

City Council
Regular Meeting

March 6, 2023
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 Brosman, Stunkel, Hubler, Lester, and Barker were present. Lewey, Hobler and Rebbe were absent.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: A moment of silence was held for William "Bill" Haselhorst, a former business owner.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2023: Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman to approve the City Council meeting minutes dated February 21, 2023. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's report for period ending February 28, 2023 was reviewed as submitted.

REGULAR BILLS: Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the regular bills as submitted. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS: Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman to approve the special bills as submitted: Global Tech Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$9,681.35 for police department equipment; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,000.00 for sewer vac; Baker's Upholstery, LTD., in the amount of \$2,764.63 for supplies; Ameren in the amount of \$3,195.71 for electric utility

bill; Compass Minerals of America in the amount of \$6,097.39 for supplies; Drake Thompson in the amount of \$111,704.31 for TIF reimbursement; Brenntag Mid South, Inc., in the amount of \$22,706.30 for supplies; Hach Company in the amount of \$2,356.51 for supplies. Motion carried.

**CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON
CHICKENS WITHIN CITY
LIMITS:**

Stunkel reported that he spoke to some of his constituents and they were not in favor of allowing chickens within City limits. Brosman said he is a no vote. Barker said he has no preference. He surveyed his ward and the majority of his constituents didn't know it was an issue. He stated it didn't matter to them one way or the other. Lester said he asked some of his constituents and they had no preference. He is a no vote as he doesn't see an advantage of allowing chickens within the City limits. Hubler said he is concerned about the predators that will come in to the chicken coops and property. He is also concerned about how to dispose of the chickens if that would become necessary. Assistant Chief Bowling said it will be an issue if chickens are running loose. Motion was made by Brosman to refer the matter to the Planning Commission. With there being no second, the motion died. This will not be referred to the Planning Commission, and chickens will not be allowed within the City limits.

**APPROVE OR REJECT
APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL
KLEINIK TO THE SOUTH
CENTRAL REGIONAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION:**

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Stunkel to approve the appointment of Michael Kleinik to the South Central Regional Planning and Development Commission. Motion carried.

**TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT #93
FROM MARY ANN TAYLOR AND
LINDA RICHTER, VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS TO STACY
MCMILLAN, VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS:**

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman to approve transfer of Lake Lot #93 from Mary Ann Taylor and Linda Richter, Vandalia, Illinois, to Stacy McMillan, Vandalia, Illinois. Motion carried.

WATER SERVICE TRUCK:

Gottman reported a water truck was ordered from Hosick's in May and it did come in. However, the utility bed had not been built yet. Filer talked to Steve Ledbetter at Hosick's who said they were agreeable to the City purchasing a truck already built in place of the truck Hosick's bid due to delay in utility bed manufacturing. A bid was submitted by Hecht Chevrolet for a truck with utility bed. Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to purchase the truck from Hecht Chevrolet in Vandalia. There were no objections.

**RESOLUTION 2023-3-6-A: A
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN
AGREEMENT FOR PROCESSING
SERVICES BETWEEN THE
CITY OF VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS AND PAYMENT
SERVICE NETWORK, INC.:**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve Resolution 2023-3-6-A: A Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the City of Vandalia, Illinois, and Payment Service Network, Inc.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Paslay reported the City was denied the OSLAD grant for the Lake campground improvements. The next anticipated time to reapply is July 2023.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Gottman reported that he attended a meeting of the Southwestern Illinois Council of Mayors. The speaker at that meeting was SJ

Morrison, Director of Madison County Transit Association, who talked about bike paths in Madison County. Gottman would like to invite him to meet with the Council along with the Park District Board, the Fayette County Board chairman, Family YMCA of Fayette County Board, and Bond County Chairman to talk about connecting a bike path between Madison, Bond, Fayette Counties and eventually Pana. There were no objections. Gottman brought comments from a citizen regarding dumpsters at the Lake to the Council's attention. Gottman stated Mario's is having difficulty finding employees. He will be setting up a meeting to talk about Tourism regarding digital advertising. Handouts were reviewed.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT:

Connor reported that Zach Kopp (Code Enforcement Official) has written a large amount of ordinance violations with court date set for March 15. He said he is hearing complaints about speed so they are handling it by doing 2 things at once with one of those being ongoing ordinance violations for chronic violators while going through the ongoing process of ensuring tear downs. The City has received 2 administrative search warrants on properties that he has been working on for some time. Hearing dates will be held in April. Connor is also working on all of the properties that need to be sold that the City owns. Brosman asked since the court date is set for March 15, would Connor be able to have information from that day available in the Council packets by the following Friday? Connor said that was a realistic time schedule.

