

Town of Vernon  
Vernon Gym  
Regular Meeting (6:30 PM)  
April 10, 2025

Regular Meeting: The Town of Vernon Council meeting at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282, was called to order by Mayor Brad Bender at 6:30 PM.

Town Officials and employees present:

I. Call to Order All members excepting Jeff Pennycuff, Fire Chief were present. Jeff Walker being 10 minutes late missed roll call and approval of minutes.

II. Approval of minutes

Brad asked if there were any comments or corrections to the March, 2025 Council minutes and recommended approval.

Amber Fields made a motion to approve the March 2025, minutes. John Post seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

III. Petitions or comments by the members of the public present:

Fred Vogel was present to ask about closing the square to host the car show on 8/9/2025, roads will be closed on Brown, Pike and Posey. Brad assured him they could use the restrooms at the museum so they will not need portable toilets. Amber made the motion to allow the street closures and Jeff seconded.

Sandy Downs was asking about washed-out alleys around town and **Post assured** her that he would take care of them.

Wayne Zamora was present to inform the council that the bathrooms are finished and passed inspection. He presented the final figures. He was also reporting on the MHS grant and the benefits of the free WIFI and about the reporting on the demographics of who is utilizing this service.

IV. Reports from Committees and Officers

A. Mayor Brad Bender - threw out the idea of privatization of our utilities. Also, seek out a bond issue in order to complete some of the projects needed in the town.

B. John Post – Council Ward 1 - Skaggs repaired, Amber says it is rough but works. He also emailed information on the SEI Recycling board. Needs an appointment from Vernon or North Vernon to fill a position on their board.

C. Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2 - Reminder about the spaghetti dinner on 4/25/25 and obtain packets for the race the next morning. Presented Wayne with his painting for his stint as Mayor.

D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - Square is up and working and scheduling is being worked on.

- E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer - Questioned about another old vehicle. Will check it out.
- F. Brad Kage - Attorney -
- G. Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall - Will check on truck.
- I. Jeff Pennycuff - Fire Chief - Absent
- J. Ron Hendershot - Discussion about old meters and leakage possibilities and infiltration of lines. In the future, may need a study to determine where it is all coming from. Needs figures on usage and billing. **Post wondered** about giving all the grinder pumps to the owners, Brad Kage feels it is restricted because of the bond issue.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Next Level Trails Grant - Work is progressing, floor for overlook is poured but wall structure arrival is undetermined at this time. Ribbon cutting will be in conjunction with the 5 K.
- b. OCRA Grant - Needs a letter stating the town has \$300,000 to cover our costs. We do, but when change order is submitted, we will not need this much.
- c. Day of Caring - Lots of volunteers, can put another couple of projects on the table. Everyone meets at the Gym, will disburse from there.
- d. Gym - Wheel Chair Lift - , Scheduling/Calendar - , Rates - , Duties under Park Board - ,Extra money is required for the lift and electrical work...possible avenues of where to draw funds from would include CEDIT, Jeff made the motion to accept the \$18,000 lift quote and to draw the extra from CEDIT, John seconded, 3 yes votes, 0 no votes. Library will have their grand opening after the lift is installed. Need to figure out a schedule to have the soccer club restroom open and also the electric will be routed back to the soccer club account. Will take a trial period and monitor the usage before deciding how to charge the water for the restrooms. No quorum for Park Board meeting but an informal discussion centered around where some of the new duties could be assigned. Another room is available for the gym as Dakota has moved out.
- e. Cinergy Metronet will begin the bulk of their work in June in bringing their residential service to the town.

VI. New Business

- a. BZA and Park Board Appointments, Kari Gosman-Jeff motioned to approve the mayor appointment of Kari Gosman to the Park Board. Amber motioned to approve the appointment of Lola Post to the BZA, Jeff seconded the motion. 2 yes votes, 1 abstain.
- b. Recording Meetings - Jeff and Brad will work on getting this set in motion.
- c. Declaration of surplus - Amber made a motion to declare unused gym property surplus so we can dispose of it on Saturday's day of caring. **Post seconded**. 3 yes votes, 0 no votes.
- d. HVAC in Old Museum Room is \$5,200, could also be taken out of CEDIT and leave that balance at approximately \$32,000. **Fields motioned** to take money from CEDIT and **Post seconded**. 3 yes votes, 0 no votes

VII. Claims

a. Amber made a motion to approve the claims for March, Jeff seconded the motion.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VIII. Miscellaneous Business

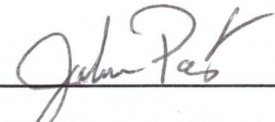
a. Brian Clark – Still needs to return Town property and did not perform any of the duties he was tasked with before leaving his position. Very unprofessional in his tenure.

IX. Adjournment - John motioned to adjourn @ 7:44 pm, Jeff seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, May 14, 2025, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

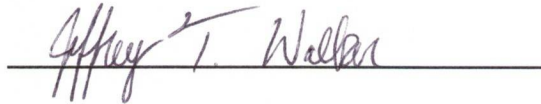
Vernon Town Council



John Post, 1st Ward



Bradley R Bender, Mayor



Jeff Walker, 2nd Ward



Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk



Amber Fields, 3rd Ward