

City Council
Regular Meeting
April 7, 2025
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 Lester, Hubler, Brosman, Barker, Lewey, Hobler, Stunkel and Bowen were present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

A moment of silence was held for David Reeter, former Public Works Director and 2nd Assistant Chief of the Vandalia Volunteer Fire Department. A moment of silence was held for Ross Kershaw, father-in-law of Wastewater Treatment Plant employee Kevin Elam. A moment of silence was held for Alex Cearlock, former firefighter for the Vandalia Volunteer Fire Department and former business owner.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES DATED
MARCH 17, 2025:**

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Hobler to approve City Council meeting minutes dated March 17, 2025. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

REGULAR BILLS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the regular bills as presented. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BILLS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Hobler to approve the special bills as presented: Kiesler's Police Supply in the amount of \$1,841.14 for equipment

for PD; Axon Enterprise, Inc., in the amount of \$27,471.24 for equipment for PD; Precise Construction Services in the amount of \$21,141.00 for sidewalk replacement; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,615.00 for street sweeper; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,000.00 for sewer vac; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$10,285.00 for fire truck; Max Fire Training, Inc., in the amount of \$14,599.07 for fire training; IIA Lifting Services, Inc., in the amount of \$2,310.69 for annual ground and aerial ladder certification testing; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$2,285.52 for patch mix; Edwards Plumbing and Septic in the amount of \$2,910.92 for plumbing and septic at the Lake; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$3,370.00 for OSLAD grant; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$87,200.00 for water plant design; Schulte Supply in the amount of \$2,311.60 supplies; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc., in the amount of \$29,606.88 for supplies; Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$1,518.64 for supplies; Water Solutions Unlimited in the amount of \$1,760.00 for supplies; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$8,590.32 for electric utility; Homefield Energy in the amount of \$22,211.56 for electric utility; Liberty Process Equipment in the amount of \$3,989.95 for supplies; Vandevanter Engineers, Inc., in the amount of \$2,580.00 for pump repair. Motion carried.

ENGINEER' S REPORT :

Beckman will be at next Council meeting. Paslay stated construction for Safe Routes to School has begun.

APPROVE OR REJECT BIDS
FOR RANDOLPH STREET
PROJECT - CONTRACT
#95971:

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Lewey to approve bid submitted by Baxmeyer Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$693,517.77 for Randolph Street project. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-4-7-A:
RESOLUTION APPROVING
RELEASE OF CLOSED
SESSION MINUTES AND
AUTHORIZING CONTINUING
RETENTION OF NON-
RELEASED MINUTES AND
AUTHORIZING THE
DESTRUCTION OF
ASSOCIATED AUDIO TAPES
OF CLOSED MEETINGS:
(TABLED) :

Barker requested tabling this due to the amount of Executive Session minutes that need to be reviewed. Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Lester to table releasing Executive Session minutes to allow more time for review. There were no objections. Motion carried.

APPROVE REPAIRS TO
CABOOSE ON JOHNSON
STREET:

Gottman outlined the budget breakdown for caboose repairs on Johnson Street. This will be budgeted for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The monies qualify to come out of the Tourism budget.

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Stunkel to approve repairs to the caboose on Johnson Street. There were no objections. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES DATED MARCH 24,
2025:

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Hobler to accept the Personnel Committee Meeting minutes dated March 24, 2025. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2025-4-7-A: AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING TAX
INCREMENT FINANCING
REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-6-17-
B - BRYAN HOSICK -
HOSICK MOTORS:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Stunkel to approve Ordinance 2025-4-7-A: An Ordinance Amending Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Agreement Ordinance No. 2024-6-17-B - Bryan Hosick - Hosick Motors.

Roll call: Bowen, yea; Stunkel, yea; Brosman, yea; Barker, yea; Hubler, yea; Lewey, yea; Hobler, nay; Lester, yea. Motion carried 7-1.

REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF
FOURTH STREET FOR MAY
17, 2025:

Curt Thacker, representing the Bond County Cruise-Ins, addressed the Council regarding the Courthouse to Statehouse Cruise that will take place on May 17, 2025.

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Barker to approve the request for road closure of Fourth Street for May 17, 2025. Motion carried. Paslay will contact the business owners that will be affected by the road closure.

