

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

January 3, 2017
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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Swarm, Hubler, Rebbe, Lester, Hobler, Crawford and B. John Clark. Stunkel was absent.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by Crawford approving the minutes from the December 19, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

A motion was made by Hobler and seconded by B. John Clark approving the regular bills as submitted. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by B. John Clark approving the Special Bills as submitted: Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$12,488.50 for loan on fire truck; Illinois South Tourism in the amount of \$6,510.00 for 3rd quarter advertising & marketing; U.S. Bancorp in the amount of \$14,781.19 for monthly payment on water meters; Brenntag Mid South, Inc. in the amount of \$6,374.78 for chemicals; Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF LIQUOR
LICENSE CLASS A FOR DISCOUNT
TOBACCO:

A motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Lester to postpone any action or reading on the liquor issues until the city is able to learn more about the actions it can take on the gaming issue.

FIRST READING OF THE SALE OF
TRANSFER OF "THE CORK"
LIQUOR LICENSE TO MEYER OIL:

Maranatha Cripe, owner of The Cork stated in a letter to the aldermen, that she would consider closing The Cork, to open that license up for Randy Meyer with Meyer Oil.

A motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Lester to postpone any action until we have the pleasure of reviewing this ordinance that we will put out.

Lester said, that he thought there were to be some guidelines in that ordinance.

Randy Meyer with Meyer Oil told the aldermen that his request is a transfer of license, not creating a new license.

Connor explained that would not be the case, because Cripe's relinquishment of her license would drop the number of Class A licenses and the council would have to vote on increasing the number.

Hubler and Lester were referring to the council's discussion at the November 21st meeting about following the lead of other communities such as Decatur, on limiting the number gaming facilities.

Alderwoman Crawford asked, how can we limit gaming licenses when it is not within our purview to grant them.

Crawford said, The Illinois Gaming Act says we can prevent them or accept them, there's nothing about limiting them, and it's all or nothing.

Connor who serves as the city attorney said, gaming is inherently tied to liquor, so the city has almost plenary authority over the issuance of liquor licenses within its boundaries.

Connor said that one of the ways the city code works is that the city increases and decreases liquor license through an application process. Connor says, the city reviews each one individually.

Since the City of Vandalia controls the liquor licenses, you control the gaming. There can be no gaming without liquor in Vandalia. These two things are tied together.

Connor told the council that in creating an ordinance limiting gaming, he wants to look more broadly at the city code.

Mayor Gottman appointed Crawford, Hubler and Stunkel to a committee to study the issue and meet with Connor on the development of an ordinance.

A roll call vote was taken on the liquor issues, Hubler, yea; B. John Clark, yea; Swarm, yea; Hobler, yea; Lester, yea; Rebbe, yea; Crawford, nay. Motion carried.

Crawford said that her reason for voting nay, I understand the need for clarity but these people deserve an answer at some point.

ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF
BIDS FOR DEMO AT 1206 W. ST.
LOUIS AVE.:

A motion was made by Lester and seconded by B. John Clark accepting the low bid from Kidd's Plumbing in the amount of \$6,450.00 for demolition of 1206 West St. Louis Ave. Motion carried.

The city also received bids from Grubaugh Contracting in the amount of \$6,880.00; Gathe Farms in the amount of \$6,900.00 and Smith Backhoe Service in the amount of \$7,500.00.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gottman announced that the local bridge card players who traditionally hold a Christmas gift exchange decided this year to instead make a \$550.00 donation to Vandalia Beautification Committee.

Mayor Gottman reported that Dorothy Donley who several months ago began heading up the cleaning of old grave markers in the Old State Burial Grounds, has asked for permission to work on getting that cemetery listed on the national register. Permission was granted by the council.

SEEKING SEALED BIDS ON FARM
GROUND OWNED BY THE CITY:

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by B. John Clark to seek sealed bids on the cash rent farm lease approximately 120 acres owned by the City of Vandalia. Motion carried.

Mayor Gottman announced that today, January 3rd was the first day on the job for Brian Stout, the new director of economic development.

Mayor Gottman told the council that he and Stout are meeting with Jeanne Gustafson, who serves as the director of economic development in Salem, this Thursday, and that he plans to set up meetings with others that hold this position in other municipalities.

Mayor Gottman said that Stout did bring in his own furniture. An inventory will be taken for the city to have on file.

Also, Kyle Reiss who is the mechanic for the city has brought in his tools as well and an inventory will be taken on these as well.

Mayor Gottman reported that a retirement party was held last Friday for Barbara McCart, who worked for the City of Vandalia for 41 years.

A copy of the code official's report is in your packet.

Mayor Gottman announced that Dennis Grubaugh had purchased the building in the 100 block of South Fifth Street that were

south of the buildings that collapsed last year.

Mr. Grubaugh said that he plans to demolish the former building owned by Nedra's Printing and a law office before the spring of the year.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

B. John Clark said that the Water and Sewer Committee will meet on Monday, January 16th at 6:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Swarm who serves as chairman of the Water & Sewer Committee said that the committee has been talking about several issues, including the construction of a new water plant and addressing the river intake problem.

Swarm felt that the first priority should be getting a working river intake.

Swarm said that he would like to see the city continue to replace water line valves due to the number of water line breaks.

He said that he would also like to see the city consider running water lines to Deerwood Estates and down the Carlyle Road.

Lester asked Code Official Zac Kopp what his thoughts were for dilapidated buildings in 2017?

Kopp hoped to take care of at least two or three this coming year.

Lester also asked what the game plan was for repair or replacements of sidewalks for the upcoming year.

Filer, who is the Public Works Director said that they plan to do another 2,000 feet which would cost around \$20,000.00.

**ANGIE RHODES REQUEST
CATERING LICENSE:**

Angie Rhodes, owner of The Gallatin Street Grille asked for a creation of a catering license.

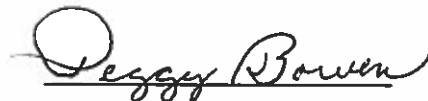
She currently has to apply for a special events license, and pay the city's fee of \$100.00, along with the fee for a state license, every time she caters an event. She is requesting the council reduce the cost.

She asked the council to act on this as soon as possible.

The council directed city attorney Connor to draft an ordinance allowing for catering licenses for the January 16th city council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Crawford and seconded by Hubler to adjourn. Motion carried.



CITY CLERK