

Regular City Council Meeting
Official Proceedings
City of Virden, IL
Virden City Council Chambers
Tuesday January 2, 2024

Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor George Murphy at 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- **The following Council Members were present:** Calloway, Mottershaw, Bertolino, Mitchell, Neighbors, Mitchell, Ibberson, Boster and Cunningham.
- **Absent:**
- **Also, present were:** Mayor George Murphy, Deputy City Clerk Karen Burgess, Bookkeeper/Deputy Treasurer Barry Liss, Police Chief Steven Snodgrass, Public Works Director Gary Etter, Attorney Don Craven and Madonna Lackey
- **Guest:**

Approval of Agenda (1-2-2024):

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Bertolino to approve the Agenda (1-2-2024) as amended.

Discussion: Under the consent agenda we would like to vote on Gallons and Collections separately

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Calloway, Mitchell, Bertolino, Neighbors, Cunningham, Boster, Ibberson and Mottershaw; **Nayes:** None; **Absent:** None

Approve Consent Agenda:

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes (Regular Meeting 12/4/23 & Special Meeting 12/21/23)**
- **Approval of Bills Payable:**
- **Treasurer's Report:**

Motion made by Murphy seconded by Bertolino to approve the Consent Agenda without the Gallons report.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nayes:** None; **Absent:** None

Water Report (November 2023 Gallons report and December 2023 Collections report):

Reports were tabled

Requests for use of Public Property:

1. **Request for sale of girl scout cookies on the island square**
 - a. Feb 3rd (10am – 1pm) & 4th (1pm – 4pm)
 - b. Feb 10th (10am – 1pm), 11th (1pm – 4pm) & 12th (1pm – 4pm)
 - c. Feb 17th (10am – 1pm) & 18th (1pm – 4pm)
 - d. Feb 25th (1pm – 4pm)
 - e. Mar 2nd (10am – 1pm), 3rd (1pm – 4pm) & 4th (1pm – 4pm)
 - f. Mar 10th (1pm – 4pm)
 - g. Mar 17th (1pm – 4pm)

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Neighbors to approve the request for sale of girl scout cookies on the island square with proof of insurance and adult present.

Discussion: What is the difference between this and someone just popping up and selling peaches, watermelon, and sweet corn? Probably not a whole lot. According to code local farmers can sell their produce anytime on the square. Why do the Girl Scouts have to have proof of insurance and a local farmer does not? No one has asked that question before.

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nays:** None; **Absent:** None

Comments from Audience:

1. None

REPORTS OF SUPERVISORS

City Engineer:

1. None

Director of Operations:

1. None

Chief of Police:

1. None

City Office Manager:

1. **Approval of City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule for 2024**

Moved to February City Council Meeting

2. **Approval of 2024 Employee Paid Holiday Schedule**

Moved to February City Council Meeting

3. **Approval of 2024 Payday Schedule**

Moved to February City Council Meeting

4. **Approval of 2024 Bar Hours of Operation**

Murphy talked to Kenny Williams, and he says he is talking for all the bars. He says they do not care about Mardi Gras and Valentines Day when they are in the middle of the week and aren't going to have any specials. They don't need Christmas Eve either, but what he does want is the Saturday before St. Patrick's Day and Halloween.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Mottershaw to approve the 2024 extended Bar Hours. Motion passed with majority in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors and Bertolino; **Nays:** Calloway and Boster; **Absent:** None

5. **Need clarification – paying out ALL vacation (PTO) and Personal Time remaining from 2023 or can some be carried over to 2024?**

Are you going to let people roll overtime like you did last year or have everyone cash out? Chief said his two new guys just got their personal time the beginning of November and haven't had a chance to use it. Whatever their contract says you should do what it says. The two new officers should get paid out for their personal time because they didn't get a chance to use it, but if you are going to do it for them you should do it for anyone who still has time left. If there is a contract, it should go by the contract because then you are setting a certain precedence. You make it noted with the payout that there is no p&p (precedence & prejudice). Discussion continued back and forth. It came to conclusion that any vacation time that wasn't used gets paid out and any personal time not used is gone. So, any PTO (vacation) left gets paid out, sick and comp time get carried over and personal time is gone for all three departments. Yes. Also needs to be stated without p&p (precedence & prejudice). What does that mean? It means we have the right to come back next year and change how we are doing it. Boster is not agreeing to anything without p&p.

