



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,  
ILLINOIS, MONDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2018**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, September 24, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ann 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. Mayor Short asked if there were any comments from the public in attendance. One citizen asked if the next time a sculpture would be put in the park, if we could contact a local artist to do that. She explained that Jim Hughes has carved beautiful carvings on trees, and requests that local artists be used. Mayor Short explained that the first piece of art in Tabor Park did come from Mr. Netherton, who is originally from Sullivan. Commissioner Mossman stated that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to purchase an art piece valued at \$15,000, and that the City is always looking at ways to improve the parks.

3. Mayor Short read the items on the consent agenda:

- Approval of minutes of the previous regular meeting held September 10, 2018
- Approval of minutes of the public hearing held September 10, 2018
- Approval of claims report
- Approval of Treasurer's Report for August 2018
- Pass Ordinance 18-18 – Amending Chapter 27 Offenses Section 27-2-20 Discharge of Firearms or Bow and Arrow, of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Sullivan, Illinois

It was requested that the claims list be pulled and voted on separately. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Wade to approve the claims for TIF I. 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	- abstain
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

4. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Wade to approve the claims for TIF IV. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

5. Mayor Short explained that Ordinance 18-18 was to allow the City Police Officers to use the proposed gun range for training purposes. Commissioner Kirk stated that he wanted to clarify a motion at the previous meeting that is listed in the minutes under item #10. Commissioner Wade had made a motion for a decrease in a change order, and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Kirk wanted to point out that he had mistakenly voted "Yes" for that motion when he intended to "abstain". It was noted that the abstention would not have changed the outcome of the vote. A notation is being made in this meeting's minutes along with the previous meeting's minutes to clarify the vote and the intention of Commissioner Kirk. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Wade to approve the remainder of the claims and the remainder of the consent agenda. 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.

6. Commissioner Mossman reported that Assistant Treasurer Nakayla Swisher has prepared the budget to actual report for each department. He thanked Ms. Swisher for picking up the slack in Treasurer Golden's absence.

7. Commissioner Kirk reported that there was a planned outage on Sunday morning for electric work so that businesses would not be interrupted. It was expected to last until noon, and all went well with the outage and the work was finished by 11:00 a.m.

8. Commissioner Wade reported that the Burdick Estates Sewer Project is wrapping up, and has come in \$5,000 less than originally planned. City Administrator Dan Flannell noted that the holdback from the pay estimate was increased to reimburse for additional crop damages and possible black dirt that may need to be brought back in. A motion was made by Commissioner Wade and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve Pay Estimate 2 for the Burdick Estates Sewer Project for \$113,657.40 to Tebbe Excavating. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

9. Commissioner Risley explained that the ongoing issue with the Jefferson Street sidewalk remains. One block of the sidewalk and steps remains in bad condition and is deteriorating. Milano & Grunloh Engineers was contacted in the past to do a study, but those plans were put on hold when a cost estimate was in the six figure range. Mr. Flannell stressed that this was a safety hazard and that a plan needs to be put in place. Mr. Flannell will contact Mr. Beckman of Milano & Grunloh to see what a full engineering detail would cost.

10. A motion was made by Mayor Short and seconded by Commissioner Risley to appoint Ellen Feeler to the Library Board 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.

11. City Administrator Dan Flannell reported the following:

- The extension of water service to Burdick Estates begins tomorrow, weather permitting. It may be possible to loop that service with Rural Water
- Offer of employment to candidate for Electric Plant employee was rejected
- Work at Wyman Park irrigation project on middle diamond should end soon
- High School Service Day will be October 4<sup>th</sup>. The Street & Parks Department will assist with picking up trash bags as they are filled
- A large transformer is being proposed to be purchased for Hydro-Gear's service. This is a large purchase and may be TIF eligible
- Lee Beckman will soon make a presentation on the possibility of building a new water plant or what it would take to keep the old water plant running
- The residential demolition grant continues to be a great benefit, as this past week one of the grandfathered mobile homes was demolished, which would not have occurred without the availability of funds.

Mr. Flannell asked if the demolition grant program was only to be used for residential purposes, or if residences owned by businesses could be eligible. Mayor Short stated that historically the program was just for residents.

12. Mr. Flannell explained that the issue of residency requirements was on the agenda at his request. There is a continuing problem rising for trying to get employees hired at skilled positions. Some positions are technical in nature and there often times are not applicants available in the Sullivan area or applicants willing to move to Sullivan. The current residency requirement calls for employees to live within 5 air miles of the Courthouse.

Mr. Flannell stated that he has had to turn down ideal candidates in the past due to residency requirements. He did state that this is a controversial issue in many municipalities. There are valid arguments on both sides. The Council discussed the pros and cons of residency requirements, and a common theme was response time and the thought that employees may be more invested in their jobs if they lived in our community.

Commissioner Risley stated that this is a good example of why the City needs to have succession planning done for each of its departments. He said moving forward this is a good discussion point. The Council will think about the residency requirements and may revisit the topic in the future.

13. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to set Trick or Treat hours for October 31, 2018, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. 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.

14. City Clerk Monte Johnson reviewed the process for selecting a proposal for the City's new AMI system. Five proposals were received at the end of May and have been researched extensively. Clerk Johnson said that the Nexgrid system fits in the best and offers the most value for the City of Sullivan. The presentation included screenshots of different parts of the system, the hardware, and software that would be installed. The estimate for the system totaled \$993,219.38. It was noted that this was only an estimate and those figures would change based on the actual quantity of each piece being ordered. The unit prices stated are firm prices, but the final figure will change based on exact quantities. Clerk Johnson also stated that these proposals were received through a sealed proposal process, but the process of gathering bids was technically an RFP and not a bidding process. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to waive the formal bidding process and accept the proposal by Nexgrid for an AMI system. 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.

15. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Wade to adjourn to closed session at 8:22 p.m. to discuss the appointment,

employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee (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.

16. Mayor Short reconvened the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

17. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Wade that the meeting 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 8:59 p.m.

Attest

Monte A. Johnson  
Monte Johnson, City Clerk

Ann L. Short  
Mayor Ann Short

