

City Council
Regular Meeting

April 18, 2022
6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

Aldermen Barker, Stunkel, Rebbe, Brosman, Lewey, Hubler and Lester were present. Hobler was absent.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES DATED
APRIL 4, 2022:**

A motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2022 City Council meeting as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Detail Expenditures with Comparison to Budget for the 11 Months Ending March 31, 2022 report was reviewed. Statement Balances as of 3/31/2022 were also reviewed. Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Stunkel to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

REGULAR BILLS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Lewey to approve the regular bills as submitted. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the special bills as presented: Genesis Property Improvement in the amount of \$9,088.00 for roofing; Leon Uniform Company, Inc., in the amount of \$1,784.22 for uniforms; Milano & Grunloh Engineering in the amount of \$1,612.93 for Octochem project; Dinges Fire Company in the amount of

\$4,593.95 for equipment; South Central FS in the amount of \$3,565.66 for gasoline; Milano & Grunloh Engineering in the amount of \$1,897.50 for fees for proposed sidewalk project; COE Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$2,100.00 for training; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$3,407.70 for water plant electric bill; Kaskaskia Springs Water Company in the amount of \$1,654.00 for 4.135 million gallons of water; Sidener Environmental Services in the amount of \$5,751.62 for new AC installation; Vandevanter Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$1,713.00 for lift station services; Milano & Grunloh Engineering in the amount of \$7,093.75 for lift station engineering fees; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$9,860.10 for sewer plant electric bill. Motion carried.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Lee Beckman from Milano & Grunloh presented an Engineering Update for April 2022. Octochem watermain project will start next week. Octochem Street Project - bid opening was moved to May 4 due to coordination with IDOT. Fillmore to Washington Street - bids are under budget. Low bidder was Wiggs Excavating at \$673,884.25. Beckman recommended awarding the job to Wiggs Excavating. Randolph Street project set to be bid out in December/January. Main Street Lift Station project will be advertised in the next 30 days with bid opening in 30 to 60 days. Michel's Feed Store sidewalk project is ready to secure quotes. Lake Dam upgrades - waiting for water levels to go down at the lake. Safe Routes to School - 1 or 2 parcels to finalize within the next 2 to 3 weeks. Since it is a state let project, even when the City gets the approval, it will be

another 4 to 6 weeks before there will be a bid opening. Water treatment plant - working on preliminary design. Once a preliminary design is ironed out, Beckman will meet with the City. ITEP grant - Beckman reported he has not received the engineering agreement or the joint agreement as of yet. He is anticipating within the next week or two that he will receive the agreements back and then the City can officially start on this project.

APPROVE OR REJECT BIDS FOR WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT ON BURTSCHI STREET FROM FILLMORE TO WASHINGTON STREETS:

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Lewey to approve the low bid submitted by Wiggs Excavating in the amount of \$673,84.25 for watermain replacement project on Burtschi Street from Fillmore to Washington Streets. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF LAKE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES DATED APRIL 4, 2022:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2022 Lake Committee meeting. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES - VACATION OF DUPAGE AVENUE FROM ST. CLAIR TO JEFFERSON STREET DATED APRIL 4, 2022:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2022 Public Hearing - Vacation of Dupage Avenue from St. Clair to Jefferson Street. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2022-4-18-A: AN ORDINANCE OF VACATION:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve Ordinance 2022-4-18-A: An Ordinance of Vacation.

Roll call: Barker, yea; Hubler, yea; Stunkel, yea; Lewey, yea; Rebbe, yea; and Brosman, yea. Lester abstained. Hobler was absent. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT 2022-2023 CHEMICAL BIDS FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Hawkins, Inc. was the low bidder on everything except for All Service Contracting who was the low bidder for Anthracite. Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Brosman to approve the 2022-2023 chemical bids for the water treatment plant submitted by Hawkins, Inc., and All Service Contracting. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT 2022-2023 CHEMICAL BIDS FOR SEWER TREATMENT PLANT:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve the bid submitted by Hawkins, Inc. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST FOR PMK, INC.

Zach Kopp reviewed the application for the Class F Liquor License submitted by PMK, Inc. Kopp said they would like to offer a golf simulator and ax throwing, and the closest class of liquor license he felt was Class F. Lester asked for clarification of #23 on the application regarding conflict of interest. Connor said the City would need to know that information and what the potential interest is in order to go through the analysis of whether or not there is a conflict or whether or not there is a prohibition. Connor stated the liquor license application questions are mirrored upon the state statute. The only interest that would need to be disclosed would be law enforcement, public officials, mayors, members of the City Council or members of the County Board. Paslay reviewed the revolving loan that was agreed to with Tony Richardson, owner of Vandalia Bowl, in August. The Council loaned Richardson half of the requested amount at 0% interest and the other half was a grant. The loan is reimbursed monthly. There is \$263,591.29 in the Recap Loan Illinois Funds account. Gottman