City Attorney:

1. None

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

City Clerk:

1. None

City Treasurer:

1. Water cash for the month of December was \$68,292. YTD \$535,823.

Mayor:

1. None

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance:

1. Approve FY 22/23 Audit

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Mitchell to approve FY 22/23 audit presented by R.W. Hickman.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nayes:** None; **Absent:** None

2. CD renewal (January)

Consensus at the meeting was to take the CDs to CNB for the 11-month special at 5.05%.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Bertolino to renew CD investment 0058 at CNB for the 11 month special at 5.05%, CD investment 9312781 move from FNB to CNB for the 11 month special at 5.05%, CD investment 9312780 move from FNB to CNB for the 11 month special at 5.05% and CD investment 9312779 move from FNB to CNB for the 11 month special at 5.05% with the signatures to be George Murphy, Gary Mottershaw, Barry Liss and Craig Neighbors.

Discussion: Barry, can you find the certificates for those? Yes.

Motion passed with majority in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Ibberson, Neighbors, and Bertolino; **Nayes:** Boster, Cunningham and Calloway; **Absent:** None

3. Approve changing signatures on checking account at FNB (water – ending in 35) and PSB (Community Center – ending in 447) to remove MaDonna Lackey and add Karen Burgess.

With MaDonna leaving she will need to be taken off those. Is Jess on both of them? Jess is on the water one. Is anybody else on the Community Center one? Not sure. Only deposits on done on it. No checks get written.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Boster to approve changing signatures on checking account from FNB (water - ending in 35) and PSB (Community Center - ending in 447) removing MaDonna Lackey and adding Karen Burgess.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nayes:** None; **Absent:** None

~~**4. Approve Treasurer's Reports (Oct. & Nov.)**~~

Police:

1. Line-item transfer request – for purchase of radar “speed limit” sign

Steven has a sheet filled out to have \$3,540 to be transferred from Gas & Oil to Equipment.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Bertolino to approve line-item transfer of \$3,540 from #01-03-4024 to #01-03-4003.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with majority in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and

Bertolino; Nays: Cunningham; Absent: None

Public Works:

1. Streets & Alleys:

a. Approve Frontier boring permit

Were you comfortable with everything? Yes.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Bertolino to approve Frontier boring permit from 1/15/24 to 4/1/24 with updated plans approved by Pokey, submitting bond, certificate of insurance and a deposit of \$5,000.

Discussion: Where is the location? All over.

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nays:** None; **Absent:** None

2. Building & Grounds:

a. None

3. Water:

a. None

4. Parks:

a. None

5. Miscellaneous:

a. None

Administrative:

1. Add Social Media Policy to the mandated policy

We talked about it and consensus was to add a social media policy recommended by our insurance company. The best place to put it would be in Article 9 in the mandated policy.

Motion made by Mottershaw seconded by Neighbors to add the social media policy presented by our insurance company to the mandated policy in Article 9.

Discussion: Gary talked to the Clerk and says we are going to type it up into the format and it will fit in with your mandated policies.

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nays:** None; **Absent:** None

Other Business:

1. Do we have anything on that drainage business? No, I think the court date on that is January 25th.
2. Karen, I haven't been able to open what you have sent. It is probably because I used Libra Office and not word. I am strictly using word now, so I am hoping that fixes the problem.
3. Karen how is Rebecca doing. She is doing good.

Executive Session:

1. **Approval of Executive Session meeting minutes (5ILCS 120/2 (c) (21))**

Adjournment:

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Bertolino to adjourn at 7:53 pm.

Discussion: None

Motion passed with all in favor. **Ayes:** Mitchell, Mottershaw, Boster, Cunningham, Ibberson, Neighbors, Calloway and Bertolino; **Nays:** None; **Absent:** None

Karen Burgess
Deputy City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: