point in the near future Commissioner Kirk will bring a proposal to the Council to charge a flat set up fee for these events, and to charge the wholesale rate of electricity to recuperate a small portion of the costs. Cathrine Craig stated that many of these events make little to no money, and the additional expense will make it challenging to hold those events.

8. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve Pay Estimate 2 to Followell Construction in the amount of \$138,536.56 for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

9. Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineering was present to discuss ongoing issues. The sewer project is going relatively smoothly for a project of this scale. The contractor addressed issues with settling due to the flooding on Sunday, and the response time was phenomenal.

Possible drainage projects have been looked into on the northeast and northwest parts of town. Surveying was done and ditch grading for elevation issues could help alleviate problems in the Eastview subdivision. Eastview is a long term issue, and IDOT appears to be more receptive to helping the City with this issue.

10. Commissioner Risley explained that a grant was submitted last fall for a Wyman Park Urban Multi-Use Path project. The City did not receive the grant, but will reapply this year. The Council and the citizens in attendance were hopeful that the City would have better luck with the grant this year.

11. An advertisement for bids for the sale of a 2010 Ford F550 truck with a dump bed called for the bids to be opened at the meeting. Three bids were received and were reported as follows:

Brad Rowland	\$5,550
Derick Warren	\$5,100
Metro Communications	\$5,000

Commissioner Risley explained that the bids came in close to what was being offered to the City for trading in the vehicle, and he stated that he did not want to rush into a decision. The issue will be tabled until the next meeting.

12. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to approve the purchase of a 2017 Ford SUV from Wright Automotive through the State Bid/Joint Purchasing Program for \$29,211. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

13. A discussion was had regarding the used 2012 Ford Explorer that the Police Department will be getting rid of. One option would be to trade in the vehicle for \$12,500, and another option would be to keep the vehicle for municipal and/or administrative use. It was decided to wait until the next meeting for final action.

14. Mayor Short explained that gas rates have not been raised for the last two years. Each year BHMG Engineers reviews the rates and advises the City if those rates should be changed. She does not anticipate any changes for this year, but reserves the right to come forward at a later date if those rates need to be increased.

15. A motion was made by Mayor Short and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to appoint Erin Wade, Kathie Price, and Bill Highland to the Library Board for two year terms. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- abstain
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

*Clerk's Note: Commissioner Wade abstained due to his wife being appointed.*

16. Mayor Short reported that Herb Bricker has done research on a cremation mausoleum. The mausoleum would cost around \$7,800 and would hold 48 urns. Mayor Short will call a meeting of the Cemetery Board to discuss this opportunity.

17. City Administrator Dan Flannell reported the following:

- The bid for fiber work has been turned over to an outside expert for review. The City might need to put out an RFP or might go with the current vendor. The total amount of work is estimated to be around \$150,000.
- Nothing new has been received from the architects for the Civic Center roof. Nothing new to report for litigation, other than a motion to dismiss was put in by the architect.
- Nothing has been received from Fields Wright regarding mold documentation. No further discussions will be held until we receive such documentation.
- The awning at the City Building will be removed by Jim Standerfer in two weeks and will be sent to Effingham for the installation of the new fabric.
- Work on the City Building basement will begin May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Sewer Department continues to move clay dirt to the gun club for the berm.
- Approval was received from Robert V Elder to remove dirt in the easement area near the Vineyard Church.
- Flooding issues from the past week were monitored, and a meeting was held with Lee Beckman, Commissioner Wade, Bubba Farris, and Mr. Flannell for possible solutions. A possible solution for the NW side of town was discussed.
- He will meet with Doug Wilson regarding the future of the Jibby's property tomorrow.
- The Fleener property's abatement period ends May 27<sup>th</sup>. He will make a last ditch effort to purchase the property before abatement or demolition by court order.
- Ed Woker of Advanced Disposal was contacted regarding another City Clean Up Day for Sullivan.

18. SCED Director Laurie Minor reported the following

- The SCED completed a planning meeting last Monday. Focus areas include tourism, expanding business, and downtown areas.
- Our Town Sullivan WCIA will be here on June 11-16<sup>th</sup>. They are asking for story ideas. A festival will be held on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- She met with the Department of Commerce today.
- The business expo took place last weekend, and 50 community members attended.

- Discussed possibility of a weekly column in the newspaper with the News Progress
- A meeting of the ECIDC will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. There are still seats available for that meeting and awards ceremony.

