

CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting

January 4, 2021
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

MEETING BEING CONDUCTED
REMOTELY PURSUANT TO
EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-07
SIGNED BY GOV. PRITZKER:

"Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-07, the requirements of 5 ILCS 120.10 directing that a quorum of members of a public body must be physically present for meetings as well as those of 5 ILCS 120/7 limiting the scope of electronic participation in meetings covered by that Act have been suspended. The City of Vandalia is providing the following remote participation mechanism for the January 4, 2021 City Council Meeting."

ROLL CALL:

Aldermen present for the remote participation were: Barker, Hubler, Brosman, Lester, Stunkel, Hobler and Rebbe. Crawford was absent.

Others that were on the teleconference call were: Mayor Gottman, City Clerk, Peggy Bowen; City Administrator, LaTisha Paslay; City Attorney, Ryan Connor; Chief of Police Jeff Ray; WPMB/WKRV, Erica Foltz, Vandalia Leader, Rich Bauer and Steve Niemerg with Roepke & Niemerg Tree & Conservation Service.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker approving the minutes from the December 21, 2020 meeting as presented.

Roll call: Brosman, yea; Barker, yea; Lester, yea; Hobler, yea; Rebbe, yea; Hubler, yea; Stunkel, yea. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman approving the regular bills as presented.

Roll call: Stunkel, yea; Barker, yea; Hubler, yea; Rebbe, yea; Lester, yea; Brosman, yea; Hobler, yea; Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker approving the Special Bills as listed: Ameren Illinois in the amount of \$2,118.13 for street lights; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,000.00 for sewer vac payment; ADS Electric Corp. in the amount of \$29,717.55 for replacing traffic pole on Gallatin St. & Kennedy; Mac's Fire & Safety Inc. in the amount of \$1,657.71 for helmets & shields for the fire department; IMCO Utility Supply in the amount of \$1,583.00 for MJ accessory kits & Joint Accessory kits; Wolfe Restoration Inc. in the amount of \$1,870.20 for serve prop clean up on sewer backup; SMAW, Inc. in the amount of \$ 7,800.00 for OSHA Upgrades at the Water Plant; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc. in the amount of \$6,821.80 for chemicals; Hawkins, Inc. in the amount of \$5,575.68 for activated carbon; Cedarchem, LLC in the amount of \$12,689.02 for cedarclear; Omni site, Corp. in the amount of \$3,963.75 for OMNI Advantage Ann.

Roll call: Rebbe; yea; Hobler, yea; Lester, yea; Hubler, yea; Barker, yea; Brosman, yea; Stunkel, yea. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT #301
FROM TY KNEBEL, VANDALIA TO
JAKE KELLY, VANDALIA:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker approving the transfer of Lake Lot #301 from Ty Knebel, Vandalia to Jake Kelly, Vandalia. All necessary fees have been paid.

Roll call: Rebbe, yea; Stunkel, yea; Barker, yea; Hobler, yea; Brosman, yea; Hubler, yea; Lester, yea. Motion carried.

ACCEPT OR REJECT BIDS FOR
REMOVAL OF TREES AT CEMETERY
& VANDALIA LAKE OFF OF CITY
PROPERTY TO THIN OUT TREE
LINES:

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker approving the high bid from Henderson Timber Services of Sigel in the amount of \$44,900.00. The city received bids from two others, Nash Hardwoods, Vandalia in the amount of \$36,555.00 and Austin Timber Company in the amount of \$10,750.00.

Steve Niemerg of Roepke & Niemerg Tree & Conservation Service said there were a total of 303 trees. Niemerg said that the Cemetery property had 127 logs and the Vandalia Lake had 176 logs. Niemerg said that the majority of the trees being removed at the Cemetery are white oak while the majority at the Lake are black oak with some pin oak and a small number of walnut trees.

Niemerg also stated that there is a penalty listed in the contract if a tree not marked for removal is taken.

Niemerg assured the City after all the documents are signed the city will receive the payment the later part of this week.

Roll call vote: Hubler, yea; Barker, yea; Stunkel, yea; Hobler, yea; Brosman, yea; Lester, yea; Rebbe, yea. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker giving Mayor Gottman authorization to sign all documents for the state as well as for the Catholic church who owns some of the property that the company will have to use to access the trees on city property.

Roll call: Barker, yea; Lester, yea; Rebbe, yea; Hobler, yea; Brosman, yea; Hubler, yea; Stunkel, yea. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gottman reported that 2020 was a real challenge with the COVID pandemic. The city will be reimbursed \$290,000 from the Federal Government through the CURES project.

Mayor Gottman reported that State Representative Blaine Wilhour and the House Republicans had secured a \$450,000 grant for the City of Vandalia.

Mayor Gottman said that a meeting with the Water & Sewer and Streets Department to look at the long-range plan of Vandalia, the Comprehensive Plan which will then be forwarded on to the city's engineers.

Mayor Gottman reported that the city recently had a water leak at 6th and Fillmore and a sewer back-up on 6th Street over the holiday weekend.

Mayor Gottman announced that a meeting with Atlas 46 will be held on Thursday in Hillsboro. Economic Director Amber Daulbaugh and Mayor Gottman will be attending this meeting.

Mayor Gottman announced that the employees for the City of Vandalia received a \$30.00 gift card for Christmas from the city.

Mayor Gottman announced that the COVID19 new strain is hitting the U.S. Mayor Gottman stressed to wear your mask, wash your hands & social distancing is important.

Mayor Gottman thanked the Public Works Crew for putting up the Christmas decorations and now taking them down so we can try to get back to normal.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Barker thanked the Street & Water Department, they were out there on New Year's Eve in the cold fighting that water leak till after midnight.

We are very fortunate to have such a great crew and if you see them "thank them" for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Gottman announced that there is an opening at the Water Plant. Applications are due by January 8th at 4:00 pm.

Chief of Police Jeff Ray announced that another part-time dispatcher gave notice they are leaving so we will have another opening for that coming soon.

Chief Ray also reported that the Fayette County Health Department will be holding a COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Saturday for first responders and health care.

Mayor Gottman talked with Fire Chief Mark Meadows. Meadows said that he received one bid on the pumper truck. Meadows will be getting back with Mayor Gottman on how much more time is needed to get bids.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Roll Call: Hobler, yea; yea; Hubler, yea; Rebbe, yea; Brosman, yea; Stunkel, yea; Lester, yea; Barker, yea. Motion carried.


CITY CLERK