stated his recommendation was never to not replenish the fund. Barker asked what square footage would be dedicated to this? Meadows said 3500 square feet. Kopp stated they have been in contact with a pizza company to possibly provide food. Brosman asked about rented space. Jason Paslay stated this is not a wide open building any longer. Kopp said there are 2 tenants in 2 suites in the building. Lewey stated with alcohol comes gaming, and Kopp said gaming was not their priority. Lester said this is a lump sum request and wanted to know if it was customary for the City to receive a budget. Kopp said he would be more than happy to submit bids to the Council. Lewey asked if they would be able to give the City a packet and Kopp said he would do that. Kopp said right now they are envisioning 2 staff per shift which equates out to 14 full time employees. Brosman asked about operating hours. Meadows stated minimum of 7 a.m. until Midnight Monday through Thursday, with later hours possibly on Friday and Saturday and possibly 12 until 9 p.m. on Sunday. Gottman stated there will be no vote tonight and will be voted on at the next Council meeting. Connor stated he would like an expanded definition of bowling alley to accommodate this. Rebbe asked if the City has actually given money out for a startup business. He asked what happens if the business does not do well, who is responsible for funds that have not been paid back? Kopp replied they are invested in this community. They live in Vandalia and plan to stay in Vandalia. Kopp stated they have been in contact with their insurance agency. Lester asked if there was another liquor classification and

Gottman said he will ask IML to find out how these types of businesses are classified. Kopp stated he doesn't envision partitioning the building as they will need an attendant to be able to view the entire area.

ORDINANCE 2022-4-18-B:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
THE VANDALIA MUNICIPAL
CODE AT TITLE V BUSINESS
LICENSES AND REGULATIONS
AT SECTION 5.08.070
NUMBER OF LICENSES
(REDUCING CLASS E TO 10
DUE TO CLOSURE OF
GALLATIN STREET GRILLE):

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Brosman to approve Ordinance 2022-4-18-B: An Ordinance Amending the Vandalia Municipal Code at Title V Business Licenses and Regulations at Section 5.08.070 Number of Licenses (Reducing Class E to 10 Due to Closure of Gallatin Street Grille):

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

ORDINANCE 2022-4-18-C:
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING
ELEVENTH MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
CITY OF VANDALIA AND THE
LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL
UNION OF NORTH AMERICA,
THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL
ILLINOIS LABORERS'
DISTRICT COUNCIL AND
LABORERS' LOCAL 1197:

Gottman reviewed the contract. He noted there will be no increase in health insurance premium this year only. There will be a 4% pay increase each year through year 4. Currently employees are required to live within 6 miles of city limits and that will be increased to 10 miles. The living out of city limits fee of \$200.00 was eliminated. Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Lewey to approve Ordinance 2022-4-18-C: An Ordinance Approving Eleventh Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Vandalia and the Laborers' International Union of North America, the Southern and Central Illinois Laborers' District Council and Laborers' Local 1197.

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

ORDINANCE 2022-4-18-D:
AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A
CERTAIN AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF
VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, AND
FRATERNAL ORDER OF
POLICE VANDALIA LODGE
NO. 111 ILLINOIS
FRATERNAL ORDER OF
POLICE LABOR COUNCIL
05/01/2022 - 04/30/2026:

Gottman reviewed the contract. There will be a 4% pay increase each year through year 4. Currently police officers are required to live within 10 miles of city limits and that will be increased to 15 miles. There will be no increase in insurance premiums this year only. Motion was made by Lewey and seconded by Barker to approve Ordinance 2022-4-18-D: An Ordinance Approving a Certain Agreement Between the City of Vandalia, Illinois, and Fraternal Order of Police Vandalia Lodge No. 111 Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council 05/01/2022 - 04/30/2026.

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

Gottman and Lewey stated that the unions were very good to work with. Gottman noted the only contract that needs negotiated is with the Police Dispatchers. Recommendations have been put together with the Chief and then the negotiations will begin.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Gottman stated there is somebody interested in the house on Jackson Street. He would like to rent the house for 1 year and then determine during that year what he would like to do. He has asked for a 1 year commitment to rent and then first right of refusal to purchase it

during that time. Gottman has discussed this with Andy Lester, Building and Grounds chairman. A new roof has been put on the house. Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Stunkel to enter into a rental agreement for 1 year with option of first right of refusal to purchase. Motion carried. Gottman also noted that Statement of Economic Interest forms need to be turned in to the County Clerk by May 1. Once filed, these become a public record. Gottman announced that Mike Koonce submitted his resignation from the Police Pension Board and Larry Hoffek submitted his resignation from the Police Pension Board and Planning Commission. He also reviewed the spread sheet indicating how City projects are being funded.

CITY CLERK REPORT:

Huhn reported she is working with PSN to offer paying reconnect fees for nonpayment with credit/debit card. Currently her office only accepts cash or check.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL:

Report provided in packet.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Barker reported that Chandler Brothers is working on replacing various sidewalks throughout the City. Gottman said this was the biggest year for sidewalk replacement. Lewey reminded those in attendance to not park across the sidewalks. Chief Ray stated the police officers are being sent to unfunded mandated training, and stated this results in overtime in some cases. The City pays a yearly fee for a mobile training unit. Police Pension funds are being

rolled into a statewide fund. Anyone who sits on the Police Pension Board is required to participate in online training. IML has taken on that program at no charge to any municipality that is a member of IML. Gottman stated there will be no increase in membership or dues with IML. Stunkel reported the Lake Committee meeting had a good turnout and recommendations will be discussed at the next Council meeting. Lewey thanked Stunkel, Hobler and Gottman for their assistance in contract negotiations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS:

Brosman asked about the status of an Economic Development Director and Gottman said he will have something in front of the Council at next meeting. Stunkel addressed concern regarding the Fayette County Senior Citizen building on Jackson Street. Lester will go look at the toilets and plumbing at the Senior Citizens building. Stunkel and Gottman encouraged those in attendance to volunteer at the Senior Citizens center.

