



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,  
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 16 E. Harrison Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Richard Glazebrook. A roll call was taken.

Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- present
Commissioner Mike Fowler	- present
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- absent
Commissioner Doug Booker	- absent
Mayor Richard Glazebrook	- present

2. Lee Beckman gave an update on the status of grants and project updates. They are still awaiting announcements for the DCEO grant, which will fund the replacement of the water main on Main Street. A bid opening was held for the water plant project resulting in an overall project cost of \$11.5 million. The City is seeking additional funding for the project and has agreed to the issuance of \$10.5 million in bonds. Everything is approved for the Bernius Project, funded by the EDP Grant, TARP grant, and the State Legislative Grant. The property was surveyed, and the engineering process was started. The City is waiting on a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the construction portion of the Unsewered Grant. There was no update on the Safe Route to School Grant.

3. Mayor Glazebrook asked if there were any comments from the public. There were none.

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

- Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held February 28, 2022 and the special meeting held March 1, 2022
- Approval of claims except those in TIF funds

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

Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Fowler	- yea
Commissioner Chuck Woodworth	- absent
Commissioner Doug Booker	- absent
Mayor Richard Glazebrook	- yea

and the motion was declared carried by omnibus vote.

5. Commissioner Sherwood reported that Sarah Kitchen is resigning as the

Aquatic Director for the Civic Center. She thanked Ms. Kitchen for her time with the City. The City is now accepting applications for this position. Commissioner Sherwood attended a Revolving Loan Fund Committee meeting to review an application from Yoder's Custom Woodworking. The Committee is recommending that the Council approve the \$100,000 loan. The terms require a personal guarantee with a two percent interest rate for twenty years. She spoke with Commissioner Fowler regarding solar and suggested he reach out to the City Attorney. She was told that Commissioner Fowler could participate in the discussions regarding solar. Commissioner Sherwood thanked the Electric Plant Crew for restoring the City's power during a recent outage when many surrounding communities were without power. The award of proposals for auditing services will be discussed at the next meeting. She will be working with Treasurer Golden on an engagement letter for these services. Commissioner Sherwood addressed a citizen's question regarding TIF transfers and the transfers being frowned upon. Treasurer Golden addressed these concerns before the last meeting. She added that it is not inappropriate to transfer money between TIF districts. A request was received last week asking for more information for the OSLAD Grant. Laurie Minor assisted in providing some of this information.

6. Commissioner Fowler reported that the recent power outage was the first time the Power Plant has been allowed to go online since he was elected as Commissioner. When appointed, he inspected the Moweaqua line and observed that it was in need of repair. He took pictures and sent a letter sharing his concerns about the feed and doesn't believe that any preventative maintenance has been completed since that time. Four poles were blown over by recent winds, killing the City's power source for eighteen and a half hours. The Power Plant was able to generate and carry the load during the outage. A tree then fell on a utility line and took out power for the whole City. The power was then out for approximately one hour until the switch was made later that night. Commissioner Fowler introduced the Power Plant Staff, thanking them for their work and adding that they worked through the night without sleep.

7. Mayor Glazebrook added that during the recent power outage, the Electric Plant Crew utilized the City's self-generating facility to provide power to citizens while many surrounding communities remained without power. This required the use of 8 generators and 6,439 gallons of diesel fuel. He believes that businesses should want to come to Sullivan because of this. Mayor Glazebrook thanked the Plant Personnel for providing this service to the community. During the outage, a tree fell and damaged a line, which had to be repaired. Each month the IMEA pays the City a capacity credit for its' generating capabilities. The IMEA also covers the fuel expense when it is necessary to run the generators. The American Legion provided lunch to the plant crew while they managed the outage.

8. Commissioner Fowler completed his report by noting tasks completed by the Distribution Crew. The crew installed secondary poles, trimmed trees, repaired a line that was damaged by a fallen tree, transferred overhead secondary lines and completed JULIE locates and work orders.

9. Treasurer Sarah Golden addressed the Council regarding the net metering ordinance. She explained that the biggest decisions that need to be made are the changes to sections 8 and 12. She asked the Council for direction on how to move forward. Section 8 discusses grandfathering of existing customers. No requirement exists to grandfather any customers, but Treasurer Golden included the language that was presented to her. The IMEA recommended grandfathering existing customers at their current method for ten years. Section 8 also included how the City would like to address the method used to credit self-generating customers for kilowatt-hours. The City currently uses a net metering approach, recommendations are to switch this process to net billing. Current self-generating customers are manually billed and continuing this way would require a lot of administrative time. The City's billing software is capable of processing net metering. Section 12 contains the method used to figure the fair solar credit. It is proposed that the City use 5.37 cents per kilowatt-hour as its' avoided cost and review this number annually.

10. IMUA Representative Sean McCarthy spoke about net metering changes. He explained that fair solar credit is a recommendation. A model was created to represent the value of excess generation at the time it was produced by the customer. They then reviewed the price of power from the IMEA, the composition of energy price, capacity, transmission savings, and distribution loss savings, which are all reduced by solar generating customers. The City was using 8 cents before the avoided cost, based on the bill from the IMEA. They don't believe that this is an appropriate amount because it includes fixed costs that aren't produced by solar-generating customers. There should not be any distribution system fees that are only accessed to solar customers, percentage caps should be removed, and the proposed policy should be on the City's website. The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) was recently passed and requires municipal systems to revise their policy for residential and small commercial customers. The biggest change proposed by the act is the two percent cap. Fair solar credit was reviewed to ensure that the costs associated with self-generation represent its benefits. There are benefits to having solar customers and they should be credited for this

11. Scott Allen, a member of the Citizens Utility Board, spoke about net metering changes. He stated that the avoided cost in the City of Sullivan is roughly 8 cents per kilowatt-hour and that this is the very least that should be provided for the avoidable cost. The City currently has a 2% cap on the electric system peak. He suggested that the City could retain the cap but should revisit the issue once the cap is reached. At that time, a study should be completed to find the actual fixed costs. By using solar generation, pollution through fossil fuel generation can be stopped. Mr. Allen believes that retail net metering should be offered to self-generating customers.

12. City Clerk Carrie Creek presented on the annual Citywide clean-up. Due to staffing shortages, Waste Management is only providing this service to municipalities with which they hold a contract. Doty Sanitation offered to provide the service at \$2,000 per 25-yard packer load, with proposed dates of June 7th and 14th. The town will be split down Harrison Street as has been done in the past, with the north side receiving the service one week and the south side the

next. Doty Sanitation did state that if fuel prices increase to \$6.00 per gallon, there will be an additional fee of \$200 per truck.

13. A motion was made by Commissioner Sherwood and seconded by Commissioner Fowler to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Abbey Sherwood	- yea
Commissioner Mike Fowler	- yea
Mayor Richard Glazebrook	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

  
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Mayor Richard Glazebrook

Attest   
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Carrie Green, City Clerk