

**WORKSHOP
CITY OF VERNON
JANUARY 6, 2020
5:30 PM**

PRESENT – MAYOR: LAURA BREWER; COUNCIL MEMBERS: JOEY BROCK, GWENDOLYN MARCH, JEANIE SHIPES, BECKY BAXLEY; CITY CLERK: TRACY WALKER; RECREATION DEPARTMENT: TIMOTHY GARNER & MCKENZIE FAISON; FIRE DEPARTMENT: MIKE OWENS

ABSENT – CITY ATTORNEY: MICHELLE JORDAN; PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: JASON RHOTON

Invocation – by Tracy Walker

Pledge of allegiance – by all

1. **Municipal Engineering Services, Inc (Dale Long)** – came by to introduce himself and give a little bit of a background about his business; they do work for a lot of smaller communities
2. **Hawkins Telcom meter issues** – Tray Hawkins was expected to be here tonight, but did not show up
3. **S-10** – add to the agenda to surrender the title and truck to the insurance company
4. **City Hall Roof** – dimensional shingles have been approved, add to the next agenda
5. **Sandra K Smith / Traverse Drive** – has requested a new meter and now there is a new fence along side the old one which is hindering the meter reading process
6. **Waste Management Increase** – our rates are being increased by 3.27%; we do not necessarily have to pass this increase along to our customers as the new rate will be \$12.06 where we charge the customers \$18.29
7. **Jim Harris / Sportsplex Property** – letter received from Mr. Harris stated that our lease has expired; Laura reminded the council that the City can claim imminent domain on this property; our attorney needs to send him a letter notifying him that our lease is still in effect and he cannot place a fence on the property, Timothy asked what property belongs to him (driveway) and what should they do if a fence is put up (call the Sheriff's Dept)
8. **Recreation** – he is leaning towards going as contractor, he will receive 2/3 of the pay and responsibility, McKenzie asked about her pay, when it would start (Dec 16 meeting) and if she would receive any back-pay (Dec and Jan), they need Wi-Fi at the Sportsplex and the pole barn closed in, 56 have signed up for basketball and cheer game schedules are complete, trophies and uniforms have been ordered, the lights are in for the gym but the school board has placed a restriction on their lift that only Tom Anderson can operate it, we

need to paint the hallway and fix a couple of toilets for the gym to be ready to use, we are looking at a possible donation for the paint, I am also in talks (2 different avenues) to get some prisoners out there to do some of the labor for us, and the same with the rec office, a company from Bay County is willing to donate paint for our rec office, I need to know what to do with the (15) air conditioners, there are also ballasts and bulbs out there which I am looking to sell at surplus; Wal-Mart donated 50 turkeys for our basketball and cheerleaders; 2/8 @ 10:00 has been scheduled for the awards banquet at the Community Center if it is available; basketball pictures have been paid in advance and we (as the ones who paid) will receive a digital copy of the photos to then sell as packets for profit

Jimmy – backflows are coming up; can we add that to the agenda

Mike (F/D) – fire department is doing good; the tanker is being repaired

Mr. Goulding – cyber terrorism is hitting close to home, remind staff not to open e-mails that they do not recognize

Tracy – the IRS sent a letter requesting another 60 days to review our request

Laura – Kevan Parker has not cleaned up any trash or ditches that he promised at a meeting several months ago, the grass at City Square needs to be cut, the dirt pile is no longer dwindling, and I would like to host a Valentine's Dance for the kids the school will be having a Valentine's Dance as well, the Community Center needs to be painted, after the Valentine's Dance is over I will start working on the Easter Egg Hunt and my pageant

Gwendolyn – we must have an election in March; Laura stated that she may run for Council instead of Mayor this year, Gwen argued that she could not because it was a conflict with her son working here, Laura replied that the Charter states that she can run

Joey – I am still working on getting the cemetery surveyed, and getting the sign for the ball field dedication, I had Tracy pull our old ordinance for code enforcement (the attorney also received a copy) and it says nothing about abandoned houses, he asked that I get a copy of the ordinance to all council members; Mr. Goulding asked about the new property to be added to the cemetery

With no further business to discuss, the Workshop was adjourned at 6:32 PM