



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elizabeth Titus Memorial Library, 2 West Water Street, Sullivan. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Short. A roll call was taken.

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- present
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- present
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- present
Mayor Ann Short	- present

2. The minutes of the regular meeting held on December 27, 2016, were submitted by the City Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman that the foregoing minutes be approved as printed. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

3. The Treasurer's Report by City Treasurer Sarah Golden for the period of December 2016 was read by the Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Risley that the foregoing report be approved as read and placed on file in the records of the Council. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

4. The claims were read by Mayor Short. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve the claims as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

5. Commissioner Mossman reported that Christmas lights will soon be coming down weather permitting. He is also working on the request by Jeri Davis for gathering volunteers for the Christmas lights for 2017. He hopes to have an answer in the next couple of weeks.

6. Commissioner Mossman reported that the remodeling of the City building is moving fast. He thanked Clerk Monte Johnson for his work with painting and removing the carpet. He also acknowledged the Electric Department for their quick and diligent work, and also thanked all of the other City employees that chipped in and helped.

7. Commissioner Kirk thanked the Council for the plant sent for his father's funeral.

8. Commissioner Kirk reported that the electric line crew has been cutting down trees. Even though the trees are on the City's right of way, Kim Harris is talking to the owners beforehand to get permission and discuss the need for their removal. Kim Harris also wanted to remind the Council that we have had high winds and cold weather with no blinks, so the distribution upgrades appear to be money well spent.

9. Commissioner Kirk explained that the claim to BHMG for around \$34,000 was to upgrade the Pielstick engine, which is the biggest engine at the Light Plant. A new control panel and voltage regulator had to be built. Unit 1 was exercised last Thursday, and all 13 units will be exercised between now and March.

10. Commissioner Kirk reported that Brock Cook passed his 2nd step as an apprentice lineman for his union work.

11. Commissioner Kirk explained that an underground fault wizard would check for ground faults and shorts, and the equipment would isolate the precise area of electrical problems. The equipment would save time and money on the maintenance of the City's underground electrical lines. Commissioner Kirk reported that a quote has been received by Anixter for an underground fault wizard for \$9993.35. The quote includes four extra accessories, no delivery charge, on-site training, and troubleshooting for two years. A quote was received by Innovative Utility Products out of Van Buren, AR, for \$9,475. Shipping is not included in the quote, the auxiliary battery pack is an extra \$695, the AC power supply is an extra \$1,195, and no training or service is included. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to accept the quote of \$9,993.35 and approve the purchase of the underground fault wizard from Anixter. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

12. Commissioner Kirk reported that a new hire apprentice lineman will begin work on February 6th.

13. Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineers was present to discuss the Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. Plans for the project began in 2010, but the City waited until receiving a construction grant before proceeding with construction. A design grant had already been awarded, and the design has already been done. A construction grant was finally awarded this past year. Original cost estimates for the project were \$792,270 with \$450,000 coming from a CDAP grant. The City still will get \$450,000 from the grant, but will be required to come up with more funding because Mr. Beckman is expecting the bids to come in about \$200,000 more than originally planned back in 2010. Mr. Beckman wanted to be present at the meeting to explain the estimates before the bids were opened on January 19th.

Commissioner Kirk asked if street finishing was included in the bids. Mr. Beckman explained that the street resurfacing was not included because general contractors generally do not do that type of work and would probably just mark up the price a certain percentage more than the City could have the streets done themselves. It is estimated that about 20 blocks of streets will need resurfaced.

14. Mr. Beckman also was present to explain a possible water tower project. Cost estimates for a 500,000 gallon water tower come in at \$1,230,000. Mr. Beckman did not know how close the City was to solidifying funds for the project. He also explained that it will be necessary to figure how the two water towers would work together, how they would be filled, and where the appropriate spot would be for the tower.

He explained that some municipalities choose to put water towers near large industrial areas to give them fire protection. That does not mean that the location would be serving the rest of the City in the best manner, however. A study would need to

be done to determine the best location based on fire flows, weak links, and water pressures. Mr. Beckman explained that a study assessment would cost around \$20,000, but that figure is already included in the budget price of a new tower. Mr. Beckman also explained that it is possible that the City may not need a second water tower. He said looping could be done to help with water flows. Many municipalities do like having two tanks, however, because if you only have one tank and the tank is down for maintenance, you run the risk of protection.

Clerk Johnson was instructed to contact Commissioner Hagen regarding his plans and reasoning for wanting a second water tower. More preliminary work will be done before moving forward with the water tower plans. Lee Beckman will meet with the new City Administrator to discuss this and other topics, and will also have discussions with Hydro-Gear and Agri-Fab about their thoughts on the tower.

15. Commissioner Risley reported that the new stop sign has been installed on Sunshine Drive since the passage of the sign ordinance. He and Doug Daily are also narrowing down street possibilities for maintenance this year. The list and estimates will be given to the Clerk for bid preparation. Discussions have also been had with Wheelers regarding the resurfacing of the Civic Center/American Legion parking lot, which will be done this summer as well.

