

**CITY COUNCIL**  
Regular Meeting

February 17, 2015  
7:30 P.M.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**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: Swarm, Neil Clark, B. John Clark, Crawford, Hobler and Lester. Stunkel was absent.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR NORMA HAMLIN & NANCY LEWIS:**

A moment of silence was observed for Norma Hamlin, mother of Randy Carroll employee for the City of Vandalia and Nancy Lewis, a former secretary for the City of Vandalia.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by N. Clark and seconded by Swarm approving the minutes from the February 2, 2015 Council Meeting along with the Special Council Minutes from February 9, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

**REGULAR BILLS:**

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

A motion was made by B. John Clark and seconded by Crawford approving the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL BILLS:**

A motion was made N. Clark and seconded by B. John Clark approving the Special Bills as listed:

Burnside, Johnston & Connor in the amount of \$1,850.00 for legal fees; South central FS Inc. in the amount of \$42,675.98 for 2014 Sales Tax Reimbursement; Ron Whiteside Communications for installing equipment in squad car; car; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$1,810.40 for patch mix; Centraz Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$2,880.00 for sewer solvent; Cummins Mid South in the amount of \$1,704.16 to check out Genset for wiring issues; Brenntag Mid South in the amount of \$9,075.81 for chemical supplies; Vandevanter Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$2,484.00 for 2015 OmniSite annual cellular service; Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF ALDERMAN FOR WARD III:**

A motion was made by B. John Clark and seconded by N. Clark approving Mayor Gottman's appointment of Joel Rebbe to serve as alderman in Ward III. Motion carried.

A this time, Joel Rebbe was sworn in by City Clerk Peggy Bowen to serve as alderman in Ward III.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK BIDS FOR A 4-WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE FOR WATER PLANT:**

A motion was made by Swarm and seconded by B. John Clark authorizing to seek bids for a four wheel drive for the Water Plant. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #20115-2-17-A:  
AMENDING CHAPTER 10 VEHICLES  
AND TRAFFIC AT 10.04.030 STOP  
INTERSECTIONS**

A motion was made by B. John Clark and seconded by Crawford adopting Ordinance #2015-2-17-A, Amending Chapter 10 Vehicles And Traffic At 10.04.030 Stop Intersections.

At the intersection of Rock Island Avenue-Progress West Drive a stop sign for west bound traffic.

Roll Call: B. John Clark, yea; Hobler, yea; N. Clark, yea; Swarm, yea; Crawford, yea; Lester, yea; Rebbe, yea. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Gottman announced that there will be a special meeting to discuss the continuing agreement with Good Energy in the near future.

Mayor Gottman announced that he received a listing from Ameren Illinois on the tree trimming in and around the Vandalia area in the near future.

The list was given to the clerk to keep on file for the public to review if they wish.

Mayor Gottman reported that the windows have been put in the Caboose.

All the damage done by the youth to the Caboose has been completed.

Mayor Gottman announced that last week the city held their first website meeting. They plan to move forward with that as soon as possible.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

B. John Clark said that he along with Public Works Director Marlin Filer took a look at the parking or lack of parking in the downtown area.

Filer suggested that the city purchase a "No Parking" stencil and use it in areas where parking is not allowed.

Those areas include spaces that are adjacent to alleys on both sides of Gallatin Street between Fifth & Sixth Streets.

Hobler suggested that we consider making one way alleys.

Mayor Gottman and some of the aldermen liked that idea which might give additional parking spaces on Gallatin St.

Mayor Gottman asked Filer to look into that and report back at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

B. John Clark said that he was not able to get ahold of Mic Rogers in regard to the "Do Not Block" sign at Nails Ten.

Mayor Gottman directed Marlin Filer to turn the sign to face the roadway. If they have a problem with that they can call Mayor Gottman.

Hobler said with the Vandalia School District moving kindergarten & first grade from Jefferson to VES the city along with the school officials need to meet to discuss the changes in the north end. Hobler said this will add to the already existing traffic congestion at the end of each school day.

Chief Ray said that he already spoke to school officials about that issue, and he was told that the school is considering having parents use the school entrance off of Veterans to drop off and pick up students.

Ray said that there will still be issues with traffic on Veterans.

Mayor Gottman suggested that the Street Committee and Public Safety Committee meet with the Supt. Of Schools and maintenance.

Lester is working on getting the paperwork to Burtschi Bros. to close on the house that the city purchased for the future Water Plant.

Mayor Gottman reported that Chief Ray's police squad was rear-ended during the last snow.

Mayor Gottman reported that he had a company that contacted him in regards to an existing building with 14,000-20,000 sq. ft. for retail. Three existing buildings were submitted.

Mayor Gottman reported that there is some interest in the 120 acres that the city owns.

Mayor Gottman said that a verbal proposal has been submitted to two developers who are looking to land a business in Vandalia.

Mayor Gottman announced that Gov. Rauner has appointed Jim Schultz of Teutopolis director of the Illinois Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity.

Swarm asked if we advertised for sealed bids on the 120 acres farm ground.

Clerk Bowen said that it was published in last week's paper.

Mayor Gottman announced at this time there are ten applications for the position of City Administrator.

There are 20-25 applications for the two positions to be filled at the Water Plant.

Alderwoman publicly thanked Marlin Filer for fixing the gigantic pothole on Jefferson St. and Eighth St.

Alderman Swarm publicly thanked the public works crew for the outstanding job they did on the streets and alleys during the big storm over the past weekend.

Neil Clark complemented Melinda Garrison on the superb job she did on the Public Railroad Safety Meeting from February 2, 2015.

**CORONER BRUCE BOWEN PLEADS FOR FIRST RESPONDER'S:**

Bruce Bowen who serves as Fayette Co. Coroner asked the city officials to work with him and support him in creating a First Responder Crew at the Vandalia Fire Department.

Bowen said that he spoke with one of the paramedics at Fayette County Hospital who is also a fireman and he was all for the idea.

Bowen spoke with Fire Chief Keith Meadows and Bowen said that Meadows didn't refuse him but would like to bring it up to the firemen to get their input.

He made the council aware that Vandalia is the only city in the county without First Responders.

Bowen said, I want to make something perfectly clear, "I'm not saying that every time the ambulance goes out First Responders should be called".

I think that we should have a First Responder Crew available when a situation like this arises, it could be your life or, it could be your family's life that we could be talking about the next time.

Bowen said, I know the first flag that waves is the dollar signs. This wouldn't be an expensive proposition at all. They would need an oxygen tank, 4x4's, Ace bandages, things to stop bleeding. The equipment they would have to carry would be minimal.

Bowen said, I'm asking you guys to stand with me and if you want to form a committee I'll be happy to even head it or to have a watchdog committee to work at it so it doesn't happen again and that we are always prepared.

I'm asking you to make some motions, work with the Fire Department and please let's get some First Responder's in place so no one else dies like this. This has not been the first time this has happened.

Swarm asked if we have a truck that could be used for this. Bowen said, you could use any truck, even the pickup. You don't need a lot of equipment.

Swarm asked about transporting the victims? Bowen said, I don't think they should transport because the city would not want to take that on for legality reasons.

What First Responders would do, they go to the scene and maintain that person until the ambulance arrives.

Again, Bowen emphasized that the First Responder's are not to respond to every call just in instances when two rigs are out.

Bowen said, I would appreciate your help by working together.

Mayor Gottman said he would schedule a meeting with Fire Chief Keith Meadows, Chief of Police Jeff Ray and Alderman Jerry Swarm.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by B. John Clark and seconded by Hobler to adjourn. Motion carried.

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CITY CLERK







