

City Council
Regular Meeting
July 21, 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 Knebel called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Vandalia City Council to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL:

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

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DATED JULY 7, 2025:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Bowen to approve City Council meeting minutes dated July 7, 2025. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES DATED JULY 21, 2025:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Brosman to approve Work Session Minutes dated July 21, 2025. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer's report for period ending June 30, 2025 was reviewed. No action taken.

REGULAR BILLS:

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

SPECIAL BILLS:

Brosman requested approval to add an invoice for payment to Problasters in the amount of \$2,200.00 for sandblasting the caboose. Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve the amended special bills as presented: Problasters in the amount of \$2,200.00 for sandblasting the caboose; Grubaugh Contracting in the amount of \$6,800.00 for demolition;

PGAV, Inc., in the amount of \$4,355.00 for consulting services; TThoman Development, LLC in the amount of \$2,000.00 for consulting services; Global Tech Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$60,141.43 for radio maintenance; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$13,192.50 for Randolph Street project; Beelman Logistics, LLC in the amount of \$28,138.62 for CM16; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$3,742.00 for engineering fees; South Central FS in the amount of \$3,408.80 for gasoline at the Lake; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$13,920.00 for engineering fees for industrial park; South Central FS in the amount of \$6,440.94 for gasoline for the garage; Milano & Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$4,826.71 for surveying fees for water plant; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc., in the amount of \$14,120.60 for supplies; Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$2,074.50 for supplies; Vandevanter Engineer, Inc., in the amount of \$9,985.00 for maintenance to equipment; Municipal Equipment Company in the amount of \$1,674.75 for equipment maintenance; Newterra Corporation, Inc., in the amount of for \$3,371.91 for equipment maintenance. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS :

Stunkel reported that the Lake had flooded due to heavy rains the night before. Barker reported that he has received complaints about eroding ditches. He said a watershed program will be discussed at the Streets meeting next month.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Chief Ray presented Officer Brian Roedl with a plaque for obtaining his tactical patrol officer pin.

**ENGINEER REPORT - JULY,
2025:**

Mitch Hardiek from Milano and Grunloh reviewed the Engineer's Report. He stated that core samples of the concrete on the Randolph Street project were taken, and the strengths were under the IDOT specifications. This 80' section of the east end south lane near Adams Street will need to be torn out and replaced at the expense of the concrete company or contractor. Jackson said he was under the understanding that that section would be opened, the west end completed, and that section replaced. Workman said he would like to obtain bids to grind the seams out, tape the seams and seal the Dam. Brosman said since it is budgeted, he was in favor of moving forward with bids. The third Lead Service Line grant has been approved and bids will be secured for additional vaccing. A field list has been reviewed with the contractor for Safe Routes to School. Jackson said there is some dirt work and cleanup work to do. Knebel said some of the areas around the new sidewalks need to be mowed and weed-eated. Jackson said those areas were mowed last week, and plans were to mow those areas every 3 weeks. A preconstruction meeting has been set in late July for the raw water main and pressure reducing station with construction to begin in August. Construction on the City Hall water main replacement will begin in August. Dirt work on the new water plant is set to start this month. Pre-construction meeting with Rural Development will be later this month. Design for ITEP has been finalized and plans are at IDOT. Hardiek said the City could apply for the OSLAD grant again. He said the application deadline is

September. Discussion was held regarding the watermain replacement on Randolph Street and the water quality issues on Thistle and Shelley Drive. Jackson said the Thistle and Shelley Drive project is more critical at this time. Hardiek said the City could apply for an IEPA loan before March 31, 2026. Knebel said the City needs to be prepared by the August meeting to provide direction to Lee. The Industrial Park has been surveyed and design has started. Plans for sidewalk replacement along Veterans Avenue are complete and sent to the contractors. Bid opening will be scheduled soon.

