

CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

October 15, 2007

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR RAYMOND WILLIAMS:

A moment of silence was observed for Raymond Williams. Mr. Williams is the father-in-law of Jerry Swarm who passed away on October 12, 2007.

Mr. Williams along with his wife were business owners in Vandalia.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Feldpouch approving the minutes from the October 1st, 2007 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Feldpouch approving all Special Bills as presented: Birkey's in the amount of \$5,102.80 to install new brakes; Burnside, Johnston & Choisser in the amount of \$11,062.50 for attorney fees; Centraz Industries

in the amount of \$1,710.00 for sewer solvent; Curry Construction in the amount of \$3,362.40 for the west interchange water & sewer; First National Bank in the amount of \$65,415.63 for payment on the Series 2007 GO Alternate Revenue Bonds; G.S. Robins & Co. in the amount of \$4,416.02 for chemicals; Hurst-Rosche Engineers, Inc. for fees for drawings/specifications for cemetery facility; Andy Lester Construction in the amount of \$7,554.50 for work at new City Hall; RTA Systems in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the alarm system at the new City Hall; S.W.II. Tourism Conv. Bureau for the 2008 VG Full page ad & the 2nd Qtr. Commitment in the amount of \$12,900.00; Walmart in the amount of \$2,347.00 for roadway reimbursement thru August; Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

ORDINANCE #2007-10-15-A
WATER & SEWER SERVICE
CHARGES:

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Hobler Amending Ordinance #1996-10-7-B, Water & Sewer rates;

The waste water sewer service charge for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, shall be 101.96 percent of the charge currently in effect.

The water service charge for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008, shall be 105.00 percent of the charge currently in effect.

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

ORDINANCE #2007-10-15-B
TIF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
CITY & ROBERT M. JOHNSON:

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Duggins adopting Ordinance #2007-10-15-B, Approving A Certain Tax Increment Development Agreement By & Between The City of Vandalia and Robert M. Johnson.

A ten year 70% reimbursement of new property taxes for rehabilitation of commercial building per agreement.

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

Mayor Gottman announced that the annual city Christmas Party will be held on December 8th at the Vandalia Country Club.

ORDINANCE #2007-10-15-C
LICENSING & REGULATIONS FOR
RAFFLE LICENSE:

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Elliott adopting Ordinance #2007-10-15-C, To Provide For Licensing & Regulation Of Raffles Of the Vandalia Municipal Code.

The proposed ordinance included a \$50.00 permit application fee, but Alderwoman Elliott, Aldermen Feldpouch and Brosman felt that the fee was really steep.

City Clerk Bowen felt that a \$20.00 fee would be sufficient.

After much discussion a motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Elliott to change the permit fee to \$20.00.

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

T-21 PROJECT:

Mayor Gottman announced that a work session will be held on Monday, October 29th at 7:00 P.M. to discuss the downtown project.

In addition to the council, Mayor Gottman invited members of the Downtown Advisory Committee, Main Street Director, Dana Whiteman and owners of downtown businesses along with the former Mayor Sandra Leidner.

During her administration the city received two federal T-21 grants for the streetscape improvements.

REPORTS:

City Clerk Bowen stated that the move to the new location is still on schedule for October 22nd.

Bowen said that the Water & Sewer Department will be located in the south part of the building, along with her office.

Bowen also pointed out that a new drop box for water bill payments will be stationed in the area that served as a drive-up window for the bank. That drop box will not be manned.

The city will discontinue the use of the water bill payment box in the city parking lot this Friday.

MORANI REPORT:

Morani stated that he spoke with Randy Wolf, with Fayette County Water Company last week.

Wolf is working on some feasibility studies for their water project.

Morani stated that he will be attending the regional retail convention in Chicago next week.

He will be following up on some leads that were generated from the May convention in Las Vegas that he along with Mayor Gottman attended.

Morani announced that all the annexation petitions have been signed by interested property owners who wish to be included in the T.I.F.

Those ordinances will be acted on at the November 1st meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable announced that a Water Committee Meeting will follow after council meeting to review complaint forms.

Cable announced that an Emergency Management training session is scheduled for November 14th at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Elliott authorizing Chief of Police Larry Eason to apply for a Public Safety Interoperable Communication (PSIC) grant. Motion carried.

The grant program is designed to assist public safety agencies to protect safety of life, health or property.

Eason also announced that one of the new squad cars is in service at this time. The other one will be in service shortly.

Feldpouch announced that the Building Committee met Monday, October 8th to discuss the office space at the new City Hall.

A motion was made by Feldpouch and seconded by Duggins allowing the National Road to lease the building behind the new City Hall formerly known as the Sonnemann Building from the City.

The National Road will be responsible for any improvements made to the building. They will also pay all utilities to the building. Motion carried.

Alderman Von Duggins announced that he is moving out of the city and will be resigning effective this evening.

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Bennett to reject all bids for the construction of a cemetery maintenance facility, because all bids came in much higher than the engineers' estimate.

The low bidder was Andy Lester Construction with a bid in the amount of \$120,000, which were approximately 65% over the engineer's estimate of \$75,000.

The City also received a bid from Precise Construction in the amount of \$186,304.00 and Shores Builders in the amount of \$187,650.

Alderman Feldpouch felt that if the city was going to build the building they should except the low bid.

Mayor Gottman stated when you build a building for a municipality it must meet all state code requirements.

Morani stated that \$30,000 was budgeted and another \$30,000 was a donation from the Hazel Kelly Trust Fund.

The Council agrees that a building is needed but at this time the city does not have funds to build this facility.

Alderman Hobler announced the annual inspection for the reservoir dam went very well.

Hobler announced that it is one of the top three dams in Southern Illinois.

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Mayor Gottman announced that Quiznos will open tomorrow.

Fast Stop Travel Center, Arby's and Sears Hardware will open in November.

Mayor Gottman announced that a long time business, Vandalia Greenhouse was destroyed by an early morning fire on October 14th.

There will be a dedication ceremony to recognize Officer Terry J. Emerick who was killed in the line of duty with a memory highway sign on Saturday, November 3, 2007.

Elliott reported that the highway sign bidding is still in process.

Elliott reported that a steering committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening at 5:00 P.M. for the bicentennial Lincoln celebration.

MAIN STREET REPORT:

Main Street Program Director, Dana Whiteman announced that there will be a ribbon cutting at Quiznos at (:30 A.M. on October 16th.

Whiteman announced that she received an accreditation certificate for being a 2007 Accredited National Main Street Program.

They have not received this recognition since 2003.

Whiteman announced that there will be an Upstairs Downtown Merchant Meeting on October 23rd at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

Whiteman announced that the Main Street Office will be moving to the second floor of the new soon to be City Hall.

AUDIENCE :

Mike Anderson who resides at 1110 W. Johnson ask that something be done with the buildings at the corner of Gallatin & Remann St.

Mayor Gottman directed Morani to get with the Code Official on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the council, a motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Feldpouch to adjourn. Motion carried.

