

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

March 2, 2020
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gottman called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vandalia City Council to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ROLL CALL:

Aldermen present were: Barker, Lester, Hubler, Brosman, Rebbe and Stunkel. Hobler & Crawford were absent.

MOMENT OF SILENCE OBSERVED:

A moment of silence was observed for the following: Carol Murray, local business owner of the City of Vandalia; Ralph Beals, local business owner of the City of Vandalia; Roger Donley, husband of Dorothy Donley who has been very instrumental in many projects for the City of Vandalia; Jack Durbin, father-in-law of police dispatcher Jessica Durbin and family friend of our Tourism Director Jessica Hampton. Our deepest sympathy to these families.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker approving the minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman approving the Special Bills as listed: Ignition Graphix Inc. in the amount of \$1,550.00 for signage at Vandalia Lake; Lightle Enterprises of Ohio for light at stop sign in the amount of \$8,786.00; U.S. Bancorp in the amount of \$14,781.19 for water meters; Diamond Equip. Inc. in the amount of \$1,530.52 Brenntag Mid South, Inc. in the amount of \$7,827.40 for chemicals; Hawkins, Inc. in the amount of \$7,354.79 for activated carbon. Motion carried.

GEORGE EVANS, KASKASKIA
COLLEGE PRESIDENT:

George Evans, President of the Kaskaskia College presented Mayor Gottman a Resolution of Appreciation for the City's Participation in Illinois Manufacturing Month from the Kaskaskia Community College Board of Trustees.

CLEAN-UP WEEK SET FOR MAY
11-15th, 2020:

A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Stunkel setting the City-Wide Clean-Up Week for May 11-15, 2020.

The items will be collected on the dates of regular trash pickup.

Items Not Accepted: Paint in a wet stage, car batteries, tires, brush/landscape waste, construction materials or hazardous waste materials. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2020-3-2-A:
APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF
VANDALIA, IL & ADVANCED
DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Barker and seconded by Brosman Approving Resolution #2020-3-2-A, Approving A Lease Agreement Between The City of Vandalia, IL & Advanced Digital Solutions.

The City will be leasing from Advanced Digital Solutions one (1) Xerox Copier for the Tourist Information Center.

The monthly lease payment will be \$120.00.

Roll Call vote: Stunkel, yea; Hubler, yea; Brosman, yea; Rebbe, yea; Barker, yea; Lester, yea. Hobler & Crawford were absent. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT #701
FROM PAIGE REAVILL, RAMSEY,
IL TO MERCEDES BEHRENDTS,
BROWNSTOWN, IL:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman approving the transfer of Lake Lot 701 from Paige Reavill, Ramsey, Il. to Mercedes Behrends, Brownstown, IL. All necessary fees have been paid. Motion carried.

ACCEPT OR REJECT RESIGNATION
OF DAN BARENFANGER AS
BUILDING & ZONING OFFICIAL:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman accepting the resignation from Dan Barenfanger as the Building and Zoning Official for the City of Vandalia effective March 27, 2020. Motion carried.

ACCEPT OR REJECT BIDS FOR 2
EZ VALVES & 1 HOT TAP:

A motion was made by Barker and seconded by Stunkel accepting the low bid from MB Construction in the amount of \$10,000.00 for 2-6" EZ valves. Motion carried.

The City also received a bid from IMCO Utility Supply Co. in the amount of \$12,200.

RICK RADLIFF-TIF &
DISTILLERY:

Rick Radliff spoke to the council specifically over the recent TIF vote that was taken providing Rick & Cindy with funding for 25% for the renovation and improvement project. A few weeks later a project was awarded TIF funds for 50% of the project.

Radliff explained that they have made numerous improvements and expansion is being made to the Blind Society kitchen, the basement of the distillery and more. Radliff also mentioned that the largest plans of an event center area on the top floor of the building were put on hold at this time after not receiving as much TIF funding as requested.

Radliff says after another project was awarded 50% TIF funding from the council, he & his wife, Cindy began comparing their project to the other as far as jobs that would be added and taxes coming from their business.

He said, that the jobs and sales tax created from the other project were well below the jobs that would be added at Blind Society and Witness Distillery.

Radliff felt that there was not a consistent path taken with the TIF and that best practices were not used with the awarding of TIF funding and were not aligned with the vision for downtown.

Alderman Andy Lester also commented on Radliff's thoughts and said that he was a 25% TIF funding being awarded as he states he is on all TIF requests and that he felt Witness Distillery was not shorted on TIF funding, but that the other project was overcompensated by being awarded 50% in TIF funding.

Mayor Gottman thanked Rick & Cindy for their work and efforts and felt that building would be vacant had it not been for the Radliff's.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gottman explained to the council the handling of the fire calls & paid fire bills from the hand-out you received.

Mayor Gottman reported that the Moose Lodge has done a major renovation of their lodge. Most of the work was donated. They did a great job.

Mayor Gottman reported that there was a large crowd of downtown business owners and property owners on hand this afternoon to hear from the consultant to come up with a plan to potentially revitalize downtown Vandalia.

The consultant talked about communities they have worked with throughout the country with work to help bring back downtowns that are both bigger and smaller than Vandalia.

Mayor Gottman said that he believes that experience will help with this process.

Mayor Gottman will be putting together a committee to work on the recommendations that will be brought forth from Jenn Gregory, Consultant's information.

Mayor Gottman announced that LaTisha Paslay has successfully completed the requirements needed to obtain the certificate from the Illinois Municipal Treasurer's Association.

She will be presented with her certificate at the June Treasurer's Association Conference.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Brosman stated that he would like the press to get out some information that was in a report that the city recently received from the engineer for a new Water Plant. There was a line item that Brosman thought was an interesting factor "to handle the debt load" for building a new Water Treatment Plant. Brosman mentioned that it could possibly be \$15.00 a month increase on the water bills on an average water bill in town. He felt that the residents should know that an increase is coming. Brosman said, this is something to be thinking about now.

Mayor Gottman announced that there is an opening at the Water Plant.

The Mayor, City Administrator Paslay and Water Plant Supervisor came to a decision to hire the second choice but he declined as of today. Paslay will review the applications again and a meeting will be set to review the applications.

Stunkel gave a report on the lake lots that must comply with improvements before they are issued their new lot renewal.

CONCERNS FROM THE ALDERMEN:

Brosman asked if there is anything we as the city can do for our local citizens and definitely economic development to encourage better cell phone coverage in our downtown areas.

It was noted that AT & T is building a tower on the Carlyle Road.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being nothing further to discuss, a motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to adjourn. Motion carried.


Peggy Bowen
City Clerk