APPROVE OR REJECT
TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT 130
FROM MIKE AND MARGIE
DANIELS, VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS, TO JADE PRYOR,
VANDALIA, ILLINOIS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to accept the transfer of Lake Lot 130 from Mike and Margie Daniels, Vandalia, Illinois, to Jade Pryor, Vandalia, Illinois. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT
TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT 131
FROM STEPHANIE
BLANKENSHIP, VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS, TO MIKE AND
MARGIE DANIELS, VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve transfer of Lake Lot 131 from Stephanie Blankenship, Vandalia, Illinois, to Mike and Margie Daniels, Vandalia, Illinois. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT
TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT 113
FROM SCOTT AND JAMIE
RADER, COLLINSVILLE,
ILLINOIS TO TRAVIS BEARD,
OCONEE, ILLINOIS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve transfer of Lake Lot 113 from Scott and Jamie Rader, Collinsville, Illinois, to Travis Beard, Oconee, Illinois. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT
TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT 143
FROM KURT PARKER AND
DONNA POE, DECATUR,
ILLINOIS, TO CECELIA
RITTER, RAMSEY, ILLINOIS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve transfer of Lake Lot 143 from Kurt Parker and Donna Poe, Decatur, Illinois, to Cecelia Ritter, Ramsey, Illinois. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT
TRANSFER OF LAKE LOT 602
FROM MARGARET AND DANNY
LALLISH, RAMSEY,
ILLINOIS, TO PAT CLICK,
RAMSEY, ILLINOIS:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to approve transfer of Lake Lot 602 from Margaret and Danny Lallish, Ramsey, Illinois, to Pat Click, Ramsey, Illinois. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF TIF
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES - JULY
11, 2025:

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Hubler to accept the TIF Advisory Committee Meeting minutes dated July 11, 2025. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-A: AN
ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF
VANDALIA, FAYETTE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, AUTHORIZING TAX
INCREMENT FINANCING
ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION
WITH A REDEVELOPMENT
PROJECT (WJK, LLC DBA
QUALITY DIESEL SERVICES):

Bill Overton, owner of Quality Diesel Services, reviewed his TIF request. He stated they have outgrown their current building. He purchased property with the intent of building a new shop. He said he is considering selling parts. Knebel said the TIF committee recommended 70% reimbursement over 11 years (estimated to be \$95,480 over those 11 years) with a \$200,000 flat grant payable over 2 years.

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Hubler to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-A: An Ordinance of the City of Vandalia, Fayette County, Illinois, Authorizing Tax Increment Financing Assistance in Connection with a Redevelopment Project (WJK, LLC DBA Quality Diesel Services).

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

APPROVE OR REJECT
APPOINTMENT OF DAVE JONES
AS BUILDING AND ZONING
OFFICIAL:

Motion was made by Lester and seconded by Stunkel to approve the appointment of Dave Jones as Building and Zoning Official. Motion carried. Knebel expressed his appreciation to Dan Barenfanger for serving as Building and Zoning Official in the interim.

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-B: AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
VANDALIA MUNICIPAL CODE
AT TITLE V BUSINESS
LICENSES AND REGULATIONS
AT SECTION 5.08.070
NUMBER OF LICENSES
(REDUCE CLASS E TO 12):**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Lester to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-B: An Ordinance Amending the Vandalia Municipal Code at Title V Business Licenses and Regulations at Section 5.08.070 Number of Licenses (Reduce Class E to 12).

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

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-C: AN
ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING A
MUNICIPAL GROCERY
RETAILERS' OCCUPATION TAX
AND A MUNICIPAL GROCERY
SERVICE OCCUPATION TAX
FOR THE CITY OF VANDALIA,
ILLINOIS:**

Lester emphasized that this is not a tax increase, and that the City is keeping a tax that already exists. This translates into approximately \$200,000 to the City that goes toward the General Fund (Police Protection, Fire Protection, etc.)

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Brosman to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-C: An Ordinance Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailer's Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax for the City of Vandalia, Illinois.

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

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-D: AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
VANDALIA MUNICIPAL CODE
AT TITLE V BUSINESS
LICENSES AND REGULATIONS
AT SECTION 5.08.070
NUMBER OF LICENSES
(INCREASES M1 TO 1):**

Motion was made by Lester and seconded by Bowen to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-D: An Ordinance Amending the Vandalia Municipal Code at Title V Business Licenses and Regulations at Section 5.08.070 Number of Licenses (Increases M1 to 1).

Roll call: Stunkel, yea; Lester, yea; Hobler, nay; Hubler, yea;

Barker, yea; Brosman, yea; Bowen, yea. Lewey was absent. Motion carried 6-1.

AUTHORIZATION TO
CONTRIBUTE AN ADDITIONAL
\$2,200 IN TOURISM FUNDS
TO THE VANDALIA CAR
CRUISE AND SHOW AUGUST 15
AND 16 ALREADY
CONTRIBUTING \$8,100 FOR
BANDS/STAGE (REFERRED TO
COUNCIL FROM TOURISM
COMMISSION) :

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Lester to give authorization to contribute an additional \$2,200 in Tourism funds to the Vandalia Car Cruise and Show August 15 and 16 - Already Contributing \$8,100 for Bands/Stage (Referred to Council from Tourism Commission). Motion carried.

