

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

April 21, 2008
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, McNutt, Swarm, Brosman, Bennett, Hobler and Elliott. Feldpouch was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Elliott approving the minutes from the April 7th, 2008 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Brosman approving all Special Bills as submitted: Burnside, Johnston, Sheafor in the amount of \$11,550.00 for small cases; H & H Computer Services in the amount of \$1,515.00 for laptops through a FEMA grant; HMG in the amount of \$7,177.13 for the Main & Van Sant Ave. Project;

Hurst-Rosche Engineering in the amount of \$5,643.50 for zoning maps; Philip Environmental for UST magnetometer study; Historical Vandalia, Inc. in the amount of \$1,500.00 for Patty Marler's salary; Southwestern Illinois in the amount of \$4,665.50 for Fourth Quarter commitment for advertising; Beelman Truck Corp. in the amount of \$34,236.42 for hauling CM13; DMB Coatings in the amount of \$8,860.80 for polyurethane foam to walls of maintenance shed; Tri County Petroleum in the amount of \$3,882.92 for gasohol; First National Bank in the amount of \$65,765.63 for General Obligation Bonds/Jr. Debt Acct.; Univar USA, Inc. in the amount of \$3,787.20 for mozofloc. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

**NEW WAVE COMMUNICATIONS
GIVES UPDATE ON NEW WAVE
UPGRADE TO COUNCIL:**

Bill Flowers of New Wave Communications was in attendance for the council meeting to talk about New Waves plan for upgrades to the cable system.

Flowers said because of the poor weather conditions over the winter, they are about two months behind schedule in finishing up their upgrade projects in the McLeansboro and Fairfield areas.

Flowers estimated they will start on the upgrade in this area by the end of May, and it would take about three months to complete.

RESOLUTION 2008-4-21-A:
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF
EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN
CITY & MARTIN HUSKEY:

A motion was made by Elliott and seconded by Cable approving the hiring of Martin Huskey as Water Plant Superintendent.

Huskey succeeds Bobby Dowell, who will be retiring May 31st of this year.

APPLICATION FOR TAXICAB
LICENSE FOR C. MICHAEL
CUNETTO:

Mayor Gottman tabled the license application because City Attorney Johnston needed to review state statues governing taxi cab licenses.

MORANI REPORT:

City Administrator announced that a public hearing will be held Monday, May 5th at 7:00 P.M. to take comments on the proposed Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

Morani announced that he along with Economic Development Director, JoAnn Givens attended an Enterprise Zone Conference in Bloomington, Il. on Thursday and Friday of last week.

He stated that the conference was very informative and picked up some potential changes to the law.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable reported that the river intake is back to normal.

Cable mentioned that the river intake tower will be cleaned next week.

Cable mentioned that we are having a problem with the claim on the lightning damage at the WWTP.

Mayor Gottman asked to have Mark Augenstein submit copies of the claim to him to present to the Executive Director on the Illinois Municipal Board.

Swarm gave the Police monthly report for March 2008.

The total amount of fines that were collected was \$19,504.00. The City's portion was \$6,602.00.

Bennett announced that negotiations are ongoing with the three unions.

Hobler announced that a Lake Committee Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 10th at 8:00 A.M. at the Marina.

Elliott reported that plans are underway for the Grand Levee to held June 13th, 14th, and 15th.

MAIN STREET REPORT:

Whiteman announced that the state application workshop for Main Street set for May 15th has been changed to August 25th.

Whiteman along with the Main Street Board of Directors is requesting an additional funding from the city from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Doug Knebel who serves as the Treasurer for the Main Street Board addressed the council on why they need the increase.

Knebel stated the money that Main Street had been reimbursed for in the past, for advertising their events is now not available. He said they found out that they were not eligible for those funds.

City Administrator Morani says he currently has their funding of \$15,000 in the budget for 2008-2009, unless otherwise directed by the City Council.

Elliott and Brosman were both in support of an increase for Main Street.

Mayor Gottman questioned where is the city going to come up with an additional \$5,000?

Mayor Gottman stated when the Aldermen receive a copy of the proposed budget, they would need to consult with Morani and the Mayor to see where the Council thought the extra \$5,000 should come from.

No action was taken at this time, until the council reviews a copy of the budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

Mayor Gottman announced that he attended the Illinois Municipal League Board on April 9th and 10th in Springfield.

The Kaskaskia College would like for everyone to attend their Open House on Friday, May 2nd from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. at the Vandalia Campus.

Mayor Gottman and JoAnn Givens will be attending the Trade Show in Las Vegas, Nevada in May.

On May 8th and 9th the Illinois Tax Increment Association will meet.

Mayor Gottman announced that they received some information from the architectural sign company who will be doing the storyboards.

All information must be submitted to them no later than May 31st and they will have the storyboards to the City by August 29th.

Mayor Gottman announced that clean up week is set for May 12th thru May 16th.

A "thank you" from Kaskaskia College Foundation expressing their appreciation for the support of \$75,000 to the KC Vandalia campus project.

Mayor Gottman announced "The Reading Link" for Kaskaskia College is looking for volunteers to help people one on one with reading.

Anyone who would like to volunteer may contact Kaskaskia College.

CONCERNS FROM THE ALDERMEN:

Hobler told the council that he knows of a family that has lost their home to a fire early this year and is now wanting to put a manufactured home on that piece of property.

The owners learned that manufactured homes are not allowed in the city in that area.

City Administrator Morani says that manufactured homes are not allowed in areas that are zoned in the city as single family, which includes areas north of Jefferson Street.

Brad Boley owner of Boley Homes stated the difference in a manufactured home and a modular home is very minimal.

Boley said manufactured homes are built to housing and urban development standards and marked with a red sticker, while modular homes that are allowed anywhere in the city, are built to state standards and marked with a yellow sticker.

Mayor Gottman recommended that City Administrator Morani, Brad Boley of Boley Homes and Kevin Satterthwaite of Pine Ridge Homes and any council members wishing to be involved in drafting a proposal to be taken to the Planning Commission should attend the meeting.

Morani set a meeting for Monday, where they will review the existing ordinance which was passed March 15, 1999 and discuss possible changes.

Any proposals there will go in draft form to the full city council, then to the Planning Commission, which after public notice, would hold a public hearing. Anything approved at the Planning Commission meeting would come back to the City Council for approval.

The question arose about a manufactured home that is located at First and Jefferson Street which is an area where manufactured homes are not allowed.

City Administrator explained that was an oversight made by his office.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Brosman asked if City Attorney Johnston had time to review the sign ordinance in reference to small signs on the outside of businesses.

Johnston did review the sign ordinance and it is allowable on businesses in the downtown area.

ELLIOTT TO RESIGN IN JULY OF 2008:

Barbie Elliott announced that she plans to resign from the council in late July.

AUDIENCE :

Mike Cunetto asked why his request for a taxicab license was tabled.

Cunetto told the council that he had been given state approval and met all necessary requirements.

City Attorney Johnston said the reason for tabling it was because he has probably not ever looked at state laws on taxi licenses in the past thirty years, and needs to review those laws before he can verify that Cunetto meets all requirements.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Cable and seconded by Hobler approving the taxicab license, pending the review by the City Attorney. If Johnston approves the application, Cunetto will be granted the license.

ADJOURNMENT :

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