16. Mayor Short thanked City Clerk Monte Johnson for his hard work in the remodeling project. She also noted that Bill White helped with carpet removal, the Street Department helped paint the floor trim, and the Cemetery Department helped with the Christmas light removal around the Square.

17. Mayor Short announced that all Council members are invited to attend the SCED Annual Dinner on January 27th. The dinner is at the Methodist Church at 11:30 a.m. and costs \$30 per person. She also noted that we received a letter of thanks from the American Legion. The City also received an invitation to the CIMOA meeting in St. Joseph.

18. Mayor Short explained that the City's organizational structure will change with the hiring of a City Administrator. Clerk Johnson prepared a proposed new organizational chart, which must be posted due to FOIA requirements. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to adopt the submitted organizational chart. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

19. Mayor Short reported that the City has received a request for financial support from the Moultrie County Counseling Center. Their funding has suffered due to the State's economic issues. Commissioner Kirk explained that the Police Department uses the Counseling Center on numerous occasions, and they are tremendously valuable organization for the community. Treasurer Sarah Golden reported that the City donated \$500 last year. A motion as made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve a \$1000 financial assistance donation to the Moultrie County Counseling Center. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

20. Dave Doty was present representing the Kaskaskia Valley Fishers of Men. He explained that he took over the tournament last year from Barry Featherling. The organization conducts the Toby Shafer Memorial tournament, and it was noted that Mr.

Shafer was a long time City employee. A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to donate \$1000 to become a division sponsor for the Illinois-Kaskaskia Division of Fishers of Men National Trail Tournament. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

21. SCED Director Laurrie Minor reported that the SCED Board met last Thursday, and they are making plans for the future, but they need to know what the City's plans are. She recommends that another strategic planning session be started. The City's last strategic plan was completed in 2008, and many of those recommendations have been followed and completed. She would like the SCED, the City of Sullivan, and Moultrie County to work together to keep moving forward. Commissioner Risley stated that since the SCED is largely funded by the City, they need the Council's thoughts and ideas. One of the top things on the list from the last strategic plan was to get a City Administrator. Now that the City has hired a City Administrator, that person will now be involved in the next strategic plan. It was also pointed out that the manufacturing companies and the citizens of Sullivan should be involved. Clerk Johnson was instructed to get a copy of the most recent strategic plan to all Commissioners, and the City will move forward once the new City Administrator has been in office for a reasonable amount of time.

22. Mayor Short asked if there were any comments from the public in attendance. Nancy Barker asked about the hiring of the apprentice lineman, and if the City considered hiring from within. Commissioner Kirk explained that job openings are internally posted to current employees, and that an apprentice was hired who had finished pole climbing school. One major issue the City has is that journeyman linemen can get hired in the \$40-50 per hour pay range, and the City is unable to compete with those wages.

Ms. Barker questioned the location of the proposed sewer work that had been mentioned in the meeting. It was explained that it was in the northwest section of town, with the approximate location being west of the elementary school, east of the railroad tracks, and north of Strain Street. She asked if anything could be done about the sewer issue in the Eastlawn/Eastview neighborhood. It was explained that the storm sewer issue has been looked at multiple times, and there are no solutions that the City has been able to come up with. Engineering studies have been done, but there are issues with State highway regulations, other drainage districts involved, and farmland and/or homeowner land that would need to be used for ditches, sewers, and/or retention areas. Commissioner Risley stated that he will revisit the situation and will do more research into possible solutions.

Cathie Kenney questioned why the work for the remodeling at City Hall had not been put out for bids, or why other contractors in town weren't approached. Commissioner Mossman explained that the quotes for the walls and the floors were separated in case the Council did not want to pursue all of the work at once, in case the Council would want to wait for part of the work, or if the Council were to decide to have City employees handle some of the work. He also explained that the City was under a time constraint, Standerfer Brothers were able to get it done in a reasonable time, and they had been used for projects in the past.

City Clerk Monte Johnson explained that he called Standerfer Brothers to obtain the quotes for the City Building renovations. The reasoning behind this was that Standerfer Brothers was the only local contractor to submit a bid for the last City project, which was the Gas Department shed. It was also noted that some contractors shy away from municipal projects due to prevailing wage requirements.

23. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to adjourn to closed session at 8:21 p.m. to discuss the discipline of

specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).); and for pending litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

24. Mayor Short reconvened the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

25. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk that the minutes of the meeting be engrossed by the Clerk. Upon roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

26. A motion was made by Commissioner Risley and seconded by Commissioner Mossman that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was reduced to writing and read to the Council. Upon roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

Commissioner Mike Mossman	- yea
Commissioner Mike Kirk	- yea
Commissioner Bill Hagen	- absent
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest

Monte A. Johnson
Monte Johnson, City Clerk

Ann G. Short
Mayor Ann Short