

City Council Committee Meeting

City Of Virden

City Council Chambers

Monday June 2nd, 2025

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

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Council Members present: Calloway, Carter, Matrisch, Boster, Donley, Karrick, Neighbors, and Bertolino

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Mayor Murphy, City Clerk Jon Myint, Bookkeeper/Treasurer Barry Liss, Public Works Director Gary Etter, City Officer Manager Karen Burgess, Don, and Joe Craven

Audience: Crystal Creasy and Mike Marsaglia

Topics:

Approval of Agenda (06-02-25)

Mayor Murphy requested.

Under Request for use of Public Property, add mural at SavMor.

Under City Attorney add

#3 Ameren easement

#4 Virden Sanitary District vs City of Virden

Motion made by Boster seconded by Carter to approve the agenda as amended.

Discussion: None

Ayes; Calloway, Carter, Matrisch, Boster, Donley, Karrick, Neighbors, and Bertolino

Nayes; None

Absent: None

Motion passed

Approval of Consent Agenda:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (REGULAR 05-05-25 & SPECIAL 05-01-25 and 05-22-25).

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

APPROVAL OF WATER REPORT (May 2025 and gallons report April 2025)

Request for use of public property:

1. Bernard Gietl, the artist doing the mural at SavMor, request the sidewalk and parking spaces be blocked off for safety. Painting to start after the 4th of July. Final Council approval will be done at the July City Council meeting.

Motion made by Karrick seconded by Calloway to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Discussion: Bertolino questioned how the city is going to pay the bills since the appropriations have not been voted for. The response from the Attorney was "under state law you can"

Ayes; Calloway, Carter, Matrisch, Boster, Donley, Karrick, Neighbors, and Bertolino

Nayes; None

Absent: None

Motion passed

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mike Marsaglia asked about the intergovernmental agreement with the Sanitary District and how it works if the city does not renew the contract.

Answer: The contract renews itself if both parties agree. If one party wants to renegotiate the contract, a one year notice must be given. The vote tonight is to let the Sanitary District know the city may want to change, renew, or not renew the contract in one year.

Crystal Creasy asked about the next city wide clean up.

Answer: The next clean up may be in the fall of 2025. Advanced notice will be posted when the date is finalized.

Crystal Creasy previously asked about living in a “storage unit.”

Answer: Mayor Murphy read an email from the Attorney stating that Virden’s property maintenance code provides a variety of authority to prohibit occupancy of storage units for human habitation and it mentions the City Code incorporates the International Building Code, the Plumbing Code, the Mechanical code, and the ICC Electrical Code. There is just a number of things that prohibit someone from living in a storage unit.

Marny Turner, a resident complaint about ongoing explosions and nuisances near her residence on Dye Street.

On the night of 1 June, a neighbor living in a trailer blew off his hand and was on top of a shed screaming.

She has made a number of complaints to the police and stated that she feels like nothing is being done. She and her husband are very concerned about their family’s safety.

Alderman Bertolino stated the council will look into this issue.

REPORTS FROM SUPERVISORS

CITY ENGINEER:

Absent

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS:

Nothing currently.

CHIEF OF POLICE:

On Vacation

CITY OFFICE MANAGER

1. Karen Burgess reported the minutes of Special City Meeting on May 22nd, 2025, approving the signatories has been turned into the banks. If and when the banks send any information back, she will let the people know what they need to do.

CITY ATTORNEY

1. Approve termination of Intergovernmental Agreement with Virden Sanitation District (VSD).

Discussion: The terms of the agreement go to the end of July 2026. If it is going to be amended or terminated, a one year notice is required. This means the council must vote to amend or terminate the agreement. A notice must be given by the end of July 2025.

Motion made by Bertolino second by Boster to approve the termination of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Virden Sanitation District effective July 2026.

Ayes: Callaway, Carrick, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donely, Matrisch, Boster, and Carter

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

2. Authorization for Attorney's to draw up amendment to City Code 5-7-4 Golf Cart Fees from \$35.00 to \$50.00.

Motion made by Boster seconded by Bertolino to have the Attorneys draw up the ordinance to amend 5-7-4 City Code, to increase golf cart permit to \$50.00 effective immediately for new permits and effective 01 January 2026 for annual renewals.

Discussion: The raise is due to the Police Department and City Office not being able to make change.

Ayes: Calloway, Karrick, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, Boster, and Carter

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

3. Ameren Easement

Hutchinson will be building a house on the corner of Dye and Liberty Court and needs addresses for four lots.

Arron Bishop at county 911 assigned addresses for all four lots.

Now Ameren needs an easement to be able to run electric; there is a question on exactly where this easement needs to be and who owns the property.

No action from the Council is needed at this time.

4. Virden Sanitary District vs the City of Virden

Joe Craven was complemented on the job he did representing the City.

The Judge ruled the City is in fact complying with the Intergovernmental Agreement and no further action is pending with the court.

No action needed by the Council at this time.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

CITY CLERK

Nothing Currently

CITY TREASURER

Nothing Currently

MAYOR

1. Extension of the IDHA Grant

There are 16 things the city has to do to make it happen. The Grant has been extended for another 12 months to November 2026. This grant money is for the demolition of nuisance houses.

932 North Springfield the bank has released its mortgage. Paperwork has been prepared for the owners to sign. However one of the two owners is being advised by a boyfriend not to sign the paperwork.

FINANCE

1. Approve R.W. Hickman to perform an audit for fiscal year 2024-25

Motion made by Bertolino second by Boster to approve R.W. Hickman to perform the audit for fiscal year 2024-25.

Yeas: Calloway, Karrick, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, Boster, and Carter

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

2. Schedule appropriations hearing before July's Council meeting
Scheduling of the hearing must be published 10 days prior to the hearing.
Karen Burgess will contact the Virden Recorder to get the hearing published.

No action needed from the Council at this time.

POLICE

Nothing currently

PUBLIC WORKS

1. Ordinance 2025-5 Amending Section 7-1-7 of the City Code of Ordinances (water rate increases)

Motion made by Bertolino second by Karrick to approve ordinance number 2025-5 an ordinance amending section 7-1-7 the City Code of ordinances to raise the water rates.

Discussion: Water access charge for service within city limits from \$8 to \$11.00 and for service outside the city limits from \$13 to \$16.00. Those have not been changed since the last time the city got new meters in 2011. Those are going up for the new meter system we're getting, and the rates Otter Lake is increasing, 7.5% in July and another 3% in March, will raise the current rate inside City limits from \$1.04 to \$1.15 and outside City limits from \$1.14 to \$1.27, all per each unit (100 gallons) of water used. The city is doing this all at the same time, effective beginning with usage starting on July 1, 2025.

Ayes: Calloway, Karrick, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, Boster, and Carter

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed

Executive Session:

None

Additional:

None

Motion made by Calloway seconded by Neighbors to adjourn at 7:44 PM

Ayes: Calloway, Karrick, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, Boster, and Carter

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed

Jonathan J. Myint
City Clerk

Date Approved: