

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

February 16, 2010
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, Swarm, Brosman, Bennett, Hobler, McNutt and Feldpouch. Black was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by Hobler approving the minutes from the February 1, 2010 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by McNutt 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: Direct Energy Business in the amount of \$16,160.07 for electric bill; Governmental Consulting in the amount of \$2,000 for consulting services; Southwestern Illinois in the amount of \$11,995.00 for advertising and brochures; Tri-County Petroleum in the amount of \$6,436.67 for fuel for the

garage; Gonzalez Companies in the amount of \$1,822.50 for project engineering; G.S. Robins & Co. in the amount of \$4,627.47 for supplies; Tomlinson Electric in the amount of \$1,919.95 for removal of two existing ceiling heaters & installing two; Vandevanter Engineering in the amount of \$2,477.75 for parts for the West Main Street sewer project and \$2,656.00 for the annual maintenance inspections. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

**RESIGNATION OF ALDERMAN
CHAD FELDPOUCH:**

Chad Feldpouch announced that effective immediately he would be resigning from the City Council as Ward IV Alderman.

On the advice of State's Attorney Stephen Friedel, it is necessary for him to resign so that he can maintain his position on another board.

Chad was sworn in as Alderman in Ward IV on March 18, 2002 after John Moyer resigned to take on the position as Public Works Director.

Chad was a member of the city council for eight years.

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Cable approving the resignation of Alderman Feldpouch. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF JOHN ANDREW
LESTER AS ALDERMAN IN WARD
IV:**

Mayor Gottman asked for the support from the Council in his appointment of John Andrew Lester to fill the vacancy of Chad Feldpouch in Ward IV.

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Cable approving the appointment of John "Andy" Lester.

At that time John Andrew Lester was sworn in by City Clerk Peggy Bowen.

**RESOLUTION #2010-2-16-A:
MAINTENANCE OF STREETS &
HIGHWAYS BY MUNICIPALITY
UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY
CODE**

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Brosman approving Resolution #2010-2-16-A, For Maintenance Of Streets And Highways By Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$280,408.75 for 2010.

Roll call: Swarm, yea; Hobler, yea; Cable, yea; Bennett, yea; Brosman, yea; McNutt, yea; Lester, yea; Black was absent. Motion carried.

**RESIGNATION OF CITY
ADMINISTRATOR MORANI:**

A letter was presented to the council in which City Administrator Jimmy Morani stated he was voluntarily resigning as City Administrator effective sixty days from this date.

Morani has accepted the position of Administrator for the Village of New Baden. This opportunity gives him a chance to further his professional development while being closer to family and church.

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Bennett accepting the resignation of Morani. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Cable and seconded by Brosman authorizing Mayor Gottman to advertise for the administrator position. Motion carried.

T21 GRANT PROJECT:

Mayor Gottman said that the City is still trying to get the 300 and 400 blocks of Gallatin Street open to the traffic while weather prevents work from being done in that area.

The city was informed that the contractor plans to start working again on March 8th.

Mayor Gottman said that there is nothing that can be done.

The council was told that it would cost the city \$3,870.33 each time that the two blocks are opened up while work is delayed because of the weather.

Mayor Gottman said the contractor has the authority to close the blocks down again, even if it's just a day or two after they were open.

Mayor Gottman said that Hank's is not cooperating with the city at all.

Mayor Gottman asked IDOT and Hank's Excavating for the right to have the city public works employees handle the tasks involved in opening and closing the two blocks. They were told no, due to it being a union job.

Mayor Gottman said that he was told by opening and closing the two blocks would create liability issues for the contractor.

A weekly report from IDOT was emailed to each council member on the downtown enhancement project.

GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTING SOLUTIONS UPDATE:

Mayor Gottman announced that Chris Stone, Consulting Rep. will be arranging a meeting with himself,

Chris and the Director of Illinois Department of Corrections who can help with some grants.

Mayor Gottman said that he would like to see the facility out here back in full operation. Work camp and all.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cable reported that a defective variable speed control was replaced on lake pump.

Hobler reported that the work on the spillway will soon be finished.

Mayor Gottman appointed Andy Lester as Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Lester was also appointed to the Water and Sewer Committee, Street Committee and Lake Committee.

JoAnn Givens mentioned the marketing of the former Wal-Mart Building with The Kroenke Group.

Givens also announced that there will be a ribbon cutting at Sloan Implement on Thursday, February 25th at 10:00 A.M.

Givens also announced that Southwestern Illinois Tourism recently held a meeting in Vandalia, with area restaurants and hotel operators, to try and put together plans to help with tourism. Joan said that the meeting went well.

Mayor Gottman announced that The Depot plans to open on March 15th.

Mayor Gottman reported that he along with Economic Development Director JoAnn Givens is working with a prospect on the Orgill Building.

Mayor Gottman distributed Main Street's Board Meeting Minutes from January 25, 2010 for the Council's information.

Dana Whiteman Main Street Coordinator announced that plans are underway for a "Summerfest" to be held in downtown Vandalia on July 17th.

Whiteman reported that Main Street members and officers would volunteer to help out in getting the downtown blocks open.

Mayor Gottman said, it doesn't matter it won't happen. He said that he would volunteer too, if they would let us.

Alderman Lester asked Mayor Gottman if the city has been given any criteria, such as a certain temperature or a certain number of days before the crews can begin work on the project.

The mayor said weather permitting.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Mayor Gottman announced that he will be attending a Southern Illinois Mayors Association meeting in Fairview Heights next week.

AUDIENCE:

Chad Feldpouch asked the Mayor if the city has heard anything from Motown. He and JoAnn Givens reported no.

COUNCILMEN CONCERNS:

Cable reported that he received a call from Southwestern Electric in reference to the street lights along West Main Street towards the new Sloan Implement building.

They gave him a price of \$6,535.94 for seven lights. They said it would take between three to four weeks to put them in.

Swarm suggested that we consider two lights in that area.

There was no action taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Hobler and seconded by McNutt to adjourn. Motion carried.

