

**COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF VERNON
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019
6:30PM**

PRESENT: Council Mayor: Laura Brewer, President: Joey Brock, Vice-President: Gwendolyn March, Members: Jeanie Shipes and Becky Baxley; **Attorney** Michelle Jordan; **Clerk** Tracy Walker; **Fire Chief** Mike Owens, **Rec Director** Brent Gibson, and **Plant Operator** Jimmy Cook **ABSENT: Public Works Director** Ronald Wood

INVOCATION given by Tracy Walker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE given by all

CONSENT AGENDA Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda given by Jeanie Shipes, with a second from Gwendolyn March, motion passes with all in favor

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

MAYOR'S REPORT the City of Wausau is having Trunk or Treat 10/26/19; I attended the WCBCC meeting, they are planning to close down the Big Pine Camp Site from November – March; Tray Hawkins will speak more about the interlocal agreement between us, the County, and the State regarding the SCOP project; Trick or Treat will be 10/31/19 5:30-7:30 per the Clerk; Gwendolyn March would like to see the City participate in Trunk or Treat after a brief discussion regarding where this could take place (the Haunted Hallway will be 10/10, 10/26, 10/31, and 11/2), the council decided to discuss the issue more at the next workshop

ATTORNEY'S REPORT I don't have anything

CLERK'S REPORT I spoke with Buck Dickinson of the Division of Emergency Management in Tallahassee regarding the roof, he would like for us to hold off on the vote until the funds have been obligated so that I can then request an improved project and not jeopardize all FEMA funds

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT a tire blew on the tanker, it is being replaced tomorrow; everything has been going pretty good at the fire department

RECREATION REPORT a meeting has been scheduled for next week at the middle school regarding basketball; Joey asked Brent and Timmy to get with Shaina and that they all attend the workshop on 10/7

PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT not present

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: **Mr. Jerry Brock** received the highest water bill that he has ever received and does not even have sewer access; this meter has been read and re-read already this month; Joey asked that Public Works go back and check it again the Council would also like to review a 12-month history on this account; Becky asked about the policy for entering meter reads, I replied that we had been instructed to key in the meter reads, if usage doubled to put them on the re-read list and then send the bill to the customer, the attorney asked who gave these instructions, I responded, the former President, Joey explained that we need to take a closer look and discuss this at the Workshop. **City Clerk:** I have also provided you with two additional bills that need to be reviewed as the usage has increased exponentially. **Amanda Driggers** there was a leak at my meter one Sunday, I called the after hours number and someone came out and fixed it, now my meter is sitting unlevel inside of a box and my sinks and toilets are backing up; Joey wants Public Works to check on that meter again and then bring it back to the Workshop as well; she inquired as to what she was to do next, Joey informed her that City's policy is that the bill must be paid before the 20th or the water would be shut off for non-payment, he then added that he would go look at the meter himself this week. **Tina Sloan** thanked the Council for their donations toward the Walk for Suicide Prevention. **Amelia Bell** is looking to start a business, Saved By Ms. Bell, (after hours daycare type of business) and look for somewhere to rent; she would like to go from 3:00-6:00 I would be willing to come in late and stay late to lock up, the City could just be added as an additional insured on her policy and they would be covered per the attorney; Joey asked that she gets all necessary paperwork back to the clerk and we will discuss it further at the Workshop. **Timothy Garner** is looking to rent the old cafeteria (business ed) and turn it into a gym, there is no electricity to that building, I have to have water before I can get electricity; Joey asked that Bulldog get up with Timothy regarding water issues to that building.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING: Final** Ad Valorem Taxes – Resolution 19-159 read by Joey Brock; roll vote: Ms. March-Yes, Ms. Shipes-Yes, Ms. Baxley-Yes, and Mr. Brock-Yes
2. **PUBLIC HEARING: Final** Budget– Resolution 19-160 read by Joey Brock; roll vote: Ms. March-Yes, Ms. Shipes-Yes, Ms. Baxley-Yes, and Mr. Brock-Yes
3. **PUBLIC HEARING: Final** Increase Water/Sewer Rates– Ordinance 19-224 read by Joey Brock; following a brief discussion between a citizen, a County Commissioner (former City Council man), and the council, motion to approve given by Gwendolyn March, second by Jeanie Shipes; motion passes with a vote of 3:1 (Ms. Baxley opposed)
4. **MOTION TO APPROVE** \$62.07 adjustment to account 411 – account in vacation status, should not have been charged motion to approve given by Gwendolyn March, second by Jeanie Shipes; motion passes with all in favor
5. **MOTION TO APPROVE** memorandum of agreement with John Hamilton – audit services motion to approve given by Becky Baxley, second by Jeanie Shipes; motion passes with all in favor

6. **MOTION TO APPROVE** accepting the Cemetery property from the citizens of Vernon Board of Trustees motion to approve given by Gwendolyn March, second by Jeanie Shipes; motion passes with all in favor
7. **MOTION TO APPROVE** replace (\$4,400/5 year warranty) A/C unit in room 13 (Historical Society) motion to approve given by Gwendolyn March, second by Jeanie Shipes; following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor
8. **MOTION TO APPROVE** the purchase of 3 new computers from DELL using the state contract for \$3,732.67 following a brief discussion, motion to approve given by Becky Baxley, second by Gwendolyn March; motion passes with all in favor
9. **MOTION TO APPROVE** Interlocal Agreement with WCBCC/SCOP project motion to approve given by Jeanie Shipes, second by Becky Baxley; following a brief discussion, motion passes with all in favor

ADJOURNMENT: with no further business to discuss, at 7:29 the motion to adjourn was made by Becky Baxley, with a second from Gwendolyn March, the motion to adjourn carries with all in favor.

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