

April 4, 2019 Regular scheduled meeting of the Vernon Town Council.

Present: Mayor Dan Wright, Council Shelly Davers, John Post and Danny Stark, Attorney Brad Kage, Maintenance Ron Hendershot, Marshal Britt Burgmire, and Clerk Treasurer Jean Rockey.

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Mayor Wright.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the clerk and a motion was made to accept as read with one change that John did talk to the county and there is no problem with the Town using the meeting room

Dan asked if there were any public comments:

Roger Taylor wanted to comment on the condition and the trash on Ripley Street, that goes over the railroad tracks and down to the bridge. Dan said he needs to have someone look at the condition of the road, but on the Day of Caring he will try to get the trash picked up.

Roger Taylor, the Vernon Township Trustee spoke first. Through the trustee office he purchased property on the south side of the bridge at the edge of Vernon in December 2015 for the use of building a new firehouse there. He has set up meetings with Britt Burgmire to lay out plans for the future building and the wants and needs of the department are. To date this has not happened. Next Dan Wright with the Town is applying for grant money for the Fire Department, but he does not have a time line on this. Dan wanted to explain to Roger that with changes of personnel and rules he is waiting on word about the possibility of not having to have income surveys done. Roger had another meeting to go to and just wanted everyone to think about what he said and he would be back next month for the May meeting. The property cost 30000.00 down in December 2015 and 10000.00 each year following. Roger stated that if he did not get some answers from the Fire Department and the Town he will consider selling the property.

Susan Harding spoke up about the trash and recycle progress. Dan and Brad had checked with several other small Towns and have not come up with a proposed ordinance yet. Brad said we could do a public hearing in May without a proposed ordinance. Or we could wait until the June meeting. After discussion on the pros and cons, John made a motion to proceed with the May 2 meeting for the public hearing at the Jennings County Government Building at 7pm, Shelly gave this motion a second with all in favor. Brad will take care of the publication and get a copy to Jean so she can send them out to the residential customers.

The cost is 12.60 for trash, 3.00 for recycle plus an administrative fee to bill the customers.

John Wright owns the house on the highway, corner of Pike and Jackson. The driveway is washed out as well as the place beside his home on the Pike street. Dan said he will take a look at it.

Dan gave Ron a notice of a recall on the Town truck Jean had given Dan Wright the bills for the recent audit, if the council wants to look at them. This is not a bill, they will adjust it off the county disbursements later in the year.

The Community Foundation check for the interest was sent to the Town and deposited into the Gift Fund.

There are two vouchers for the web page maintenance, a current month and he never received the one from February, this is a reissue.

The clerk spoke to Judy Berry about the annual maintenance fee on the software if it would increase if the council chose to do the trash and recycle, and was told no it would not increase.

Council:

Shelly had the credit card policy, the internal controls policy, and the oversight or the clerk treasurer duties. These have already been passed they just need signatures.

She asked if Mr. Grogg has gotten all of his things out of the green barn. Danny said he has. Dan Wright said if he has he will try to get the rest of the things out of there on the Day of Caring on 4-20-19.

John Post asked if Dan has purchased the hidden driveway signs yet. Dan has not been able to find them yet but is still looking, John said he will check with the county. Steve Harding asked if they could check into a 15 mile per hour sign.

John asked Britt about the generator at the fire house. Britt said it was OK with the department.

The drain at the Brown and Perry needs to be cleaned out. Ron will check it out.

John brought up the cost of the exterminator services the King property on Brown Street. The APC has the bill for \$1250, Debra King has paid a few payments leaving the cost now at \$1170.00. Does the council want to go ahead and pay this or have this put on her taxes? Discussion with John making a motion to go ahead and pay this \$1170.00, Danny Stark gave this motion a second with all in favor. John will have Marie send a bill to Jean.

One dumpster has been filled and taken away from the Sallee property on the corner of Pike and Brown. They will need another and maybe a third. Dan just asked him not to have it there over the Sassafras weekend.

The APC has formed an ordinance committee, if any one has any suggestions let him know.

John asked Britt if the fire department could clean up the street where the dumpster was - Dan said he had asked North Vernon to bring down the street sweeper before the festival.

Danny Stark said some broke the door at the gym, so the cameras are needed ASAP.

Britt has spoken to Billy Gilpin with Gilpin Electric about wiring the cameras, but Billy sells a brand of cameras and wants Britt to check them out. The council has already given him the go ahead with whatever he thinks.

Danny Stark is concerned with the pile of gravel on Gaines Street by the Melinda Gabbard property. She has put down gravel in front of her property and in the yard beside her property, but in the process has left the sidewalk covered and a pile by the street. Brad was asked to send her a letter about this.

Britt asked how many days the Judge gave Debra King to leave the home on Brown Street. Brad told him 7 days after the hearing. While on this subject the clerk asked the council about her water bill, she has had several leaks and the bill is quite large. Discussion with the council instructing her to send the bill to her for payment along with a letter that her water will be shut off and this is the final billing.

Britt had the bill for the new vest he ordered. It has already been approved and gave the bill to the clerk for payment. He did want the council to know the company put two extra plates in the vest and the cost would be \$381.00 more. Shelly made a motion to go ahead and pay the extra with a second by John with all in favor.

The county will stripe the two parking places for the sheriff department in front of the courthouse.

Jean informed the council Brad collected one past due account from Britt Prickett and she collected the one from Kelsie Love.

The water has been shut off at the McDonald property since November, sometime in December the water was turned back on and the pipes broke and 30000 gallons went through the meter, the clerk turned it on to record this usage and gave the bill to Brad for collection. The owner is living there again and the meter cannot be locked. Dan will check with Terry and just have Ron monitor for now.

Does the council want Jean to go ahead and purchase flowers for the pots on Pike Street, the council gave her the ok with Dan saying he was going to buy 2 more pots.

Dan Wright announced that April 20 will be the Day of Caring and he would like to have a dumpster for the weekend - Danny Stark made this request into a motion with a second by Shelly with all in favor.

The Sassafras sign is up on the highway.

Discussion on Brown Street from Perry to Posey, it needs to be a one way. So that way it will be one way from Pike to Posey. John made this into a motion with a second by Danny Stark with all in favor.

May 4 will be the Lolleygag walk and it will have the Purdue Extension involved this year and Dan asked the council for the permission to purchase 4 trees that would be planted in Vernon at a cost of around \$175.00 each - it was decided to take the money out of the General Fund from the land improvements, John made this into a motion with a second by Shelly with all in favor.

May 14 the group from Cummins will be back and they are going to start to landscape by the tunnel. John would like to see one project done before we start another.

The high school contacted Dan about trying to get a grant for welding equipment for the school. It is costly and need input about to uses. Dan suggested racks by the river and bike racks at the playground. Discussion only.

Dan asked Shelly if she would be interested in working with a high school intern on our web page. She said she would do this so Dan will call the teacher.

Nothing more to discuss John made a motion to adjourn with a second by Shelly.



Dan Wright, Mayor



Marietta Jean Rockey, Clerk Treasurer