

**COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF VERNON
JANUARY 21, 2020
5:30PM**

Present – Mayor: Laura Brewer; Council Members: Joey Brock, Gwendolyn March, Jeanie Shipes, Becky Baxley; Attorney: Michelle Jordan; City Clerk: Tracy Walker; Public Works Director: Jason Rhoton; Street Maintenance: Ricky Clark; WWTP Operator: Jimmy Cook; Absent – Fire Chief: Mike Owens

INVOCATION given by Tracy Walker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE given by all

CONSENT AGENDA MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second by Becky Baxley, motion carries with all in favor

- APPROVE MINUTES
- APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS \$50.00 AND LESS

MAYOR'S REPORT I have nothing to report, this town is in good shape

ATTORNEY'S REPORT you should all have the memos that I provided from the questions that came up at the Workshop; I would ask that you give me direction on the Harris matter tonight, Joey stated that he would like for the attorney to look into the City taking the property as we have been using it so long

CLERK'S REPORT an appraiser came out for our buildings, the rates will stay the same but the premiums will increase, if we chose to not accept their appraisal we will have to pay out a higher co-insurance penalty, Council asked me to check to see what the premiums will be; Zumba has requested to rent the sign on the City square for advertising the council denied the request; FEMA would like us to close out the Gym grant, the Council did not agree and wants to see if we can recoup some of the expenses

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT had a fire department meeting; no one from the fire department is present

RECREATION REPORT per Timmy, just opened baseball registrations; per Shaina, she has been trying to get information from Brent as he is the director of softball for this region his response has been to just wait; per Timmy, the lights in the gym have been replaced, 13 ballasts are bad, we could use LED lights and bypass the ballasts, Joey asked rec to get prices together for each way and bring it back at the Workshop; Shaina has ordered dirt and Jason will put it in small piles for rec to spread with the dragger

PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT I took care of Moses, if there is another issue on that road, we will have to rent an excavator, we have been mowing grass, I took care of the square; Ms. Gwen asked what happened at the Church (New Bethel) Jason stated that he believed they (the road crew) ran over the backflow but would not fix it so I bit the bullet so that they could have church on Wednesday night, the Council agreed that they need to be held responsible for the destruction that they are causing; if they are destroying City property, they are contractually obligated to fix the issues, if they are destroying private property, it is the responsibility of the property owner, Michelle offered to type up a demand letter for their insurance information and bypass asking them to fix any problems, Joey asked me to let them know that we will be billing them for calling Public Works out instead of the city paying for it

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Shaina Prevatt: USFA wants to host a tournament in Vernon rec would receive all concessions and the gate fees would be split between the USFA and Chaos as a fundraiser 2/22 and 5/16 are the dates they are looking at; I talked to Travis about getting Wi-Fi which we need in order to be able to accept credit cards we also need a security system, the Council asked that they get some prices together. Sandra Kay Smith: I need a new meter or a new

meter reader; Ricky provided a video of himself walking to her meter which took 1 minute and 42 seconds to get to her meter, there is only about 2-3 feet between the fences, there used to be a 20 foot easement there, Jason provided a map to show the lines, Jason stated that her meter needs to be moved but if we do that there will have to be new lines placed at the customer's expense, Joey suggested moving the meter to her yard at the gate, Joey asked for copies of all of her usage that she provided to the City Clerk, since 2015

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE** hiring Dixie McClendon (employee) as 1/3 rec director (taking Shaina's portion) MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
2. **MOTION TO APPROVE** Fire Station Lease Agreement MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
3. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$176.90 adjustment to account 1211 – usage after account was written off to bad debt MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
4. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$77.09 adjustment to account 159 – misread meter MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by both Becky Baxley and Jeanie Shipes, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
5. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$(142.47) adjustment to account 1176 – misread meter MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor
6. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$(66.05) adjustment to account 794 – misread meter MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
7. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$(75.21) adjustment to account 1171 – misread meter MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
8. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$(335.40) adjustment to account 361 – misread meter (wrong meter was read) MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
9. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$500.00 donation to the Vernon Historical Society for Shady Grove Historic Marker MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
10. **MOTION TO APPROVE** filing civil suit against former City Clerk MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion was tabled until the attorney could do some more research into the issue
11. **MOTION TO APPROVE** sign at Vernon Express MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
12. **MOTION TO APPROVE** surrendering S-10 to PGIT (Insurance Company) MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
13. **MOTION TO APPROVE** award City Hall roofing contract to Van Hillard Joey stated the issue is to be tabled because he wants to take another look at the bids (warranty) that were submitted, Becky Baxley inquired as to when that decision was made, Becky asked that the City Clerk to check with all bidders to give a fair chance to all, motion to table until it can be discussed further at a Workshop given by Gwendolyn March, with a second by Jeanie Shipes, motion to table passes with all in favor
14. **MOTION TO APPROVE** response letter to Mr. James Harris MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor
15. **MOTION TO APPROVE** Jimmy Cook to perform backflow testing MTA made by Gwendolyn March, second made by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
16. **MOTION TO APPROVE** hiring Timothy Garner as 1/3 Recreation Director under contract labor MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second from Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor

ADJOURNMENT with no further business to discuss, Gwendolyn March made the motion to adjourn, with a second from Jeanie Shipes, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (FIVE (5) MINUTE TIME LIMIT) – ANYONE WHO DESIRES TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL MUST SIGN IN WITH THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING STARTING AND PROVIDE THE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION. NO VERBATIM RECORD BY A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER IS MADE OF THESE PROCEEDINGS. ACCORDINGLY, ANY PERSON WHO MAY SEEK TO APPEAL ANY DECISION INVOLVING THE MATTERS NOTICED HEREIN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE AT THESE PROCEEDINGS UPON WHICH ANY APPEAL IS TO BE BASED (SEE SECTION 286.0105, FLORIDA STATUTES SUBMIT ALL REQUESTS VIA EMAIL TO CLERK@VERNONFL.COM. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND SECTION 286.26, FLORIDA STATUTES, PERSONS NEEDING A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK OFFICE AT 850-535-2444 FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS PROCEEDING.
E-MAIL: CLERK@VERNONFL.COM WEBSITE: WWW.VERNONFLORIDA.NET