

**City Council**  
Regular Meeting

August 21, 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, Hubler, Bowen, Hobler and Barker were present. Lester, Lewey and Stunkel were absent.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE:**

A moment of silence was held for Robert "Bob" McCart, former Police Chief for the City of Vandalia.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES DATED  
AUGUST 7, 2023:**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler to approve City Council meeting minutes dated August 7, 2023. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Statement balance for period ending July 31, 2023 was included in packet.

**REGULAR BILLS:**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler to approve the regular bills as submitted. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL BILLS:**

Motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Brosman to approve the special bills as presented: Fayette County Treasurer in the amount of \$1,837.80; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$1,893.38 for electric bill; ProWire, LLC in the amount of \$3,015.00 for server repair; Business Xpansion Journal in the amount of \$1,695.00 for advertising; Fayette County Clerk and Recorder in

the amount of \$6,500.00 for recording fees; Milano and Grunloh in the amount of \$60,185.00 for engineering fees; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$1,549.32 for supplies; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$7,065.07 for rock and chips; South Central FS in the amount of \$4,038.35 for gasoline at the Lake; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$3,031.47 for electric bill at Lake; Fayette County Treasurer in the amount of \$15,594.30 for Lake real estate taxes; Fayette County Treasurer in the amount of \$4,645.14 for TIF 2 real estate taxes; South Central FS in the amount of \$5,167.47 for gas at the garage; Imco Utility Supply in the amount of \$1,967.72 for supplies; Smith Backhoe Service in the amount of \$2,125.00 for service fees; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc., in the amount of \$14,032.10 for supplies; Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$5,421.01 for supplies; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$7,477.46 for electric bill for water plant; Gateway Industrial Power in the amount of \$5,296.70 for annual service fee; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$7,716.47 for electric bill for sewer plant. Motion carried.

**APPROVE OR REJECT THE  
MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT FOR  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR TO  
REPLACE MARLIN FILER:**

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hobler to approve the appointment of James Jackson as the Public Works Director to replace Marlin Filer. Motion carried.

**AUTHORIZATION TO POST  
OPEN POSITION:**

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hobler to authorize Paslay to post open position created by James Jackson's appointment to Public Works Director. Motion carried.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE  
13, 2023 TOURISM  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to accept the June 13, 2023 Tourism Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JULY  
11, 2023 TOURISM  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to accept the July 11, 2023 Tourism Commission meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**APPROVE OR REJECT BID  
FOR SQUAD VEHICLE FOR  
THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Barker to approve the bid submitted by Hosick Motors in the amount of \$37,974 for a 2023 Charger squad car. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2023-8-21-A:  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING A  
PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
CITY OF VANDALIA,  
ILLINOIS AND LUBY  
EQUIPMENT SERVICES:**

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Hobler to approve Resolution 2023-8-21-A: A Resolution Approving a Preventative Maintenance Agreement Between the City of Vandalia, Illinois, and Luby Equipment Services.

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

**RESOLUTION 2023-8-21-B:  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING  
AN AGREEMENT FOR  
ENGINEERING SERVICES  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF  
VANDALIA, ILLINOIS AND  
MILANO AND GRUNLOH  
ENGINEERS, LLC:**

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hobler to approve Resolution 2023-8-21-B: A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Engineering Services Between the City of Vandalia, Illinois, and Milano and Grunloh Engineers, LLC.

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

**RESOLUTION 2023-8-21-C:  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING  
AN AGREEMENT FOR  
ENGINEERING SERVICES  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler to approve Resolution 2023-8-21-C: A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Engineering Services Between the

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, AND  
MILANO AND GRUNLOH  
ENGINEERS, LLC:

City of Vandalia, Illinois, and  
Milano and Grunloh Engineers, LLC.

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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE  
PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND  
INSURANCE MEETING  
MINUTES - JULY 17, 2023:

Motion was made by Hobler and  
seconded by Brosman to accept the  
Personnel, Finance and Insurance  
meeting minutes dated July 17, 2023.  
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2023-8-21-D:  
CITY OF VANDALIA,  
ILLINOIS, RESOLUTION OF  
FINANCIAL COMMITMENT FOR  
ILLINOIS SAFE ROUTES TO  
SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM -  
CYCLE 2023:

Motion was made by Barker and  
seconded by Brosman to approve  
Resolution 2023-8-21-D: City of  
Vandalia, Illinois, Resolution of  
Financial Commitment for Illinois  
Safe Routes to School Grant Program  
- Cycle 2023.

