

City Council
Regular Meeting
April 6, 2026
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 Bowen, Lester, Hubler, Lewey, Hobler, Brosman, and Barker were present. Stunkel was absent.

SWEARING IN OF CITY OF VANDALIA POLICE OFFICER TANNER SWAIN:

Deputy Clerk Danielle Miller swore in new City of Vandalia Police Officer Tanner Swain.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Paslay requested making an addition to the regular and special bills. She said in February, Council approved a Pay Estimate for the new water plant in the amount of \$1,331,044.20. She stated the City has just received that amount from the EPA so that we can reimburse Grunloh Building and bring the account current. Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to add that bill to the special and regular bills. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hobler and seconded by Lewey to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: City Council minutes dated March 16, 2026; Regular Bills for period ending April 6, 2026; Special Bills as follows: Caselle, LLC in the amount of \$8,220.12 for annual support fee; Leader-Union in the amount of \$1,591.80 for advertising; Robert Simmons, LLC in the amount of \$10,000.00 for demolition; Barker

Trucking and Excavation in the amount of \$6,850.00 for demolition; Small Town Solutions in the amount of \$5,000.00 for consultation fees; Andy's Auto Body Collision in the amount of \$2,310.95 for auto body repair; Leon Uniform Company, Inc., in the amount of \$2,263.72 for uniforms; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$7,615.00 for street sweeper; Westendorf Construction Company in the amount of \$2,696.00 for supplies; Land of Lincoln Credit Union in the amount of \$10,285.00 for fire truck; Edwards Plumbing and Septic in the amount of \$6,804.25 for maintenance at Lake; ProWire in the amount of \$5,478.20 for WIFI at Lake; Milano and Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$29,122.50 for engineering fees at Industrial Park; Milano and Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$6,461.25 for engineering fees for water main replacement; Korte and Luitjohan Contractors in the amount of \$1,875.00 for pay estimate; Imco Utility in the amount of \$4,684.95 supplies; C and C Pumps and Supply in the amount of \$3,586.93; Milano and Grunloh Engineers in the amount of \$30,978.98 for engineering fees; Brenntag Mid-South, Inc., in the amount of \$16,745.10 for supplies; Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$1,631.00 for supplies; USA BlueBook, Inc., in the amount of \$2,144.69 for supplies; Ameren Illinois in the amount of \$3,183.45 for electric bill at Water Plant; Treasurer's Report for period ending March 31, 2026; Planning and Zoning Commission minutes dated March 18, 2026; Police Pension Meeting minutes dated August 29, 2025; Change Order No. 1 from Korte and Luitjohan Contractors, Inc., for Lead Service Line Project (increase \$1,875.00);

Pay Estimate No 2 from Korte and Luitjohan Contractors, Inc., for Lead Service Line Project (\$1,875.00). Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONCERNS:

None.

CASA PROCLAMATION:

Knebel stated that April has been recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. He presented Erika Givens, representing CASA, with a Proclamation. Givens then gave a brief summary of what CASA does.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Beckman will be present at the next Council meeting.

ORDINANCE 2026-4-6-A: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF VANDALIA ZONING DISTRICT MAP (FORMER POLY PAK PROPERTY):

Paslay stated that APEK Holdings has purchased the former Poly-Pak property. They are interested in leasing the building to Altec Fenex, who would employ approximately 30 people. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended rezoning the property from A-1 (Agriculture) to IL (Light Industrial).

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Barker to approve Ordinance 2026-4-6-A: An Ordinance Amending the City of Vandalia Zoning District Map (Former Poly Pak Property).

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

CONFIRMATION OF AWARD OF LAKE CONCESSIONS AGREEMENT:

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Lester to award the Lake Concessions agreement to Flowers Concessions. Motion carried.

APPROVE OR REJECT BIDS FOR DEMOLITION AT 330 SD. SIXTH STREET (RESULTS AT MEETING):

Motion was made by Brosman and seconded by Lester to accept the bid submitted by Grubaugh Contracting in the amount of \$16,800.00 for

demolition of house at 330 S. Sixth Street. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2026-4-6-B: AN
ORDINANCE APPROVING AND
AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO
ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT
WITH CASELLE FOR PAYMENT
PROCESSING PLATFORM
SERVICES AND TERMINATING
AGREEMENT WITH PAYMENT
SERVICE NETWORK, INC.