19. The following resolution was presented:

RESOLUTION 17-E

Approving and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Preannexation Agreement

Mike and Donna Fowler own land near Patterson Road that has been requested to be annexed to the City. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to waive the reading and accept the resolution as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

20. The following resolution was presented:

RESOLUTION 17-F

Supplementing and Amending the Personnel Policy for the City of Sullivan Employees

New language for on call time is necessary due to the Electric Plant not having 24 hour coverage. The plant will be without an employee for five hours a night, and this amount of time might be expanded in the future. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to waive the reading and accept the resolution as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

21. The following ordinance was presented:

ORDINANCE 17-11

Revising Designated Portions of Chapter 38 Article IV, Division 1 – Sewer Rates and Division 2 – Water Rates of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Sullivan, Moultrie County, Illinois

The ordinance calls for water and sewer rates to be raised by 4% for the fiscal year. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Wade to waive the reading and accept the resolution as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

22. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Wade to approve the mileage reimbursement for Mayor Short for \$74.90 for travel to an IMEA Board Meeting in Springfield. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- abstain

and the motion was declared carried.

23. Advanced Disposal can work a City Wide Clean Up for \$1550 per load. They have proposed July 15 and 22 as dates, with separate halves of the City done on different dates. This would work exactly like last year's event. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve the City Wide Clean Up Days by Advanced Disposal for July 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at \$1550 per load. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

24. Dan Flannell explained that SCED Director Laurie Minor has received a bid from a local contractor for window and siding repair to the SCED building, which is owned by the City. She has communicated with other local contractors for additional bids, but no others have been received at this time.

25. City Clerk Monte Johnson explained the history of the City's internet website and his vision for the website moving forward. Revize is a company that specializes in municipal websites and can modernize and update the site with more apps and options that will benefit the City, its citizens, and tourists. One important feature is the ability to send alerts and messages to citizens requesting such alerts. There is a first year cost of \$7234, with a yearly fee of \$1200. It was pointed out that the City would be saving money each year after the first because it would no longer need to pay for the current online documents portal that is being used, as the new website would have that incorporated into and part of the proposal. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to approve the submitted Revize Web Services Sales Agreement. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

26. Mayor Short explained that employees under union contracts have guaranteed raises, but a decision needs to be made for non-union employees. The Council received information in their packets explaining what costs would be incurred to the City based on different percentages of raises. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve a 2.5% increase in wages for all full time non-union employees. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

27. Mayor Short explained that health insurance renewal options have been reviewed for the last couple of months. A committee of Mayor Short, Commissioner Mossman, Treasurer Golden, and Clerk Johnson met to review options. To keep the exact same coverage, an increase of 19.5% would be incurred. The committee submitted a three year plan proposal to keep costs down for the City. Converting to an HMO plan, increasing employee contributions, and requiring retirees to contribute were all discussed.

Representatives from CF&H Insurance were present to discuss what they would like to do for the City if they were to become the City's health insurance agents. CF&H would like to take over the account, service the existing account, meet with employees, alleviate time, and keep the tax dollars local. They believe that the account has not been leveraged properly, and they are confident that they can get a better rate from Health Alliance than what the City has been offered through Wells Fargo. Another option for the future is to start an insurance pool, limit and regulate who comes into the pool, and hopefully save money in the future.

Mayor Short pointed out that the City is under a time constraint. The City's health insurance renews at the beginning of July, and the City needs time in June to set up meetings with employees to discuss changes. Linda Huber explained that the City could immediately make CF&H the agent of record and they could get to work on lowering the premiums. She stated that the worst case scenario would be that the City could fire them and go back to Wells Fargo and continue on as usual. The Council explained that they would need a proposal with updated rates by the next meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup> so that they could plan to move forward. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to make CF&H Insurance the City's Agent of Record. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

28. Treasurer Golden reviewed the Payment Services Network option for utility billing. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to move forward and to have the City absorb the fees for the program. After yea votes by Commissioners Wade and Mossman, Commissioner Kirk asked what kind of commitment and contract the City would be in, and if it would be possible to opt out of absorbing the fees if they got too costly. After discussion, the original motion was withdrawn and Commissioners Wade and Mossman withdrew their votes. Dan Flannell and Treasurer Golden will research the contract with PSN further so that it can be fully understood what type of commitment the City would be getting into.

29. Clerk Johnson explained that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, and Christmas Eve is a City holiday for a majority of the employees. Normally a holiday that falls on a Sunday would be observed on a Monday, but Christmas (another City holiday) already is observed on Monday. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Risley to observe Christmas Eve and Christmas on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of December for 2017. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

30. Mayor Short asked if anybody in attendance had any comments, and there were none.



31. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Risley to adjourn to closed session at 9:13 p.m. to review closed session minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).); and to discuss the employment of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

32. Mayor Short reconvened the meeting at 9:49 p.m.

33. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Risley that the minutes of the meeting be engrossed by the Clerk. Upon roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea


and the motion was declared carried.

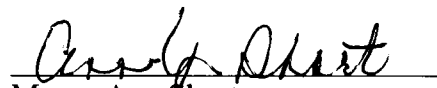
34. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Risley that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was reduced to writing and read to the Council. Upon roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Grant Wade	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Attest

  
Monte Johnson, City Clerk

  
Mayor Ann Short