Connor also invited Council members to view the hearings via Zoom.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT:

Huhn reminded Council members that Statement of Economic Interest forms need to be turned in to the County Clerk by April 30, 2023. She also outlined fees for late filings of the forms.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Nothing at this time.

SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL:

Report provided in last week's meeting packet.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Marlin Filer stated they are pouring concrete on streets that had water leaks. He reported the new skid steer has been delivered. Brosman stated he had reviewed a few water bill adjustments. Gottman reported that it is becoming difficult to find parts for the portable generator at the sewer plant. Gottman has directed the Sewer Plant Superintendent to put a new generator in the budget for next year. He also asked that the new generators are ones that automatically turn on immediately. Gottman noted that the new Cemetery building is complete. Gottman stated gutters were not included in the specs so he has approved a bid submitted by Workman's Seamless Guttering to install gutters on the new building and repair an area of gutters on the other building. Under the Emergency Order, Gottman contacted Dennis Grubaugh and asked him to work on the unsafe areas around the old hotel downtown. Grubaugh also cleaned up the entire area around the hotel. Stunkel said the openings at the Lake have been advertised and interviews will be conducted the week of March 20,

2023. He would like to see an increase in hourly pay for the Lake employees and Lake Patrol. Hubler asked if Lincoln Park was back open and Gottman said not at this time. Grubaugh stated he will address that issue once he completes the current project he is working on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS:

Stunkel asked the status of golf carts. Gottman said he is waiting for Chief Ray to return from medical leave to address this further. Brosman said one of his constituents is very concerned about the safety of the 8th and Main Street railroad crossing. Paslay will reach out to CSX tomorrow. Barker said he had heard from one of his constituents regarding animal feces along the sidewalks down Gallatin. Filer will call DOT regarding the road conditions at Kennedy and Gallatin. Grubaugh said that he is still having issues with water coming into one of his building's basements. Filer feels that the joints have separated and water is leeching through the gravel into his property. Lee Beckman from Milano and Grunloh will be here on Thursday. Paslay will contact Beckman tomorrow. Filer said anywhere there is a storm inlet, the bricks are settling. Beckman will look at that Thursday.

Amy Fry, owner of Skin Reversal, approached the Council regarding a cosmetic makeup license. She noted that the location of the proposed business will not be within the parameters as outlined by the current City Ordinance (cannot be closer than 200' of a school, property line to property line) as it will be located across from the

High School. She said her request falls under a tattoo license but it is not a tattoo. Gottman said this will need to be referred to the Planning Commission. Connor stated that this is all regulated by the Illinois Body Art Act. Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Brosman to refer this matter to the Planning Commission. There were no objections.

Steve Knebel and Ben Frazier, representing the Family YMCA Of Fayette County, addressed the Council. Knebel provided an update on their current fundraising efforts. He asked the Council to consider sponsoring a live auction item for the Grand Raffle. Connor read the statute (65 ILCS 5/8-1-2) which states corporate authorities may appropriate money for corporate purposes only and provide for payments of debts and expenses of the corporation. Gottman asked the elected officials to donate \$50.00 each toward sponsoring a live auction item for the Grand Raffle. There were no objections.

**COUNCIL MOVES INTO
EXECUTIVE SESSION AT
7:46 P.M.:**

Gottman announced that the Council would be moving into Executive Session. A motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to move into Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. under 5 ILCS 120/2 to discuss personnel matters and possible sale or acquisition of land.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDS
AT 8:24 P.M.:**

Executive Session ended at 8:24 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION
RECONVENED AT 8:25 P.M.:

Mayor Gottman reconvened the regular council meeting at 8:25 p.m. with a roll call.

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

Gottman stated there is nothing to report out of Executive Session at this time. Barker stated he would like to direct Connor to draft some amendments to the City ordinance stating when a building needs restructured or rebuilt, it needs to be done with "like" materials to conform to the downtown area. There were no objections. Connor stated this would have to go to Planning Commission. However, he will put forth a draft for the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

City Clerk