

**WORKSHOP
CITY OF VERNON
JUNE 1, 2020
5:30 PM**

PRESENT – COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joey Brock, Gwendolyn March, Jeanie Shipes, Becky Baxley;
CITY ATTORNEY: Michelle Jordan; **CITY CLERK:** Tracy Walker; **PUBLIC WORKS:** Jason Rhoton
FIRE CHIEF: Mike Owens; **RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Timothy Garner

ABSENT – Mayor: Candice Hodges

Invocation – by Tracy Walker

Pledge of allegiance – recited by all

Public Participation: Mr. Jerry Harrell was present and introduced himself as he is running for District 2 School Board and plans to put all students first

1. **Future use of Dawn Frost’s office building (Joey)** – a lady from out of state is looking to purchase this building but she has some questions regarding zoning issues; the council has questions for her and would like her or a representative to be at the next Workshop
2. **Backflows (Joey/Tracy/Jason)** – we have had several backflows to fail this year, in the past, the Public Works Director would replace them at no charge to the customer, the City has lost a lot of money in the past; Tamara Taylor (South Bridge Styles) called and complained to Joey about hers failing and told him that in the last 5 years they have had 3 backflows replaced I will check to see how many have been billed to her account, Joey asked that I check on the manufacturers warrantee
3. **Circle H account** – they want us to use their credit card instead of the account, the attorney was not impressed with the terms of the agreement, the council suggested getting our own credit card from the bank
4. **Audit update** – Theresa received by email regarding the correction that needs to be made, they are doing a final review and hope to have that complete this week, when that is complete, I will submit everything to our new auditors
5. **Commercial vs Residential rates for local Churches** – I have provided everyone with a list of all of our churches plus our current residential and commercial rates; the council would like to keep the rates but would like me to work with the software to see if there is a way to split out the churches on reports
6. **Update on removal of Home Ec building** – I have received 2 quotes emailed to me and I am waiting on Dow Morris to come and take a look, Joey stated that Wesley Griffin would also be by to turn in a quote
7. **Night deposit drop box update** – I have only had one contractor come out to take a look at the work to be performed, I have not received a quote yet and am waiting on two others to contact me

8. **3413 Spoolmill Road - meter** – Jason just replaced their meter (this was an old meter that needed to be changed anyway), the customers claim that only one toilet is hooked up in the house yet their usage was almost 21,000 gallons; Joey asked Jason to go ahead and re-read that meter and report back to them
9. **3439 Spoolmill Road - meter** – the council agreed to adjust the sewer portion only for the month of March
10. **Rec – Football** – Football/Cheer registrations are still open, if we do not make a team this year, we will be dropped from PYFA, we have the opportunity to do a football clinic free of charge to the City, practice starts 7/27 (without pads) and 8/2 (with pads), the council agreed for Timothy to move forward, Joey and Laura asked if the grass has been cut, there is an issue with the lawnmower, but he borrowed the City's mower and took care of the Sportsplex, Joey asked that he make sure that Shady Grove's playground be kept up; since we are having problems with kids busting windows and breaking into the buildings, I have asked for extra patrols in the area, Becky suggested getting more cameras as well
11. **Community clean up – dumpsters** – citizens have been calling to ask if we would do an Amnesty day since Chipley's was cancelled; we have 3/year available with Waste Management and have only used one so where and when do we want them, let the citizens know once everything has been set
12. **Ethics training** – I have provided everyone with the options for this year's required ethics training which will be on-line
13. **City right of way: Farris Circle Ernest Armstrong/Joyce Woodham** – Ms. Woodham thought that Mr. Armstrong was cutting the City Right of Way, Ricky checked on it Friday and Jason verified, today, that he is only clearing his fence line and not City ROW, per Michelle, inverse condemnation is picking up in this area, Jackson County is involved in a very similar lawsuit right now
14. **Zumba/Community Center rentals** – Michelle strongly suggested a waiver for any volunteer (recreation)/renter (Community Center) to sign before opening the facility to them, she also advised that she would not open back up yet; Becky advised that she knows a group that is asking to use the Community Center for a pageant on 8/8/2020

Michelle Jordan – I would like to thank the council for allowing me to be off with my sister, I also need clarification on getting a second opinion regarding the former clerk's insurance stipend due to that getting into federal law

Becky Baxley – we need a sound system since we are going to be out here for a while, I can't hear anyone; Joey inquired about the "original" council chambers, he asked me to look and find what paperwork I can find from the CDG paperwork

Jeanie Shipes – we had not one, but two leaks at my rental property, public works did verify that leak today and I will have it on the agenda for adjustment; Wayside Park needs to be mowed, that property belongs to the County so it is their responsibility

Laura Brewer – can we get someone to remove the dirt pile at the track; people are taking it a little at a time

Joey Brock – per Bobby Hutchins the survey of the cemetery will be between \$3500-4000 (to be done correctly) this motion will be on the next agenda, Laura asked if the City was going to start charging for people to be buried; Jason was the tree removed from the sprayfield, also Larry Pippin is constantly calling about the pot holes on Church Street-Jason please get over there and check those out, have you found out anything about Reed Marshall's line-Jason stated that it is in the works; Michelle is checking to see what she can find about the contract with Anderson Columbia/DOT and suggested having our new engineering firm take a look at the maps

With no further business to discuss, the Workshop was adjourned at 7:39 PM