Ben Frazier, CEO of Family YMCA of Fayette County addressed the Council. He read a letter to the Council thanking them for their support. He noted the Y has outgrown their current space and have begun a building campaign for Phase II. The community is very fortunate to have the Y facility that we have now. Phase II sets the Y up for a secure functional future. The Y is formally requesting ARPA funds from the City. He challenged the Council to reflect on the impact that the Y has in the community. Frazier noted on a website that he had received from some of the Y's government relations people, Vandalia is slated to

receive approximately \$910,000 in ARPA funds. Stunkel said he couldn't think of a better investment than kids. Frazier said he had approached the County a year ago and as it stood at the last finance committee, one of the members had asked if the Y had come to the City and requested any funds. Frazier said he feels that both entities have the capacity to expedite this process and take the burden off of the community and the fundraising. Barker asked if Frazier had talked to surrounding areas such as St. Peter, St. Elmo or Brownstown. He said the Y has not reached out to those communities but did research what ARPA funds those communities received, and doesn't think the likelihood of giving to this project would be very high though he did agree with Barker that 50% of the Y's impact is in Vandalia and the remaining 50% are outside of that, but Frazier is agreeable to pursuing that also. Barker said the ARPA funds had been earmarked for projects throughout the City that were approved at a previous Council meeting. Connor stated there are a number of buckets that are identified that these funds can be used for. Capital developments which is what Phase II would be about are treated differently. Connor said these are funds that are accounted for and if they are used incorrectly, it is likely the City will have to pay it back. Lester asked so you don't know if this will be allowed and Connor replied, it doesn't say specifically nonprofit health based organizations. Nonprofits are addressed and health facilities are addressed in that part of the rule, so we basically have 2 questions: What bucket are they in and are your funds fully

committed? Lester asked if a budget was submitted to the City. Frazier said this is the beginning stages of that. Lester said he would be interested and hopes that the City can help in some way. Connor stated his concern is what the City is using is pandemic related funds. This project predates the pandemic. Looking specifically at the capital development rules, the projects must be related and reasonably proportional to the pandemic impact identified and reasonably designed to benefit the impacted population. Connor stated the use of these specific funds appears to be problematic. There are enumerated uses: loans, grants but the capital improvement rules are more specific. Connor pointed out to the Council no matter what donation they make to the YMCA, the City will not own that recreational facility. Connor encouraged Council to go to the IML website and review the 2 page white paper on this which is an overview. Water, sewer and broadband were big ticket items that were to be addressed with ARPA funds. Frazier said one way to go about it would be a pass through income. The problem the Y faces with that is the current capacity. Stunkel asked if this could be brought to the Finance Committee and look at different avenues. The County did not respond back to the Y's request as far as a dollar amount. Frazier requested \$100,000 from the City and felt it would be something that would be fair to the Y and would leave money on the table for projects the City has committed to. Connor said he is somewhat concerned that if this plan comes to fruition, one of the things that happens if you implicate government funding, there is a

section in the rule that Frazier referred to that talks about strong labor standards and construction. There will be competitive bidding and prevailing wage. Lester said it sounds like there are too many hurdles using ARPA funds. Connor said the funds have been committed by the Council to municipal projects and he is concerned how the City is going to fit anything else into the outstanding commitments. Lester asked Connor are there any other problems the City would run into if we decided to donate dollars to the Y other than the ARPA Funds? Connor said the City could consider other funding avenues. Gottman reminded the Council that all of these monies will be audited. Lester said he is not totally convinced that there is not an avenue the City could take. Steve Knebel said prevailing wage has nothing to do with capital improvement. He asked what is the prevailing wage of programs? Connor said he doesn't think that type of agreement would necessarily implicate prevailing wage. Lester said the effect of the Y ripples throughout the community. Gottman would like to set up a committee consisting of Brosman, Barker, Hubler, Lester, Connor and Paslay. Doug Knebel, a member of the Fayette County Board, said the Fayette County Chairwoman is forming a committee to address the ARPA funds. Knebel said he and other County Board members would like to see more cooperation between the City and County Board. Gottman asked Frazier to get the entire package of financials, goals, plans, etc. to him. Paslay reminded the Council of the amount of money they have committed for municipality projects. Gottman said he would like to see

the project bid out (a minimum of 2 bids) if the City commits money to this project. Sally Shields asked if there was a minimum to the City's donation to the Y that would require 2 bids. Gottman said this would be discussed in the committee meeting. The committee will bring a recommendation back to the governing body.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Lewey to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

City Clerk