

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

June 4, 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: Brosman, Duggins, Feldpouch, Swarm, Cable, Hobler and Elliott. Bennett was absent.

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 Elliott approving the minutes from the May 21, 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 Duggins approving all Special Bills as submitted: Vandalia Youth Organization in the amount of \$5,000 for youth programs; Metal Culverts, Inc. in the amount of \$3,615.28 for bands; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$1,740.96 for patch mix; Kidd's Plumbing & Heating,

Inc. in the amount of \$1,840.00 for pumping holding tanks at the lake; United Petroleum Service in the amount of \$3,560.00 for installation of audible overflow alarm system; Bluff Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$2,500.00 for a cub cadet mower; G.S. Robins & Co. in the amount of \$4,734.90 for chemicals; H & D Supply Waterworks in the amount of \$8,097.86 for items used on the water line; Ronald & Janet McDowell in the amount of \$2,000 for an easement agreement; Univar USA, Inc. in the amount of \$2,280.00 for mozofloc; Motion carried.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE
MOWER FOR GARAGE:**

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Feldpouch authorizing the purchase of a 2007 Kubota lawn tractor in the amount of \$6500.00 from Bluff Equipment for use at the City Garage. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #2007-6-4-A:

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Duggins approving Ordinance #2007-6-4-A, Prohibiting Parking on Both Sides of North Sixth Street.

Glenda Young who resides at 606 N. Sixth St. stated that parking on both sides has always been a problem on Sixth St. She also stated that street sweeping and snow removal is a problem for the street crew due to cars on both sides.

Young, along with her husband Chris, favored no parking on both sides of the street.

Alderman Brosman stated the underlying problem is the width of the street.

He stated that Sixth Street is considered a residential street, not

one of the major arterial streets. Brosman felt that by allowing some parking on the street has the effect of calming traffic down.

Brosman said that eliminating parking on that stretch of Sixth Street will disrupt somebody's lives.

Many of the aldermen said they had driven down Sixth Street after the issue came about at the last council meeting.

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

ORDINANCE #2007-6-4-B:
ESTABLISHING PREVAILING
RATES OF WAGES:

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Duggins adopting Ordinance #2007-6-4-B, Establishing Prevailing Rates of Wages.

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

APPROVAL OF ZONING BOARD OF
ADJUSTMENTS MEETING:

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler approving the minutes from the Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting from May 16th. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2007-6-4-C:
AMENDING THE VANDALIA LAKE
CAMPING REGULATIONS:

A motion was made by Duggins and seconded by Cable approving Ordinance 2007-6-4-C, Amending The Vandalia Lake Ordinance At Article 4 Camping Regulations at Section 4.2.

This ordinance would require anyone under the age of 18 to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian after 7:00 P.M. at the Vandalia Lake, campground, marina and north side area.

Alderman Feldpouch strongly opposed the proposal.

Feldpouch stated that he thought it was more of an enforcement issue. He stated that he would like to see the rules enforced that are already on the books. He thought this ordinance would be punishing everyone who is under 18 for the problems that some youths are causing at the lake.

Hobler stated that the city needs something on the books to enforce the unsupervised youths.

Elliott also felt that there is a problem of unaccompanied youth in the lake area.

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

T-21 PROJECT:

Mayor Gottman announced that the revisions to the plans of the T-21 project have been made. The project will go out for bid again on June 15th, 2007. Plans may be obtained from the I.D.O.T. office in Effingham.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Morani stated that he met with individuals to discuss some of the procedures and time lines regarding the \$1.5 million dollar grant the city will be receiving to widen Main St. and to extend the water & sewer lines down VanSant Ave. for the purpose of the development of the city owned property for the Ethanol Plant and any future industrial use.

Morani also stated that he is in the process of contacting property owners for the proposed TIF District.

BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT:

John Lester announced that the Holiday Inn Express will open on Thursday, June 7th.

Lester stated that the city has issued them a letter of occupancy as far as the city is concerned.

Lester noted the list of building permits that were issued during the month of May.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Brosman reported that the annual oiling and chipping program will begin next week.

**WEST INTERCHANGE WATER/SEWER
BID APPROVAL TO CURRY
CONSTRUCTION:**

A motion was made by Elliott and seconded by Brosman to approve the low bid from Curry Construction of Mattoon, Il. for the west interchange water and sewer project.

The low base bid of \$1,054,769.00 was submitted by Curry Construction.

According to Greg Gollaher, engineer for HMG, the bid must be accepted before negotiations can be made with Curry to reduce the cost of the project to \$872,066.00.

Mayor Gottman stated that it is wrong to except a bid of \$1,054,769.00 and then try to negotiate a price of \$872,066.00. He felt it is unfair to other bidders.

Mayor Gottman along with Alderman Chad Feldpouch felt that the project should be re-bid.

City Administrator stated that his concern is the two projects that are underway with Vandalia Tractor and the Truck Stop could be impacted by re-bidding the project.