By switching to Caselle for the City's payment platform, Huhn explained the different options that will be offered to customers with customer convenience and ease of use being priority. Implementation of the new payment platform will take 6 to 8 weeks. Once that has been implemented, three additional modules will be installed related to timekeeping system and digital invoice workflow.

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hobler to approve Ordinance 2026-4-6-B: An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the City to Enter into an Agreement with Caselle for Payment Processing Platform Services and Terminating Agreement with Payment Service Network, Inc.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Knebel reported strategic plan meetings have been held with stakeholders and with the department heads. Elected officials will start strategic plan meetings on Monday, April 13 from 1 to 4 at Kaskaskia College. Connor stated he has no reason to believe Donato will not live up to their end of the agreement. Knebel and Paslay will be meeting with a Donato group representative next week. Paslay and Lester will meet after the Council meeting to discuss the next course of action. Connor said he and Paslay have been discussing the Liquor

Ordinance post COVID. He stated this does not take effect until July, so this will be completed before July.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Knebel reported he attended the Southern Illinois Mayor's Association meeting last week. He said he met with Mayor Woods from Mound, Illinois who is working on an affordable housing type project. Knebel said more details to come. He had a meeting last week with the Fayette County Mayors. April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. He said the teal ribbons on the lampposts downtown were placed by SAFE in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Lighting downtown on the corner of 4th and Gallatin was discussed. Bowen asked if the lighting will attract bugs. Barker will look into that. Bowen said the lights are much brighter and it will help achieve the goal of keeping the downtown streets safer for all of the traffic and foot traffic. Knebel said there was a ribbon cutting at Bulk Plant Resale last week. He said Shane Bowen gave tours of the loft remodeling he has done in the upstairs of his building. He said Gabi and Curtis Frailey are remodeling the former Security Finance building.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Connor reported he approved the revised Liquor renewal applications, revised gaming renewal applications and the landlord/tenant water customer agreement form that Huhn sent to him for review.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT:

Huhn noted that she would like to set up a Water/Sewer committee meeting on Monday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. to review the landlord/tenant water customer agreement.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S
REPORT:**

Paslay noted that she and Chief Ray continue to negotiate with the Union representatives for Laborer's and Telecommunicators. Tentative budget work session set for 5:00 p.m. on April 20. She had her first session with Alex Benishek for fast-track demolitions last week. The City is the one community in District 7 for the State to do a community travel plan. This will include the school district, law enforcement and ROE. Kickoff meeting will be coming soon. Building permits have increased over the past couple of weeks. She said the City has been approved for the Geothermal study grant. The meeting process will begin later this month. She said she was notified that cemetery mapping began over the weekend with drone flyover. She said this will be very valuable information for the cemetery.

SAFETY CODE OFFICIAL:

Report will be provided in next Council packet.

**STANDING COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

Barker reported that the Street Department has been busy taking advantage of the recent stretch of favorable weather.

Lester stated he will be traveling to Mattoon Lake on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. to observe the silt bagging process. Knebel reported that Beckman is currently evaluating all available options regarding Lake siltage, which will be presented to the Council at the next meeting.

Workman reported that four toilets in the new shower house were damaged over the winter and will need replacement. He is currently waiting on Ameren to install a utility pole for the automatic gates. He also noted that staff recently

participated in a CPR training class. Additionally, Ryan Scott, EMA Director, is exploring a grant opportunity to secure an AED for the Lake. Bowen suggested that Sarah Bush Lincoln may be interested in partnering with the City to assist in obtaining an AED for the lake.

ProWire is expected to complete installation of Wi-Fi service at the campground by the end of the month.

Daulbaugh reviewed her March highlights report. She has updated the Small Business Awards nomination form, with nominations due by April 13. To date, only two nominations have been received. She noted there are many deserving local businesses. Award recipients will be recognized at the May 4 Council meeting.

Daulbaugh also announced that the Vandalia Job and Hiring Event will be held on May 1, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Kaskaskia College.

She reported that planning is underway for Grand Levee and Summerfest. Additionally, she has been working with Placer.ai to identify key points of interest. She is focusing on fostering a strong culture of entrepreneurship locally, as well as assisting long-standing businesses with succession planning.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Barker and seconded by Hubler to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried.



City Clerk