



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULLIVAN,  
ILLINOIS, MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017**

1. The City Council of the City of Sullivan, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, March 13, 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	- present
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- present
Mayor Ann Short	- present

2. The minutes of the regular meeting held on February 27, 2017, were submitted by the City Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Kirk 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	- yea
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 February 2017 was read by the Clerk. A motion was made by Commissioner Hagen 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	- yea
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 Hagen and seconded by Commissioner Mossman to approve the claims report as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

5. Sarina Voegel, the President of the Moultrie County Shining Stars 4H Club, was present to explain that a grant was written to purchase two new benches for the park. They were notified that they were one of 50 grant winners in Illinois, and they were awarded a \$400 grant to purchase benches. The Council commended Sarina and Ginger Voegel for their work on this project. Commissioner Kirk also thanked Ms. Voegel for her work on the safety grant for the speed limit sign and lights near the school.

6. Commissioner Mossman reported that baseball and softball games begin this week. Employees have been working to get the diamonds and the park ready for the spring season. He also noted that the litigation for the Civic Center roof is ongoing.

7. Commissioner Kirk reported the following regarding the Electric Department:

- Kim Harris reports that all street lights are working on Cottontail Lane. The Street Department helped with the concrete curb work.
- Grinding continues on tree stumps, and grass will soon be planted over old stumps
- Wires are transferred from old poles to new poles. Frontier and Mediacom have been responding to the City's requests to move their lines to the new poles
- An RFP has been issued by BHMG Engineers for 41 separate items that will be needed for the upcoming electric upgrades. Bids for that material are due on March 15<sup>th</sup>, and they are expected to come in between \$30,000 and \$50,000.

8. Commissioner Kirk reported that an RFP for 65 electric poles of various sizes was issued and two quotes were received.

Brown Wood Preserving Co.	\$17496 plus 3450 shipping
Bridgwell Resources	\$21,607

A motion was made by Commissioner Kirk and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve the bid from Brown Wood preserving for a total of \$20,946 for the 65 specified electric poles. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

9. A motion as made by Commissioner Hagen and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Milano & Grunloh Engineering for the Sewer Main Project. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

10. Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh explained that when the Sewer Main Project was bid, it was estimated that many lines would be dug and fewer would be lined. After reviewing the project, it has been determined that many of the lines assumed to be dug will now be lined, which will have a cost savings of \$182,284. The total contract price now totals \$684,493. A motion as made by Commissioner Hagen and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve Change Order 1 for the Sewer Main Project for a decrease of \$182,284. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

11. Mr. Beckman explained that he used a hydraulic modeling system using the City's assets from the City's GIS system to show water flows if the City were to build a water tower in different areas of town. Of the three locations put into the model, it was shown that the best location for a new water tower would be north of Hydro-Gear. It was explained that the City's water system can function without building a new tower, but there could be issues if the town had a big fire or if the current tower was down for maintenance.

The Council asked Mr. Beckman to check with Hydro-Gear and Agri-Fab to see exactly what they need or want in regards to their fire prevention plans. Mayor Short also suggested that we check with the Fire Department to see what they require or suggest for their firefighting needs.

Mr. Beckman explained that he has completed the required engineering work for TIF 4. He also stated that he is working on drainage analysis for the northeast part of town, and he hopes to have that report available to the Council soon.

12. Commissioner Hagen reported that the mixer has been installed in the new ground level tank, and the Miox system should be up and running in the next two weeks.

13. Mayor Short reported that raffle licenses for the Sullivan FFA Alumni and Operation Secret Santa have been approved.

14. City Administrator Dan Flannell reported the following:

- The Right of Way Ordinance for towers might be reworked, as it may be possible to create a leasing ordinance. He will check on the legality of that option.
- Daily work reports are proving useful, as they have helped show the need to transfer one employee from the Gas Department to the Park Department
- Herb Bricker has been offered the foreman position for the Park/Cemetery.... 25 people applied for the job. Kurk & Kory will assist in the transition
- A fiber contractor estimated that it will cost \$12,000 to perform an audit and review of the City's fiber network. \$40,000 worth of work will tie the fiber network to the electrical distribution system. A proposal will be received to get all departments on fiber
- Another local contractor has submitted their interest in local projects, so the City now has 2 interested contractors.
- Architects are being interviewed to give opinions about the Civic Center roof
- A tour of the Fields Wright center was postponed until Wednesday. Some County employees are expected to join the tour.
- An engineer has been contacted for an opinion on the Jibby's building to see if it needs to be demolished for safety purposes.
- Options for fixing the basement in the City Building are coming in. A recommendation was received from Woods Basement Systems, and other companies are expected to give opinions as well.
- Safety & accident prevention training will soon begin. The City's insurance company is providing the training at no cost, and it might prove to lower the City's insurance costs.

Commissioner Kirk explained that the quote of \$40,000 to tie the fiber to the City's electric distribution system is for connecting the six new reclosers inline. The reclosers can be hooked up through radios, but it has been shown that hooking the reclosers into fiber should be cheaper and more efficient. The City owns a fiber trailer and splicing equipment. City Clerk Monte Johnson was instructed to find the cost of that equipment from when it was purchased. Mr. Flannell expects the proposed fiber costs to be negotiated.

