



**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,  
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018**

1. A public hearing was called to order by Mayor Short on Monday, July 23, 2018, at 6:45 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. A roll call was taken, which showed the following members as present:

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

2. Mayor Short stated the purpose of the public hearing was to give the public a chance to make comments on the proposed Appropriation Ordinance, Ordinance 18-16, which was read at the previous Council meeting on July 9, 2018.

3. Mayor Short asked if any members of the public would like to make comments. One citizen asked how much the City brings in for revenue and if there is talk of a smaller budget. Mayor Short explained the legal steps that must be taken for the Appropriation Ordinance and that it is different than the working budget. This ordinance sets the legal limit that the City can spend in a fiscal year. The working budget is the document that is used to look at income, revenue, and expenses. It was asked by a citizen why the Appropriations Ordinance has gone up by 38% since last year. It was explained that a big cushion was put in there for unknown expenses or projects. Mayor Short said that the City does not intend to spend that money and that it is there for unknown issues that may come up. The citizen stated that he knows how government works, and that if the money is there, it will be spent. Some members of the Council took exception to the comment and stated that the City of Sullivan does not work like that, and they are mindful of the way money is spent.

A different citizen asked if a balanced budget means that what you spend matches the amount of money you bring in. City Administrator Dan Flannell said that was a correct statement, but the City could spend from reserves if needed. Mayor Short explained that there are reserves in the Electric, Gas, and Water/Sewer funds. When dealing with a utility there are many expenditures that could come up unexpectedly. Commissioner Kirk explained that the Electric fund carries a balance because there are poles, transformers, and wire that are uninsurable. The City's insurance wouldn't protect the City or make reimbursements for replacing those.

It was asked if the City had a large general reserve to carry the City through an emergency. Treasurer Sarah Golden explained that at any given time the City would have an average cash balance of about \$17 million. Commissioner Mossman stated that the Council works hard to keep expenditures down every year. Mr. Flannell commented that he sincerely believes that the people in the City should give this group of Council members the benefit of the doubt. He said that the current Council, the past Council members, and the successor group all have nothing but the benefit of the community in mind.

4. Mayor Short asked if any members of the Council would like to make comments, and there were none.

5. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman that the public hearing be adjourned. 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 7:06 p.m.

Attest

*Monte A. Johnson*

Monte Johnson, City Clerk

*Ann G. Short*  
Mayor Ann Short