Gollaher said that the area is a difficult one to do sewer work at because it is flat, with poor drainage. The deeper one digs, the more sand and silt there is that remains saturated.

Mayor Gottman questioned Gollaher why they did not take those facts into consideration when asking for bids.

Alderman Feldpouch asked how the city could be sure that Curry would have the project done at the revised figure. Gollaher stated the scope of the project has been changed since the bids. The water and sewer lines will be placed shallower, where there is more clay in the soil.

Mayor Gottman asked how long it would take to re-bid the project and Gollaher estimated about 30 days, which could run into the beginning of the Vandalia Tractor Sales project.

The city received one other bid which was \$400,000.00 more than Curry Construction's bid.

Elliott proposed to accept the bid, with the stipulation that if Curry does not come through with its revised cost estimate, that the city would release them from the contract.

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

**IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER INTAKE
PROJECT TO BEGIN SOON:**

Cable stated everything is in place to begin the improvements to the water intake. Everything except approval from the Department of Natural Resources. Because the Kaskaskia River is a restricted river, it will need to

be published for three weeks before work can begin.

POLICE REPORT:

Swarm gave the Police Department's monthly report for April.

Fines in the amount of \$16,397.50 were paid with the city part being \$5,520.00.

Swarm announced that the Police Department hired two full time police officers, Jason Caraway and Jeremy Bowling II.

Two part time radio dispatchers were also hired, Lisha Sanders and Jessica Durbin.

Mayor Gottman announced that 12 applications have been received for the Chief of Police position.

Applications will be taken until the end of June.

FORMER FIRST BANK TOUR AFTER COUNCIL MEETING:

Feldpouch announced that a tour of the former First Bank building will follow the council meeting this evening.

NANCY LEWIS TO RETIRE:

Mayor Gottman announced effective September, 2007, Nancy Lewis will be retiring as secretary for the City Administrator.

Nancy has worked for the City of Vandalia for thirteen years. We wish her the best in her retirement.

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Brosman to advertise for a replacement for Nancy in the City Administrator's Office. Motion carried.

**LAKE COMMITTEE MEETING
SCHEDULED:**

Hobler announced that there will be a Lake Committee Meeting on June 11th at 6:00 P.M. at the Marina.

**FAYETTE COUNTY WATER ASKING
FOR EASMENT:**

Hobler announced that the Fayette County Water Company is asking for a utility easement on the south side of the lake and some on the north side.

City Attorney stated that Fayette County Water Company should prepare a request for a utility easement for the city to review.

Feldpouch stated if the easement is agreed upon, they are asking for 30,000 gallon of water per day from the city for a period of two years.

Feldpouch suggested that a contract be prepared between the city and Fayette County Water Company for that amount.

Mayor Gottman referred it off to the Water & Sewer Committee.

**GROUND BREAKING FOR VANDALIA
TRACTOR:**

Mayor Gottman announced that a ground breaking ceremony will take place at the new location of Vandalia Tractor Sales at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, June 7th.

**APPLICATION'S BEING TAKEN
FOR E.D. POSITION:**

Mayor Gottman announced that three applications have been received for the Economic Director's position.

REPORT ON TRIP TO VEGAS:

Mayor Gottman reported on the convention to Las Vegas that he along with City Administrator Jimmy Morani attended.

**GRAND LEVEE SET FOR JUNE 15-
17TH:**

Elliott reported that the annual Grande Levee celebration will be held June 15-17. Several activities are planned for the weekend.

MAIN STREET PARKING LOT PROJECT:

Brosman announced that the Main Street parking lot project on Fifth Street is moving forward. Rock has been placed on the lot.

Brosman mentioned a work day has been planned for this Saturday, beginning at 8:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Gottman announced that four ribbon cuttings are planned during June:

June 12th at 9:00 A.M.-Subway

June 12th at 4:30 P.M.-Pump N Pantry

June 29th Noon-FCH offices on New York Drive

June 30th 10:00 A.M.-The Zone

Mayor Gottman announced that First Bank has officially turned the keys over to the city to the former First Bank building.

CONCERNS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Randy Carroll spoke to the council about a concern for his family's safety and that of his neighbors as well as those who walk their dogs in his neighborhood. His neighbor, has several pit bulls at his residence. His neighbor has allowed his dogs to run loose on several occasions. When one of his pit bulls attacked Carroll's dog, it showed that not only is his dog vicious but that the neighbor is a negligent owner when it comes to controlling his dogs, remarked Randy Carroll.

Carroll told the council about problems his family has had with the pit bulls, including vet expenses that incurred when his dog was attacked.

Mayor Gottman directed City Administrator, Morani to check with Effingham and Carbondale to see what kind of ordinances they have on the

books and directed City Attorney Jack Johnston to see what kind of ordinance he can come up with.

ADJOURNMENT :

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

