

**COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF VERNON
OCTOBER 21, 2019
6:30PM**

PRESENT-MAYOR: LAURA BREWER; COUNCIL MEMBERS: JOEY BROCK, GWEN MARCH, JEANIE SHIPES, BECKY BAXLEY; ATTORNEY: MICHELLE JORDAN; CITY CLERK: TRACY WALKER; PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: JASON RHOTON; PLANT OPERATOR: JIMMY COOK

INVOCATION given by Tracy Walker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE given by all

CONSENT AGENDA Motion to approve consent agenda by Gwendolyn March with a second by Jeanie Shipes, the motion passes with all in favor

- APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS
- APPROVE ADJUSTMENTS \$50.00 AND LESS
- APPROVE CHANGES IN DEPOSITS AND ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

MAYOR'S REPORT – I would like to have a reception for veterans on Veteran's Day in the Community Center, can I have some money? Erica has not responded to myself or the Clerk regarding her annual brunch; they are supposed to dedicate the building to me on that date as well, I would like to feed everyone who comes out to congratulate me. I would like to start around 1:30 or so; Joey asked Ms. Debbie Goulding to advertise the dedications of the Shady Grove Ball Field and the Community Center to take place on 11/11. Laura asked for \$300.00, Joey agreed and said that if she did not spend it all, she could just give the rest back to the City. Joey asked if anyone else had anything for the mayor, the City Clerk stated that the Mayor is doing a great job holding down the fort in place of the deputy clerk

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – on the Spray Field agreement; I have not been able to find anything in writing with Jimmy Cook; I have drafted a farm lease and just need some direction as to length of contract, lease payment for either side, who will be responsible for the fence and spray heads; Michelle asked Mr. White if he had seen the fence and if it was suitable for his cattle; Mr. White requested a five year lease with a provision that it remain properly maintained

CLERK'S REPORT – I had a call-out Friday night the vent over the bathroom is shot and in need of repair; Becky stated that the motor is burned up and there are scorch marks on the outside of the vent, some of the volunteers from the Haunted Hallway heard it, we (she and Buddy) met Tracy over here and the breaker was shut off; I can get Brian Brock back out here to take a closer look. Would anyone be opposed to us hiring temporary employees at this point? Gwendolyn stated no (she did not have a problem), Joey then stated that he did not have a problem, Gwendolyn said that it would have to be voted on, Becky stated it needs to be done, Jeanie commented that we need the help, there is a lot of work that has to be done; Becky then asked if it needed a vote, the attorney stated it would be best – added to the agenda

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT – we heard back on the engine back and the issue was not as bad as we thought, we are waiting on parts; we are STILL under a burn ban, a lot of people do not realize this and we are staying busier than we would like, as a matter of fact, the forestry department might extend their burn ban to April, forestry is charging \$500.00 when they have to go out; we did have a structure fire on Friday

RECREATION REPORT – no one is here; per the city Clerk they are working on a rec board, they are planning to have a meeting here Thursday night at 7 pm

PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT – Jason got with Jimmy and suggested going over the list of items that needs some attention at the next workshop, some of which is in the process of being fixed and others will take time and money but has to be

fixed, I will start reading meters tomorrow; he would like to take the time between now and 11/4 (Workshop) to make check and see what he can fix on his own.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: **Rhonda Dickinson** – the garden club needs a letter from the City giving permission for the pavilion with the City stamp to go to the building inspector as well as site plans; the Garden Club greatly appreciates the job that Bulldog and Jason did here at City Hall trimming the hedges and pulling the poison; I have asked many people to serve on the Cemetery Committee that you have placed me in charge of, as of right now, Tina Sloan will stay on, but hopes to be removed soon, Larry Pippen, Michael Brock, myself, and Connie Bland; I also asked a few people who do not live in the City limits but have family buried in order to get a different prospective, Harry Hamilton said that he would be glad to volunteer on any work day that we have out there; do you accept these five that I have found that are willing to be on the committee; per Joey we will go ahead and add this to the agenda; Rhonda went on to say that she also asked Junior and Frank McKeithen to be co-members, Junior's health will not allow but he is willing to give input at meetings, and Frank is too busy; they were both very appreciative of the offer; she asked Jason if the other sign (contact information) at the cemetery had been removed yet, he was unsure but will check on it for her and take it down first thing in the morning if it is still up; Joey asked for the contact information of the board members and we will look at getting a new sign.

Trevor Marshall – needs a shop and is interested in renting the old fire station on Main Street, he passed by the building and is interested in using the old fire department as a shop; per Jason, we only use the back side for storage and can lock that door, Joey asked that Jason and Trevor check it out and come back, per the City Clerk, he has insurance and has already added the City to the policy; he is planning to upgrade the building; we will discuss this further at the workshop

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$62.07 adjustment to account 1206 – account in vacation status, should not have been charged MTA made by Becky Baxley with a second by Jeanie Shipes, motion passes with all in favor
2. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$158.74 adjustment to account 1157 – misread meter MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor
3. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$213.49 adjustment to account 386 - leak MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion regarding this leak with no sewage, the motion died
4. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$209.46 adjustment to account 40 - leak MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
5. **MOTION TO APPROVE** reimbursement of \$270.00 for plumber to Larry / Nancy Pippen MTA made by Becky Baxley with a second by Jeanie Shipes, following a brief discussion including verifying that the issue is on the City's side, the Clerk clarifying the timeframe noted in the letter as "approximately one year ago" was actually four years ago, the Council President asked the Clerk to write a letter stating that the City is to be notified before any plumber is called in the future and write up a work order for Jason to check on the issue, motion passes with all in favor
6. **MOTION TO APPROVE** RFQ advertisement for engineering firm MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, the motion passes with all in favor
7. **MOTION TO APPROVE** waive fees for use of the Community Center 5/2/20 by Full Circle Teaching MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor
8. **MOTION TO APPROVE** extension of the allowance of travel trailer for 12 months MTA made by Becky Baxley with a second by Gwendolyn March, motion passes with all in favor
9. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$1157.62 purchase of commercial ice maker for the fire dept MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
10. **MOTION TO APPROVE** Jason Rhoton to Ronald Wood's pay for Public Works Director MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, following a brief discussion including making this retroactive to Friday 10/18, the motion passes with all in favor
11. **MOTION TO APPROVE** hiring temporary deputy clerk and street maintenance employees MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor

12. **MOTION TO APPROVE** Cemetery Committee: Tina Sloan, Larry Pippen, Michael Brock, Rhonda Dickinson, and Connie Bland MTA made by Gwendolyn March with a second by Becky Baxley, motion passes with all in favor

ADJOURNMENT with no further business to discuss, Gwendolyn March made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 pm which was seconded by Becky Baxley and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Walker
City Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – 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. THERE IS A TIME LIMIT OF FIVE (5) MINUTES. 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