15. Mr. Flannell explained that he met with an organization about police training which can be obtained through a subscription system. The cost is about \$5,400, and is expected to be considered for next year's budget. Chief of Police Jim Waggoner stated that this can help review the current policies, which appear to be out of date. Officers would also go through daily training which would be logged to prove they have kept current with new practices.

16. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Risley to approve the appointment and hiring of Herb Bricker as the foreman of the Park Department and Cemetery Department.

17. SCED Director Laurie Minor reported the following

- She attended a conference about funding sources
- Business owner meetings are still ongoing
- She would like to meet with Council members about community planning
- The first planning meeting is set for March 30<sup>th</sup>

- The new Tourism Committee Meeting is this Thursday, with Dave McCabe as the chair. About 15 people are on the committee.
- She requests to put up the Washington Street Plaza again this year, proposing to only use parking spaces and not shut down a lane of the street. This will be placed on the agenda for a vote for the next meeting.

18. The following ordinance was presented:

ORDINANCE 17-6

Ordinance to Establish a Date for a Public Hearing for Sullivan Tax Increment Financing District IV

Mayor Short explained that a public hearing will be held on May 8, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the Library. Commissioner Kirk expressed his concern that the City is spending a lot of money to create a TIF district without any guarantee of development or many commitments from developers. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and Seconded by Commissioner Hagen to waive the reading and accept the ordinance as submitted. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

19. An updated organizational chart has been made to show that the Library Director is underneath the Library Board of Directors instead of the City Administrator. The Park and Cemetery Foreman positions have also been merged. A motion was made by Commissioner Hagen and seconded by Commissioner Kirk to approve the updated organizational chart for the City of Sullivan. Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

20. Mr. Flannell reported that Roger Bragg contacted him to see what needed to be done to finalize the transfer of the Bragg Addition retention pond to the City's responsibility. A discussion and debate ensued regarding the City's actions in 2014, and whether the City should be responsible for retention ponds. Meeting minutes from October 27, 2014, show that the City agreed to move forward with taking ownership at no purchase price. No steps towards transfer of the property have been taken since that time, however, and Mr. Flannell stated that the Council could move to rescind the action

if they wished. Although no vote was taken, it was generally agreed upon to wait for Roger Bragg to produce the necessary legal paperwork to give the property to the City.

21. Mr. Flannell once again opened up discussion on the City's cannabis ordinance. He stated that the Council would need to decide if they want to use an ordinance as a money making opportunity, as a deterrent against cannabis, or to simply have the State's Attorney prosecute any violations that are written without any of the money for fines coming to the City. No Council members had a strong opinion on the subject, and Mr. Flannell agreed to talk to the State's Attorney to see if he would prosecute any violations if they were written.

22. Mayor Short began discussion regarding the City's sick leave policy. She stated that Treasurer Golden had previously given the Council a proposal, and it had been discussed at the previous meeting. Commissioner Hagen said he liked the proposal, and he made a motion to accept the sick leave proposal. *Clerk's note... there was no second of the motion, and no vote was taken.*

Commissioner Kirk spoke out against the proposal, stating that the 40 days of sick leave are intended for serious illnesses. He also stated that most employees have 3 or 4 weeks of vacation, plus additional sick leave, and that it is not good policy to have that many days off with pay. He believes the extra sick leave has been granted for silly reasons in the last few years, and stated that he voted against granting the leave each time he brought the issue before the Council regarding his employees. He also pointed out that he has not had the opportunity to vote on approving these sick leaves since they have not been coming before the Council.

Treasurer Golden believes that under the current policy employees have no incentive to come back to work sooner even if their doctor releases them. She believes that letting employees bank five of their sick or vacation days will allow them to come back to work sooner so that they can use those days for follow up visits. The issues and options of FMLA, IMRF disability, and permanent disability were also discussed.

Mr. Flannell stated that the present policy talks about the Public Works Director and City Council/designee have the ability to grant the additional sick time. He suggested that somebody make the determination if somebody should get any of the additional time, and that these days shouldn't just be given for any reason. Commissioner Risley questioned if a doctor on behalf of the City could help make a determination of the amount of time off needed instead of the Council trying to make a medical determination. Mr. Flannell stated that Treasurer Golden's proposal would not cost the City any more money. Commissioner Kirk pointed out that letting people bank five additional days does not guarantee that they will use those on follow up visits. Mayor Short ended discussion by declaring that the issue will be tabled.

23. Mayor Short asked if anybody in attendance had any comments, and there were none.

24. A motion was made by Commissioner Mossman and seconded by Commissioner Risley to adjourn to closed session at 8:55 p.m. to review closed session minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).); to discuss litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).), for collective negotiation matters (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).), to discuss the employment of

specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); and for discussing the purchase of real property, or whether a particular parcel should be acquired (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)). Upon a roll call being taken, the results were as follows:

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

and the motion was declared carried.

25. Mayor Short reconvened the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

26. A motion was made by Commissioner Hagen and seconded by Commissioner Risley 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	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried.

27. 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	- yea
Commissioner Jerry Risley	- yea
Mayor Ann Short	- yea

and the motion was declared carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Attest Monte a. Johnson  
Monte Johnson, City Clerk

Ann G. Short  
Mayor Ann Short