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

RESOLUTION 2023-8-21-E:  
A RESOLUTION OF  
AUTHORIZATION FOR THE  
CITY OF VANDALIA,  
ILLINOIS, OSLAD GRANT  
APPLICATION FOR VANDALIA  
LAKE CAMPGROUND  
IMPROVEMENTS:

Motion was made by Barker and  
seconded by Brosman to approve  
Resolution 2023-8-21-E: A Resolution  
of Authorization for the City of  
Vandalia, Illinois, OSLAD Grant  
Application for Vandalia Lake  
Campground Improvements.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lee Beckman reviewed the status of  
pending/current City projects.  
Randolph Street upgrades - IDOT is  
requesting the Rebuild Illinois  
funds be programmed, expended and  
allocated by 2024. Plans have been  
sent to IDOT but the allocation has  
to be done. Beckman will meet with

Paslay to get those funds allocated. Main Street lift station - change order approved. Possible start date September/October. Octochem has requested a bump out be constructed at the new loading dock. Beckman will obtain a cost estimate. Lake dam upgrades - preconstruction meeting has been held. Beckman said where the panels are being cut, there are large voids going up underneath the concrete. He did not have a cost estimate because he doesn't know how long it is going to take. Beckman said the lift station project came in a little under budget and since the state legislative grant was used for both projects, there may be some money that has been appropriated that would be available to do this work. It was decided to drill some test holes to get the full picture and proceed from there. Safe Routes to School - Paslay and Connor are working on the changes required by IDOT. Beckman would like to have this finalized in September. Water plant project - Gottman has received the documents from Connor to submit to Walt Barenfanger for donation of the additional property. He is meeting with Barenfanger tomorrow. ITEP Sidewalk project - plans are 90% complete. Beckman asked all in attendance to submit a letter of support for the OSLAD grant. Gottman asked Beckman to contact IDOT in regard to upgrading all of the downtown street lights. He also asked Beckman for the height of the gazebo that will be located at Veterans Memorial Park.

**MAYOR' S REPORT:**

Gottman said he would like to set dates for downtown and Citywide Trick or Treat. Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to set

downtown Trick or Treat for October 28 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. with story time at 10 a.m. and a costume contest at 1 p.m. Citywide Trick or Treat will be held on October 28 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. There were no objections. Employee Appreciation event for the City employees and elected officials will be held on September 27 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Irons. Paslay and Gottman met with a solar developer. The developer is going to come up with a plan for the City and Gottman will present the plan to the Council. Follow up list reviewed.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Connor reported that default judgments have been received on 2 of the largest problem properties, so there will be some movement on those in a couple of weeks. He stated he is still working on the Clymer building downtown. Additional bids will be sought after bid from Civil Design, Inc. was received. Connor has reached out to Utz and Associates.

**CITY CLERK'S REPORT:**

Nothing to report.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Nothing to report.

**SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL'S REPORT:**

Report provided in packet.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Barker congratulated Jackson on his new position as Public Works Director. Oiling of streets will begin the week of Labor Day. Brian Roedl, School Resource Officer, has completed his first day at the schools. Gottman said he received an email regarding Lake dam concerns from Lake residents. He will ask Stunkel to schedule a Lake committee meeting. Hubler said he has been

approached by a few downtown business owners about parking on Gallatin Street. He feels that 2 hour parking needs to be enforced. Ray will talk to Dennis Grubaugh, who owns apartments in the area of concern. Paslay reported she will have the budget ready at next Council meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS:**

Craig Simon said he has noticed that people are not stopping at the intersection of Highway 185 and Veterans Avenue. Ray will handle. Anthony Lach addressed the Council. Connor stated that there is active litigation between Mr. Lach and the City. It was the advice of counsel that we do not discuss ongoing litigation in an active setting. Lach stated he owns a house on Main Street. He received a phone call from Zach Kopp that the grass was too tall, which Lach took care of. He received a second phone call from Kopp asking him what he was planning to do with the house, and that Kopp needed a 6 to 12 week plan. Lach wanted to know why he is being forced to tear his house down. He said the house is not livable. He said if his house poses a threat to anyone, he would have it fixed immediately. After a lengthy discussion, Lach asked what the next step would be. Gottman suggested that Lach file a motion to vacate judgment. After that has been done, Kopp, Gottman, Lach and another elected City official will assess the situation. Gottman will talk to Kopp tomorrow.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

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City Clerk