ACCEPTANCE OF ZONING
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS
MEETINGS MINUTES DATED
MARCH 19, 2025:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler to accept the Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting minutes dated March 19, 2025. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF PLANNING
COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES DATED MARCH 17,
2025:

Motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Barker to accept the Planning Commission Meeting minutes dated March 17, 2025. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-4-7-B: A
RESOLUTION APPROVING A
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
CITY OF VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS, AND MILANO &
GRUNLOH ENGINEERS, LLC:

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hobler to approve Resolution 2025-4-7-B: A Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Vandalia, Illinois, and Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Paslay reported she is waiting on a quote for the digital sign at the Tourism Center. Gottman reported he is looking into funding

opportunities for repairs for the Veterans Memorial Park wall.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Gottman reported he attended Lobby Day in Springfield. Road work at the west interchange has begun. He attended a meeting for the White Foundation who donated \$2,000.00 for tasers for the PD. He stated Paslay and himself have been working with 3 different insurance companies for employee health insurance. City-wide Clean Up Week is May 12 through May 16. CEO tradeshow is scheduled for April 23, 2025 from 5 until 7 p.m. at VCHS.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Connor reported dismissal of a lawsuit filed by Scott Hablutzel against the City. The City was never served with the suit. The lawsuit filed by Donato against the City will be dismissed sometime this week once the judge signs the order.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT:

Huhn reported she has received 25+ resumes for the job vacancy in her office. Interviews will be scheduled over the next two weeks.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Nothing to report.

SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL REPORT:

Report will be provided in next Council packet.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Barker reported Streets has been dealing with flooding, heavy rains and patching potholes. Gottman praised the Street Department for their work maintaining the City's drainage system. Hobler said the Fire Department had 148 hours of training in February with 8 calls. Lester reported the Interpretive Center is getting some miscellaneous tuckpointing done and some exterior painting done. Sealant has been put

along the exterior of City Hall. Stunkel reported a Lake Committee meeting had been held prior to Council meeting. The Committee is recommending to Council to move forward with the boat races at the Lake on September 4, 5, 6 and 7 or alternatively, September 11, 12, 13 and 14, depending on fishing tournaments.

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Bowen to move forward with the boat races at the Lake.

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

Stunkel stated that a building permit at Camping Lot 62 had been denied by the Building Official because too many structures were on the lot. Also a minimum 6' setback from side property line is required. The existing building will not allow this requirement to be met.

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Lewey to approve the recommendation of the Building Official.

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

Stunkel said it would behoove the City to give the Lake Manager the authority to close the Lake when there is flooding. Gottman said it needs to be approved by the City Administrator to close it.

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Lewey to give the Lake

Manager, in conjunction with the City Administrator and the Mayor, the authority to close the Lake under emergent circumstances. There were no objections. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding automatic gates at the 2 entrances to the Lake. Workman said he did speak to a contractor about the gates. The bid has been submitted in the amount of \$23,000.00 not including running electricity to the gates.

Stunkel stated the City Engineer had recommended preventative maintenance to the dam every year. Workman said the top side of the dam has eroded down and the water is washing out the sand and everything beneath it. Beckman has recommended to go along the top of the dam, scrape it off and fill it with some kind of cement to run down into the holes and then place the dirt back on it. One bid was received to do the work. This will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Northside dumpsters were discussed. It was suggested to use game cameras to monitor the dumpsters.

Hubler announced the Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt is set for April 19 at 11 a.m. Farmer's Market applications are now available.

Bowen reported that the deadline for the Economic Development Director position is May 9, 2025. Gottman said several people have been interviewed over the last 3 years for this position and it was the decision of the governing body not to hire any of those candidates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
CONCERNS:

Lester said it was his understanding that the City needs to have an Ordinance in place for video/audio recording Council meetings. Gottman said it was his understanding from IML that all that was required is a posting on the door that the meetings would be recorded. Bowen said a couple of communities have time limits for public comments. Connor said the City needs to take a look at the Code regarding rules for public participation. Logistics of retaining audio and video recordings also needs to be considered. Connor said an Ordinance should be in place addressing public participation under City Council meetings. Gottman said an Ordinance will be presented at the next meeting. A Special Council meeting will be held on April 14 at 6:30 p.m. to address this.

Bowen said he was contacted by an individual who was involved with the Interpretive Center and the Art Connection. She expressed concern that the money the City invests in the Old National Trail Association would be better spent if it was given directly to the Interpretive Center. Jerry Swarm is going to meet with Bowen next Monday at 5:30 p.m.

Lewey asked if the non-local roofing contractors are getting roofing permits and who is tracking that. Paslay said she, Barenfanger and Kopp are tracking those.

Lewey said he was contacted by an individual on North Sixth Street who expressed concern about speeding on that road. He wanted to know if a stop sign could be placed somewhere on 6th Street that might detract from speeding.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Hubler to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Carla J. Huber

City Clerk