SET TRICK OR TREAT DATE
(DOWNTOWN TRICK OR TREAT
WILL BE SATURDAY, OCTOBER
25, 2025) :

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Brosman to set Citywide Trick or Treat to Saturday, October 25, 2025. Trick or Treat at the Lake Campground will be held on October 24. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONNEL,
FINANCE AND INSURANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
- JULY 7, 2025:

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Stunkel to accept the Personnel, Finance and Insurance Committee Meeting minutes dated July 7, 2025. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF LAKE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
- JULY 7, 2025:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Lester to accept the Lake Committee meeting minutes dated July 7, 2025. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-7-21-E: A
RESOLUTION OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
VANDALIA AUTHORIZING AND
PROVIDING FOR THE
INCURRENCE OF
INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A
PORTION OF THE COST OF
ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING,
ENLARGING, IMPROVING,
AND/OR EXTENDING ITS
WATER TREATMENT PLANT
(\$9M) :

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Bowen to approve Resolution 2025-7-21-E: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vandalia Authorizing and Providing for the Incurrence of Indebtedness for the Purpose of Providing a Portion of the Cost of Acquiring, Constructing, Enlarging, Improving, and/or Extending its Water Treatment Plant (\$9M).

Roll call: Bowen, yea; Hubler, yea; Hobler, yea; Barker, yea; Lester,

yea; Stunkel, yea; Brosman, yea.
Lewey was absent. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2025-7-21-F: A
RESOLUTION OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
VANDALIA AUTHORIZING AND
PROVIDING FOR THE
INCURRENCE OF
INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A
PORTION OF THE COST OF
ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING,
ENLARGING, IMPROVING
AND/OR EXTENDING ITS
WATER TREATMENT PLANT
(\$5M) :**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Bowen to approve Resolution 2025-7-21-F: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vandalia Authorizing and Providing for the Incurrence of Indebtedness for the Purpose of Providing a Portion of the Cost of Acquiring, Constructing, Enlarging, Improving and/or Extending its Water Treatment Plant (\$5M)

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

**APPROVE OR REJECT CHANGE
ORDER #1 FOR WATER
TREATMENT PLANT:**

Motion was made by Lester and seconded by Bowen to approve Change Order #1 for Water Treatment Plant. Motion carried.

**APPROVE OR REJECT CHANGE
ORDER #3 FOR SAFE ROUTES
PROJECT (DEDUCT \$72.70) :**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Bowen to approve Change Order #3 for Safe Routes to School Project (Deduct \$72.70). Motion carried.

**APPROVE OR REJECT CHANGE
ORDER #3 FOR OSLAD
PROJECT AT LAKE
(\$+33,138.18) :**

Motion was made by Lester and seconded by Barker to approve Change Order #3 for OSLAD project at Lake (+\$33,138.18). Motion carried.

**APPROVE PAY ESTIMATE #4
FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
PROJECT (\$45,215.25) :**

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Brosman to approve Pay Estimate #4 for Safe Routes to School Project (\$45,215.25). Motion carried.

**APPROVE PAY ESTIMATE #2
FOR RANDOLPH STREET
PROJECT (\$273,905.38) :**

Motion was made by Lester and seconded by Bowen to approve Pay Estimate #2 for Randolph Street Project (\$273,905.38). Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-G: A
RESOLUTION APPROVING AN
AGREEMENT FOR BROWNFIELD
GRANT WRITING SERVICES
BETWEEN THE CITY OF
VANDALIA, ILLINOIS AND
TERRACON:**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Bowen to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-G: A Resolution Approving an Agreement for Brownfield Grant Writing Services Between the City of Vandalia, Illinois and Terracon.

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

**APPROVE OR REJECT BIDS
FOR INTERIM FINANCING FOR
WATER TREATMENT PLANT
PROJECT (REQUIRED BY
USDA) :**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hubler to approve bids for interim financing for water treatment plant project submitted by People's State Bank for \$8,000,000 at 4.05% fixed rate with an \$8,000 loan fee.

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

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-H: AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
VANDALIA MUNICIPAL CODE
AT 13.04.030(B) PAYMENT
OF BILLS:**

Huhn stated that she would like to clean up the Ordinance addressing landlords and tenants, and who is ultimately responsible for the water bill. Connor said in the current sewer Ordinance, there was no argument about who was responsible for the water bill (landlord or tenant) but in the water Ordinance, it had "owner occupied" which protects landlords who rent to individuals. By removing the wording "owner occupied" from the water Ordinance presented to the Council, this will allow the City to perfect a lien against the premises itself. He stated the water bill runs with the property in conformity with State statute.

