

**City Council**  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, November 3, 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 Barker, Hubler, Brosman, Bowen, Lester, Lewey and Stunkel were present. Hobler was absent.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES DATED  
OCTOBER 20, 2025:**

Motion was made by Lewey and seconded by Stunkel to approve City Council meeting minutes dated October 20, 2025. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

No report available.

**REGULAR BILLS:**

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve the regular bills. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL BILLS:**

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Lewey to pay the special bills as presented: SCIRP&DC in the amount of \$2,299.11 for annual membership dues; Grubaugh Contracting in the amount of \$12,800.00 for demolition fees; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,615.00 for street sweeper; Ameren Illinois in the amount of \$2,866.35 for electric bill; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$10,285.00 for fire truck; Montgomery Electric, Inc., in the amount of \$9,950.00 for Festival of Lights; Vandalia Asphalt Service in the amount of \$55,655.37 for CRS-2 and chip trucks; Imco Utility Supply in the amount of \$1,939.28

for maintenance fees; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc., in the amount of \$16,648.40 for supplies; Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$2,630.50 for supplies; Hach Company in the amount of \$8,466.00 for maintenance fees. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS:**

Stunkel congratulated the VCHS Football team on their playoff win over the weekend. Bowen stated he made contact with the Director of IDOC about the Thomas Higgins monument. He is awaiting to hear back from IDOC.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Beckman will be at the next Council meeting.

**APPROVE OR REJECT BID SUBMITTED BY COE EQUIPMENT, INC. (FOR SEWER VAC TRUCK TANK):**

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Brosman to approve the bid submitted by Coe Equipment, Inc., in the amount of \$31,932.38.

James Jackson reported that the sewer vac truck is currently equipped with aluminum tanks that carry a 10 year warranty. He noted that the tanks are slightly more than five years old, and three of the four are leaking. The supplier has agreed to replace the aluminum tanks at no charge under the existing warranty.

Jackson stated given the lifespan of the current tanks, the replacement aluminum tanks would likely reach the end of their service life just beyond the warranty period, at which point any replacement costs would be the City's responsibility. He advised that the cost difference to upgrade from aluminum to stainless steel tanks is \$31,921.38. He is attempting to secure a 10 year

warranty on the stainless steel option.

Bowen commented that while stainless steel tanks would be preferable for long-term durability, he would recommend proceeding with the no-cost aluminum replacements at this time. Brosman stated any related expense would be distributed among four separate budgetary sections rather than solely from the Streets Department.

Lester stated his preference to proceed with the aluminum replacements, and Stunkel concurred. Knebel added that any action moving forward would be contingent upon the availability of funds within the budget.

Roll call: Brosman, yea; Lester, nay; Lewey, yea; Bowen, nay; Stunkel, nay; Barker, yea; Hubler, yea. Hobler was absent. Motion carried 4-3.

**ACCEPTANCE OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES DATED  
OCTOBER 29, 2025:**

Motion was made by Stunkel and seconded by Barker to accept Economic Development Commission Meeting minutes dated October 29, 2025. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Lester asked if the Comprehensive Plan addressed the possibility of expanding City limits. Knebel said not that he was aware. Lester said this is something to consider. This will be addressed by the EDC.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Knebel reported the Veterans Day Ceremony and Parade is this Saturday, November 8. Congresswoman Mary Miller will be making a presentation, followed by a parade. Sarah Bush Lincoln will be hosting a ribbon cutting for the new SBL/FCH

Medical Center as well as celebrating 100 years. Knebel did sign the electrical supply agreement for City facilities for the next 4 years. The low bid was submitted by AEP Energy at a price of .08898 per kilowatt hour. He encouraged those in attendance to donate to local food pantries due to suspension of SNAP benefits. Meeting with CSX will be held on November 20.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Connor stated he finalized the agreement with Mike Wehrle and the Domino's parcel. He expects to have an agreement for Council consideration on the former Wal-Mart property shortly.

**CITY CLERK'S REPORT:**

Huhn reported that the trash guidelines were mailed with last cycle's water bills. The second set of guidelines will be mailed in the next couple of weeks with the bills.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

No report.

**SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL:**

Report will be provided in next packet.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Jackson said most of the Christmas decorations have been put up downtown. Knebel said there is excess rock along some roads after the oiling and chipping. Jackson said he will use the street sweeper to remove the excess rock. Brosman reported he was approached by an individual who stated his rental property had sustained a water leak due to the lead service line work taking place. After investigation, it was found the leak began before the lead service line work began. This is a 200 gallon an hour leak, and the plumber is scheduled to fix it Wednesday. The leak appears to be

30 feet away from where the lead service line work is taking place. Brosman explained the procedure to the individual to have the sewer portion forgiven. Jackson has notified the individual that the leak began before the lead service line work. Jackson said the individual has not requested to have the water shut off. Water will not be shut off without the individual's permission in the case of a leak.

Barker directed Jackson to monitor the fiberoptic cable crew as they work on Sunset as to any unfinished yard work left behind. Chief Ray said the police department is accepting donations for Shop with a Cop. Bowen asked Ray to submit an annual crime statistics report to the Council when it becomes available.

Stunkel asked about a 4 way stop at Fillmore and Sunset Drive. Ray said this comes up every couple of years. He said it was a 4 way stop at one time. Crosswalks will be placed at that intersection with a flashing yellow light.

Lester thanked those volunteers who helped with the Veterans Memorial Park wall. Brosman thanked Lester for leading that project.

Workman stated Trick or Treat at the campgrounds was a big success. The Lake is now closed for the winter. Knebel said Geotech will be here for 4 to 6 weeks instead of the initial 1 week time period. The bid has not come back on the Dam as of yet. Lester said the quote may be available this week. He said the plan of attack would be to seal all of the cracks. In the Springtime,

the entire surface could be sealed. Workman is waiting on Ameren to set the new pole at the campground.

Stunkel said the driveway to the Murray's property at the Lake is being addressed by Andy Craig. Jackson is not aware if the work has been done, so he will call Craig tomorrow for a status report.

Knebel said after the last meeting regarding one of the Lake coves, he received some calls from people concerned about using siltation bags. Knebel said after talking with Lee Beckman, the thought is to identify the area the City wants addressed, put it out for bid with what options are available, how it will be addressed and what the cost will be versus saying we are going to move forward with the siltation bags.

Hubler reported downtown Trick or Treat was a big success. Daulbaugh reviewed the Council report for September and October. The EDC meeting was held on October 29. She reported it was a good meeting with great collaborative conversation. She said housing and work force were the top two challenges facing the area. Knebel said the focus of the next meeting will be housing. A second SummerFest meeting has been scheduled for November 17. She has been meeting with area businesses and will schedule meetings with other area businesses to continue the effort of opening the lines of communication. The City has signed up to participate in Illinois 250, a celebration of the country's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday. A Resolution will be brought to the next Council meeting. Festival of Trees will be held on

Friday, November 7. The City has sponsored a table. OTC will be held November 14 and 15. Festival of Lights will also begin that weekend.

Bowen said he and Huhn have been discussing electronic timekeeping. Knebel, Huhn, Paslay and Danielle Miller will participate in a Zoom demonstration of this and will bring recommendations to the Personnel Committee for consideration.

The Building and Zoning Official position is still vacant. Knebel will follow up with Paslay on the status.

Knebel said the audit report is expected to be presented at the next meeting. He would like to do a mid-year budget review. Discussion about the tax levy will also be held at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Hubler and seconded by Lewey to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried.

*Carla J Huhn*

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City Clerk