

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

September 19, 2005
7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gottman called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vandalia City Council to order at 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Aldermen present were: Click, Brosman, Cable, Hobler, Duggins, Elliott, Bennett and Feldpouch.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given by all present.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Click approving the minutes of the September 6, 2005 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

A motion was made by Click and seconded by Brosman approving the regular bills as presented. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Click approving all Special Bills as presented: Birkey's in the amount of \$3,507.90 for parts on loader; Fay. Co. Collector in the amount of \$13,640.17 for 1st installment for real estate taxes; Tri-County Petroleum in the amount of \$8,682.71 for gasoline; City of Vandalia in the amount of \$32,817.56

for the portion of water & sewer for liability insurance; HMG in the amount of \$3,029.11 for Dist. System Improvements; Van Devanter Engineering in the amount of \$2,069.10 doe maintenance inspection for lift station and parts on the prison lift station pumps; Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A motion was made by Click and seconded by Duggins approving the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried.

LAKE LOT TRANSFER:

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Elliott to accept the recommendation of the Lake Committee to approve the transfer of Lake Lot #44 from Tyler & Debbie Tolliver, Flora, Il. to James & Pam Goodman, Pocahontas, Il. All necessary fees have been paid. Motion carried.

T21 GRANT PROJECT REPORT:

Mayor Gottman submitted to the council a schedule that HMG provided for the Gallatin St. Streetscape Project. The council agreed to move forward with the schedule from HMG.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cable reported that the Water & Sewer Committee met at 6:00 P.M. to discuss the water and sewer rate increase.

It was the consensus of the committee to send to the council to take no action and allow the increase of 7.94% in the water rates and 5.38% in the sewer rates go in effect.

Feldpouch stated that he would like to see the council take out the automatic ordinance and vote every year whether or not to increase the rates. Duggins also agreed with Alderman Feldpouch.

Cable stated that the reason they came up with the idea, that in years past the council would have to look at a large increase every few years and the smaller increases stopped that from being necessary.

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Hobler accepting the auditing firm's recommendation that the automatic increase is provided by the ordinance shall be permitted to be in force for the coming year.

Voting by roll call: Cable, yea; Bennett, yea; Elliott, yea; Duggins, nay; Hobler, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Click, yea; Brosman, yea; Motion carried. 7 yea and 1 nay;

Mayor Gottman directed City Attorney Johnston to draw up an ordinance for review to possibly do away with the automatic increase ordinance.

Cable announced that on Friday, September 23rd there will be a contractor's meeting in the council chambers at 10:00 A.M. to discuss the hi/low water pressure upgrade projects.

Cable announced that Friday, September 30th, the hi/low water pressure upgrade bid opening will take place at 10:00 A.M. in council chambers.

Click reported that Judd Newcomb joined the Vandalia Police Department, effective September 9, 2005.

Hobler announced that the camping area will close at the end of the month for the year.

Hobler reported that we received the inspection report for the Vandalia Municipal Reservoir Dam.

Hobler submitted a copy of the minutes from the Lake Committee Meeting held on the September 13, 2005.

Elliott reported that the Economic Development Committee met at noon today.

She reported that goals for what they would like to see in an EDC/Tourism director.

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAIN STREET
CO-ORDINATOR KIM GEHRKE:**

Gehrke announced that Corn Day will be held this coming Saturday, September 24th.

Gehke announced that the 12' x 12' sign which was purchased by the downtown merchants was erected last Thursday by Bruce Bowen, Bowen Signs and John Moyer and his crew. Thank you for a job well done.

Gehrke presented a hand out of the next two events "Light The Town Pink" and Vandalia's Red Hat Holiday event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Gottman stated that he attended the Southwestern Electric's Annual Meeting on September 10th.

Mayor Gottman announced that he attended the regular EDC meeting today.

Mayor Gottman stated that they discussed goals and objectives.

Mayor Gottman stated that the next meeting will be at 12:00 noon on Monday, September 26th.

Mayor Gottman touched on possible prospective businesses for the Vandalia area.

Mayor Gottman stated that he will be attending the IML Conference in Chicago the latter part of the week.

Mayor Gottman announced that he will be attending the Kaskaskia College Vision 20/20 on Tuesday, September 27th at the Ramada Inn in Vandalia.

Mayor Gottman announced that he will be attending the South Central Illinois Growth Alliance Meeting on September 28th.

Mayor Gottman stated that the council along with the city should consider the possibility of changing the structure of Tourism/Economic Development by adding an economic development/tourism director to the staff.

Mayor Gottman stated that this is something the city must think about, if they wish to move forward.

More discussion on this topic will follow in the months to come.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

There being no further business to bring before the Council a motion was made Click and seconded by Brosman to adjourn. Motion carried.