Motion was made by Bowen and seconded by Lester to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-H: An Ordinance Amending the Vandalia Municipal Code at 13.04.03(B) Payment of Bills.

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

Huhn will send the revised Ordinance to landlords so they will be aware.

**ORDINANCE 2025-7-21-I: AN
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
VANDALIA MUNICIPAL CODE
AT TITLE V BUSINESS
LICENSES AND REGULATIONS
AT SECTION 5.08.070
NUMBER OF LICENSES:**

This Ordinance addresses 2 liquor establishments who each have 2 classes of liquor licenses (Class D), and they only need one. Refunds in the amount of \$1,000 each will be given to those 2 establishments; thus the need to reduce the number of Class D liquor licenses to 3.

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Hobler to approve Ordinance 2025-7-21-I: An Ordinance Amending the Vandalia Municipal Code at Title V Business Licenses and Regulations at Section 5.08.070 Number of Licenses.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lester stated weather has prohibited work on the Veterans Park Memorial Wall. A Building and Grounds Committee meeting will be scheduled. Shane Bowen asked if a sidewalk could be placed along the base of that wall, and Lester stated that a sidewalk was in the planning. Knebel said he spoke to Bruce Braswell of the American Legion who has agreed

to come to the first meeting in August to talk about the pavilion. Knebel said the Council will review the Comprehensive Plan quarterly, section by section, along with the Economic Development Commission.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Knebel thanked Scott Workman and the Lake staff for their work cleaning up the campgrounds and retrieving boats after the recent heavy rains. He also thanked EMA, Cameron Withers and Cody Stewart for their help in retrieving boats and jet skis. There is an offer pending for the Economic Development Director. He will have an update by the second meeting in August. Knebel brought up the water issues that Mattoon has been experiencing. He stated the need for an emergency plan for the City in the event of a natural disaster. Bowen said that could be addressed in the comprehensive plan. Knebel said he spoke to one of the partners of the former Kroger building. Todd Thoman is reengaging conversations with some of the individuals who have expressed interest in the past. Knebel said we need to stay on top of this. Barker, Lester and Hubler will tour the building. Knebel will check with Paslay on the status of advertising for the Tourism Director position. Knebel said he would present a complete list of Economic Development Commission members in August. He said the first meeting of the Commission would be late August after approval by the Council.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Connor said the Donato building permit has been issued. They have a couple of obligations they need to fulfill such as drainage issues and fencing.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT:

Huhn reported she is working with Connor on revising the lake lot list process which will be presented to the Council for review and approval.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Paslay was not present at meeting.

SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL REPORT:

Report provided in packet.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Jackson said Streets is working on clean up after the recent heavy rains. Street painting will begin Tuesday. Jeff Ray said there is a petition circulating requesting to vacate an alley near Old Theater Drive that will be presented at the next Council meeting. Jackson said there is a sewer main there. He said it is an unimproved alley which is why the City has not rocked it. Shane Bowen said the sidewalk near Remann and Gallatin is in dire disrepair. Barker said there are a lot of sidewalks that need to be repaired and this one will be added to the list. Brosman stated filling the Water Treatment Plant Operator position needs to be done as soon as possible. Ray stated he has been getting bids from local dealerships for 2 squad cars that he will present at the next Council meeting. Workman stated Starlink is working well at the Marina. Discussion was held increasing the Lake lot transfer fee from \$150 to \$500. Stunkel felt that it was a big jump from \$150, but noted the fee increase was recommended by the Lake Committee. Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Lester to direct Connor to draw up an Ordinance to increase the Lake lot transfer fee from \$150.00 to \$500.00 effective January 1, 2026. Motion

carried 6-1 with Hobler voting nay.
Lewey was absent.

Workman noted one of the entrances to the Marina was flooded due to the heavy rain. Hubler reviewed upcoming events. Summer Fest 2026 will be held on June 26 and June 27. Boat races are coming up on September 4-7. Second Annual Car Show and Cruise is August 15 and 16. He stated Kim Lake, Site Director at the Statehouse, requested handicapped parking in front of the Statehouse. He also said if anybody has ideas on how to celebrate the Country's 250th birthday next year, to share those with Paslay.

ADJOURNMENT :

Motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Hubler to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Motion carried.

City Clerk