

Regular City Council Committee Meeting
City Of Virden
City Council Chambers
Monday November 3rd, 2025

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

- **The following Council Members were present:** Bertolino, Neighbors, Donley, Carter, Karrick, Boster, Calloway, and Matrisch
- **Absent:** None
- **Also present:** Mayor George Murphy, City Clerk Jon Myint, City Office Manager Karen Burgess, Bookkeeper/Treasure Barry Liss, Chief of Police Steven Snodgrass, Director of Public Works Gary Etter, and Attorneys Don & Joe Craven who arrived at 7:05.
- **Audience:** Todd and Shannon Morenz, Rick Maguire, Steve and Debbie Kershaw, Kenny Williams, Noah Sisson, Don and Angie Stevens, Crystal Creasy, Miranda Jones, Ben McCloughan, and Tom DeMarco
- **Comments from the Audience:**
Debbie Kershaw: Opposed the Class G Liquor License due to gambling addiction in her family.

Ben McCloughan: Opposed more licenses, citing the Gaming Boards most recent report that, most video gaming taxes go to the state. Out of \$1,356,000, the city of Virden keeps less than \$70,000. He said multiple studies show very low income households have almost 100% higher rate of gambling than the general population.

Miranda Jones: Opposed more licenses, stating her concerns were on local small business owners who depend on existing gaming and the impact additional licenses would have on those current establishments.

Noah Sission: A potential applicant, new operations wouldn't greatly hurt

existing businesses and just wants to have an equal opportunity.

De Marco: Said, he supports new business, economic growth, advises less regulation and encourages boosting community growth.

Kenny Williams: asked about opening up a Pot Dispensary. (Boster recommended he look at the city code.)

Crystal Creasy: Commented on the Food Sales Tax and requested the council end the tax. She raised a concern over the removal of the meeting minutes from the city's website. (It was explained to her that the state law only requires the minutes to remain posted for 60 days. Minutes after that can be requested). She requested clarification on the Solar Farm Agreement and the city's acceptance of \$10,000 for not zoning the area. She stated she did not get a response from the Council on any restrictions on videotaping Open Meetings.

Approval of Agenda (11-03-25)

Motion: made by Carter seconded by Matrisch to approve the agenda, as modified.

Discussion: None

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: passed

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes (Regular 10-6-25 and Special 10-16-25)**
- **Approval of Bills Payable:**
- **Approval of Treasurer's Report (09-25)**
- **Approval of Water Report (October 25) and Gallons Report (September 2025)**
- **Request for Use of Public Property**
 1. **Virden United Methodist Church-Twyford BBQ Truck Nov 14th 11:00am to 1:30 pm on the square.**
 2. **Post Prom fundraiser at four way stop (withdrawn).**

3. (added) National Honor Society Salvation Army Bell Ringers fund raising event (November 15th, 29th, December 6th and 20th, 9am to Noon at the four-way stops)

Motion: made by Boster seconded by Bertolino to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Discussion: Mayor Murphy clarified, the Bell Ringers will be collecting at the four-way stops and will be covered by the school insurance.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: passed

Reports of Supervisors

City Engineer:

1. Absent

Director of Operations:

1. Nothing currently

Chief of Police:

1. Nothing currently

City Office Manager:

1. Nothing currently

City Attorney:

1. Bertolino asked for an update on 233 Jackson and 332 S. Springfield

Discussion: on 233 Jackson, payment was sent in, currently waiting for the county to process the paperwork.

On 332 S Springfield: still waiting on the bank and insurance company.

Reports of City Officials

City Clerk:

1. Nothing currently

City Treasurer:

1. Nothing currently

Mayor:

1. Ordinance or resolution-no longer recognize VSD

Mayor Murphy talked about his conversation with Brad Cole (IML). The result of the conversation was an ordinance, or resolution would not change much.

Joe Craven added, "The city is still in an intergovernmental agreement till approximately June of 2026.

Issue tabled to a later date.

2. (added) Solar on Earth (discount with Ameren) as informational

Previously, Mayor Murphy was given the authority from the Council to sign the agreement if, it reached 20%. After he talked to them, the approval came back authorizing a 20% discount. The contract is in the process of being updated from 10 to 20% and will be signed when it is received.

Reports of Standing Committee

Finance:

1. CD renewal for 12 months at 3.72% at CNB

Motion: made by Donley seconded by Karrick to renew the CD ending in 0150 for 12 months at 3.72% at CNB.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: passed

Police:

1. Nothing currently

Public Works:

- a. Streets and Alleys - Nothing currently
- b. Buildings and Grounds – Nothing currently
- c. Parks – Nothing Currently
- d. Water

- 1. Purchase replacement of Water Meter Locator Transmitter

Motion: made by Bertolino seconded by Karrick to allow the Director of Public Works to purchase a Water Meter Locator Transmitter in the amount of \$2,200.

Discussion: This topic was discussed in Committee and Public Works has the funds in their budget.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passed

Administrative:

1. Revote for class G liquor license (revote is for the purpose to possibly override the Mayor's veto)

Motion: made by Neighbors seconded by Boster to override the Mayor's veto on the formation of a class G Liquor License, and to allow the formation of 3 licenses.

Discussion: Mayor Murphy wanted to stay with only one.

Applications, if passed, will be available in the morning from the City Manager.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: passed

2. Vote on Gaming ordinance 2025-16

Motion: made by Matrisch seconded by Donley to approve Ordinance 2025-16 amending the city code section 3-8-4, changing the fee on Video Gaming Terminal to \$100.00 per year.

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

Nayes: Bertolino and Boster

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: passed

3. Employee Christmas gift cards

Motion: made by Neighbors seconded by Matrisch to approve Employee gift cards for Christmas in the amount of \$75 for 20 full time employees and \$40 for 5 parttime employees.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passed

4. Health insurance options for 2026

1. Tabled to 11-06-25 Administrative Committee meeting.

Executive Session:

Motion: made by Mayor Murphy seconded by Carter to enter into Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel at 7:46 pm

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passed

1. Approval of executive session meeting minutes 10-06-25

Motion: made by Boster seconded by Carter to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of 10-06-25.

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

Nayes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion: Passed

2. Litigation City Hall meeting with VSD-

Discussed in Executive Session

Adjournment:

Motion: made by Boster seconded by Calloway to adjourn at 8:47 pm.

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

Nayes: Karrick

Absent: None

Abstain: Bertolino

Motion: passed

Jonathan J. Myint

City Clerk

Date Approved: