

**CITY COUNCIL**  
Regular Meeting

December 4, 2006  
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: Brosman, Duggins, Feldpouch, Swarm, Bennett, Cable and Elliott. Hobler was absent from the meeting.

**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 Duggins approving the minutes from the November 20, 2006 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

**REGULAR BILLS:**

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

**SPECIAL BILLS:**

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Cable approving all Special Bills as presented: National Waterworks, Inc. in the amount of \$2,376.25 for copper tubing; Univar USA, Inc. in the amount of \$2,320.00 for 8 drums of mozofloc; Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT  
CONTRACT WITH DAVID WODTKA,  
CEMETERY SEXTON:**

A motion was made by Duggins and seconded by Swarm approving Resolution 2006-12-4-A, Authorizing Execution of Employment Contract Between the City of Vandalia and David Wodtka, Cemetery Sexton. The contract runs through May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**ORDINANCE #2006-12-4-B:  
AMENDING THE ANNUAL  
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR:**

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by Elliott approving Ordinance #2006-12-4-B, Amending the Annual Appropriations For Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2006 And Ending April 30, 2007.

The reason for amending the Annual Appropriation, the city will be using \$35,000 that will come out of the \$75,000 line item that the city added to its budget this year for an economic development/tourism director's salary.

**RESOLUTION #2006-12-4-C:  
AGREEMENT WITH CTM BROCHURE  
DISPLAY:**

A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Elliott, Adopting Resolution 2006-12-4-C, Approving Agreement For Brochure Placement Between the City of Vandalia and CTM Brochure Display.

CTM Brochure Display agrees to provide the City of Vandalia's brochures in locations in the specified market sectors or place the clients ad in the specified publications for the length of the contract which is for 12 months in the amount of \$1,800.00.

One of the premium display's will be CTA, O'Hare Airport.

**ORDINANCE #2006-12-4-D:  
"TAX LEVY"**

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Duggins adopting Ordinance #2006-12-4-D, Making the Tax Levy For the Fiscal Year Beginning on May 1, 2006, Ending on April 30, 2007.

Voting by roll call: Bennett, yea; Elliott, yea; Brosman, yea; Cable, yea; Swarm, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Duggins, yea; Hobler, absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #2006-12-4-E:**  
**AGREEMENT WITH CSX**  
**TRANSPORTATION:**

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Bennett adopting Resolution #2006-12-4-E, Approving Agreements For Pipeline Crossing Between The City of Vandalia and CSX Transportation.

The city will have to pay CSX \$16,000 for two permits that will allow for boring under the rail crossings at Fifth & Sixth St. and \$3,000 per crossing for liability insurance for a total cost of \$22,000.

Voting by roll call: Duggins, yea; Swarm, yea; Cable, yea; Brosman, yea; Bennett, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Elliott, yea; Hobler, absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2006-12-4-F:**  
**STATE SHOULD PAY MEDICAID**  
**PAYMENTS:**

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Brosman approving Resolution 2006-12-4-F, Encouraging The State of Illinois To Make Medicaid Payments.

The State of Illinois owes over \$1.5 billion in late Medicaid payments to physicians, pharmacists, and others in the medical field constituting a healthcare crisis in the State.

Voting by roll call: Brosman, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Cable, yea; Bennett, yea; Swarm, yea; Elliott, yea; Duggins, yea; Hobler, absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2006-12-4-G:**  
**SUPPORT NATIONAL DRUNK &**  
**DRUGGED DRIVING (3D)**  
**PREVENTION MONTH:**

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Elliott adopting Resolution 2006-12-4-G, Supporting National Drunk and Drugged Driving

(3D)Prevention Month (December).

Illinois Department of Transportation reported that motor vehicle crashes killed 1,361 people in Illinois during 2005 and 43% of those deaths were in alcohol-related crashes.

Voting by roll call: Elliott, yea; Swarm, yea; Bennett, yea; Brosman, yea; Duggins, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Cable, yea; Hobler, absent. Motion carried.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY & THE BUXTON COMPANY:**

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by Duggins, adopting Resolution #2006-12-4-H, Approving An Agreement For Community ID Services Between the City of Vandalia and the Buxton Company.

The Buxton Company is located out of Ft. Worth, Tx. They made a presentation to the City Council at the November 20<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.

The company helps communities get the data and numbers for what retail businesses and restaurants would fit in their community, which ones are looking to expand in this part of the country and make the initial contact with that company.

The contract would be for \$50,000.for the information from the Buxton Company.

Cable questioned if this information was going to be used or if it would just "be put on the shelf". He felt if it was not used, they wasted the tax payers money.

City Administrator Neibert along with Mayor Gottman says the information will be used as Buxton will provide

information and data that the city does not have access to at this point.

