

**Regular Police Committee Meeting
City Of Virden
City Council Chambers
Thursday, August 13th, 2026**

Meeting called to order by Alderman Boster at 7:00 pm.

Alderspersons in attendance: Carter, Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, and Boster

Absent: Calloway, Neighbors and Karrick

Also in attendance: Mayor George Murphy, City Clerk Jon Myint and Police Chief Steven Snodgrass

Audience: None

Comments from Audience: None

Topics:

1. Approval of Minutes of 07-09-26

Motion: made by Matrisch seconded by Carter to approve the Police Committee Meeting Minutes of 07-09-26. **Motion:** passed with all in favor.

2. Alley behind Hendricks Outlet

Brush has overgrown a fence and is blocking the alley (which is actually a private drive) behind the Outlet. Two messages have been left for the owner of the property. If no response is received by the owner of the brush they will receive an ordinance violation. After seven days of the issuance of the ordinance violation Public Works can then cut the brush, and the city will then bill the property owner.

3. Three-year New Hire Police Agreement

The agreement for training and uniform reimbursement for police officers was discussed and updated.

Motion: made by Bertolino seconded by Matrisch to take the updated agreement to the September City Council meeting for approval. **Discussion:** Craven to be consulted at the council meeting prior to the vote. **Motion:** passed with all in favor.

4. THC/Hemp type drinks

Boster questioned if a cannabis license is needed. **Discussion:** on what is the state regulation on sales.

Chief Snodgrass will contact Carlinville to see what they are doing.

Recommendation: made by Matrisch seconded by Boster to table THC/Hemp type drinks to the Administrative committee. **Recommendation:** passed with all in favor.

5. Licenses Plate Reader (LPR/Flock) subscription payments

The subscription payment not received yet will be approximately \$6,000 (\$3,000 per camera) which is over the Chief's spending limit. **Recommendation:** Made by Boster seconded by Matrisch to take the payment of the LPR subscription to the September's City Council meeting.

Recommendation: passed with all in favor.

6. Surplus property-bicycles

Discussion: on how to dispose of the 37 bicycles being stored in the police basement. Bertolino would like to donate the bicycles in an effort to save the city money. **Motion:** made by Mayor Murphy seconded by Boster to put on the September agenda, to consult Attorney Craven on if the surplus city property (37 bicycles) can be donated or do they have to go out on bid.

Motion: passed with all in favor.

7 Kratom Ordinance

Discussion: on what Kratom is and how to stop sales in Virden.

Carlinville adopted an ordinance prohibiting the use, sale, and distribution of Kratom within the city limits, Auburn also adopted one.

Recommendation: made by Boster seconded by Carter to have the attorneys draft a Kratom Ordinance and have it put on the agenda in September for a vote. **Yeas:** Boster, Carter, Donley, and Matrisch, **Nayes:** Bertolino, **Absent:** 0 Calloway, Karrick and Neighbors, **Abstain:** 0, **Recommendation:** passed.

Additional:

Mayor 1. Mayor Murphy read Alderwoman Calloway's Letter of Resignation.

Discussion: Mayor Murphy spoke on the process of filling the vacant Ward 1 seat.

Recommendation: made by Boster seconded by Carter to take Alderwoman Calloway's Letter of Resignation to the September City Council meeting for acceptance.

Recommendation: Passed with all in favor.

Mayor 2. House at 832 North Springfield St,

Chief Snodgrass gave the update on today's court case. The judge would like to revisit the case in 30 days. Mayor Murphy may request the attorney to file a motion to speed the case up. There is a possibility of the house and garage being uninhabitable, requiring fixing or letting the city demolish it.

Mayor 3. Asbestos abatement estimates

Mayor Murphy reported the estimates for 233 West Jackson, and 433 South Springfield asbestos abatements came in from Triple A, and Parkland. Tripple A's estimate is \$2,040 for each house to do the abatement and Parkland's estimate is \$2,800 for 233 and \$3,200 for 433. The other two houses (South Emmett and South Springfield St (by the car wash) could not be safely tested and must be demolished as if they have asbestos. Getting the bids for the abatements and approving awarding the contract to the lowest bidder was previously approved by the council. Triple A will be awarded the contract.

Mayor Murphy will prepare the demolition bid request for the four properties. Demolition of the properties to be started soon after asbestos is abated.

Mayor 4. 1015 North Noble: Mayor Murphy inquired if the owner contacted the Police Chief to assist with an eviction, owner claimed Chief Police would not help. Chief reported that he was not called and no messages were left for him. An officer did respond to the address about the owner taking the doors off. Chief will look into the issue tomorrow. Mayor Murphy will also contact the owner.

Bertolino 1. Cray's Concrete: 30 day notice to dispose of the concrete pile is up and he is now in violation of overgrown weeds.

Bertolino 2. Abandoned car on Union Street and Grove: Chief Snodgrass reported the certified letter went out, the stated time is up, and he will contact the tow company to come and pick it up. Then the matter is between the towing company and the car owner.

Bertolino 3. Parttime Dispatch: Chief Snodgrass reported training is now being conducted on the evening shift, and she should be able to start working on her own about the middle of September.

Bertolino 4. Chicken Complaint at 521 South Dye St.: Complaints about chickens including a rooster chasing an elderly neighbor at the property owned by Sandy Travis occupied by Thomas Painter, with the chickens belonging to Angel McCoy. Citations were issued, after no response to initial contact. Animal control visited but left after the

son was corralling the chickens and yelled at them (Animal Control). The subjects were no-show at court. The attorneys will attempt to obtain a fine. The chickens appear to have been removed; the coupe remains. Angel McCoy posted about the chicken situation on Facebook.

Bertolino 5. Innis Property Incident: Bertolino inquired if body camera footage revealed any inappropriate behavior of any city employees. Chief Snodgrass could not find any inappropriate recorded behavior at this time.

Boster 1. Police Officer Academy Graduation: Chief Snodgrass reported that the officer at the academy will be graduating in the middle of September. Boster requested that he be kept up to date on the graduation date.

Donley 1. 123 Henderson St tall grass: Chief Snodgrass will look at the property tomorrow.

Executive Session: None

Recommendation to approve Executive Session meeting minutes.

Recommendation: made by Boster seconded by Matrisch to approve the Police Committee Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 14th and June 11th, 2026 as viewed by those in attendance. **Ayes:** Carter, Neighbors, Donley, Matrisch, and Boster
Nays: Bertolino, **Absent:0, Abstain:0 Recommendation:** passed

Motion: made by Boster seconded by Carter to adjourn at 8:05 pm. **Motion:** passed with all in favor

Jonathan J. Myint
City Clerk
Date approved