Feldpouch felt with the city spending this amount of money they should hold off for a year on hiring an economic developer/tourism director.

Feldpouch said that they were spending this money to do the exact same job that the economic development director would be doing.

Mayor Gottman stated that he is holding off for the rest of 2006 on hiring someone for the position but does not believe they should hold off for one year.

Elliott pointed out that they would have the Buxton Company as a consultant for as long as they want.

Vandalia would have a representative at the Buxton booth at different trade shows.

Voting by roll call: Elliott, yea; Feldpouch, yea; Brosman, yea; Bennett, yea; Swarm, yea; Cable, yea; Duggins, yea; Hobler, absent. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**  
**RELEASED:**

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Bennett approving the release of the following Executive Session Minutes:

April 16, 2001	December 17, 2001
January 21, 2002	November 4, 2002
January 19, 2004	March 1, 2004
June 7, 2004	November 1, 2004
April 18, 2005	November 7, 2005
November 21, 2005	January 3, 2006

Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2007:**

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Elliott approving the dates for the scheduled city council meetings as submitted. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF HOLIDAYS OBSERVED BY THE CITY FOR 2007:**

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Swarm approving the list of scheduled holidays observed by the City of Vandalia. Motion carried.

**T-21 GRANT PROJECT:**

Mayor Gottman announced that a possible change order on the concrete may take place.

A status report from HMG has been included in each council members packet.

City Administrator Neibert reported that the U.S. Department of Commerce-Economic Development has invited the city to apply for federal grant funds that could be used for infrastructure improvements in support of the ethanol plant.

Neibert stated that the city will apply for \$1.5 million in federal funds for the \$3 million project, which will include a new roadway and water and sewer improvements from Main St. at Mattes Ave. west to VanSant Intersection and south on VanSant to the railroad crossing.

Neibert stated that he is still working with I.D.O.T. on their grant funding portion of the project.

If the city is successful in receiving the grants, the city's share of the project costs will be about \$250,000.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Brosman commended the city's public works employees for their quick response to last week's storm.

Cable reported last weeks storm also brought concerns to the wastewater treatment plant.

Cable reported that he spoke with the engineer today, stating they are still waiting on the corp of engineers to advise us on what might be needed on the river intake.

Cable remarked that the plans have been turned over to John to review the water and sewer line extension for the truck stop.

**ELLIS LEAVES CITY TO ACCEPT POSITION AS CHIEF DEPUTY:**

Mayor Gottman announced that Police Officer, Brent Ellis resigned from the Vandalia Police Department to accept the position of chief deputy under the new administration of Sheriff Aaron Lay.

**APPLICATIONS TO BE TAKEN FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER:**

Applications for the police roster training will be available in the City Clerk's office tomorrow.

The city will hold testing on December 16<sup>th</sup> for a new police department eligibility roster.

**LAKE COMMITTEE TO REBID PROJECT:**

City Administrator Neibert announced that the Vandalia Lake Committee received only one bid for the construction of a new boat dock at the marina, and that the bid was rejected. The committee will rebid the project.

**MAIN STREET REPORT:**

Dana Whiteman, Main Street Coordinator reported on Main Street's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration which was held at The Depot.

Dana spoke on plans that are under way for a "Nite at The Races" at the Vandalia Country Club.

Dana asked that everyone shop downtown Vandalia every Friday night from now till December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Gottman announced that he met with the department heads this evening, to discuss the city's comprehensive plan. The council will hold a work session in January to make updates to the comprehensive plan.

**COUNCIL CONCERNS:**

Aldерwoman Elliott received several calls in regard to the spot light located at Twisters. Their concern was more about interstate safety and wondering if that would lead to a city liability issue if an accident would occur.

Elliott also questioned a concern that was brought to her attention if the roadway from Fillmore St. to Veterans Ave. where our multi-million dollar Kaskaskia College project is being built, if the city is considering regrading, widening or resurfacing that street in the near future?

**NO PLANS FOR "ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION" IN PUBLIC MEETINGS:**

Brosman brought to the attention of the council a copy of the "electronic participation" in public meetings which beginning January 1, 2007, if local governments wish they may allow members of public bodies which are subject to the Open Meetings Act to attend meetings from remote locations by way of electronic audio or video communications, under certain circumstances. The law requires the corporate authorities of the local government to adopt rules governing the process.

Brosman felt that it was a good idea.

His recommendation was to have City Attorney Johnston draft an ordinance to vote on it at our next council meeting.

Mayor Gottman along with several aldermen felt if you are an elected official you should be sitting at this table.

After discussion, the council withdrew the idea of having the city attorney draft an ordinance pertaining to the electronic participation.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Duggins and seconded by Feldpouch to adjourn. Motion carried.

