

**Town of Vernon
Vernon Gym
Regular Meeting (7:00 PM)
December 14, 2023**

Regular Meeting: The Town of Vernon Council meeting at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282, was called to order by Wayne Zamora at 7:00 PM.

Town Officials and employees present:

I. Call to Order - All members present excepting Amber Fields and Aaron Poole

II. Approval of November 09, 2023, minutes

Wayne asked if there were any comments or corrections to the November 09, 2023 Council minutes and recommended approval.

Jeff Walker made a motion to approve the November 09, 2023, minutes. John Post seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

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

No comments or questions from the public.

IV. Reports from Committees and Officers

A. Wayne Zamora, Mayor – Wayne talked about raising rates at the gym, gave examples of different functions and what he believes they should be, 500-600 now. With improved rooms, he believes we can raise rates to alleviate our cost of utilities and upkeep. Losing money by renting out rooms so cheaply. Jeff agreed we need to revisit rates and discuss further.

The Community Calendar comes out in January, and will coordinate with JCHS to work on other events.

Pike Street property sheriff's sale was canceled due to it being a tax sale, it is anticipated the mortgage company will pay tax lien.

Deal on Easements done with Gosman, Brad brought title work, Brad will do warranty deed and disclosure. Needs to be done by March 1, 2024. Gosman will pay May taxes, Town will pay November.

Creating Spaces will launch January 17, 2024 and the goal is \$48,000, try to raise 24,000 for our part.

B. John Post – Council Ward 1 - Truck repaired, Indiana Landmarks supposed to give updates on Odd Fellows Building, also, wants to have Pollinator field burned off.

C. Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2 - Thanks to all the Float volunteers-Burns, Post, Shaw and Anker families.

- D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - Absent but left information on windows for the gym, \$8,526 for the meeting rooms, John motioned to appropriate, Jeff seconded, 2-0
- E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer - Reports in Folders
- F. Brad Kage - Discussed New Fire Agreement, reminded board members it needs to be voted on and signed. See Unfinished Business.
- G. Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall - Nothing to report.
- H. Ron Hendershot – Contract Maintenance - sewer issues, need to pump out riplely st lift station, lowered floats, still some issues being heard about odor control. Will wait and see if remedies are working. NV jetted out line on Jackson St., found no major issues. Customer is complaining about sewer back-up, feels it is our problem, Lateral is clogged. England property goes from a 6 inch main to a 4 inch. Working on water loss issues, wants water usage reports. Has antenna and will begin locates. Need to work on disseminating the letter about being liable for damages. Ron is getting off BZA so need to look for a replacement.
- I. Aaron Poole – VVFD Fire Chief - Absent - Pennycuff takes over on January 1, 2024.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Next Level Trails Grant - 6 of the 7 properties have easements acquired, after a fine tuning of plans they will be submitted to DNR for review, one suggestion is for Poplar and Jackson to become a 4 Way stop.
- b. Pub-Works - Pay newest invoice for contract,
- c. CBDG and Survey Updates - None at this time.
- d. Fire Agreement for 2024 needs to be signed. Jeff made a motion to accept the new fire agreement, John seconded.
2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VI. New Business

- a. 2024 Salary Ordinance - Tabled until January meeting, Jeff made the motion and John seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes
- b. Potholes in the alley off Brown Street need to be addressed, Wayne said he will fix ASAP.
- c. Quotes for Windows in Gym - Already addressed in Council comments
- d. Quote for razing shed at the end of Brown Street - Council will take a site visit and discuss again later.
- e. Information from meeting with USDA/SIRPC about matching fund possibilities will be pursued with a possibility of up to \$200,000 available if qualified.
- f. Discussion on changing meeting times to 6:30 on the second Thursday of each month instead of 7:00. Jeff made a motion to change the meeting time to 6:30 and John seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VII. Claims

a. John Post made a motion to approve the November 09, 2023 Jeff Walker seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

b. The Clerk Treasurer provided a Fund Report for the month of November 2023.

VIII. Miscellaneous Business

a. Jeff reminded/informed the council that the Spring Tonic Run is scheduled for 4/27/24.


b. Discussion was held regarding if both bathrooms in the gym could be renovated at the same time, is this a possibility or would the cost be prohibitive?

IX. Jeff Walker made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. John Post made the second.


2 Yes votes, 0 No votes.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

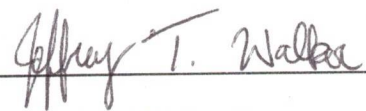
Vernon Town Council



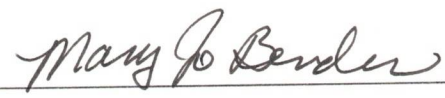
John Post, 1st Ward



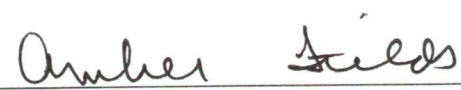
Wayne Zamora, Mayor



Jeff Walker, 2nd Ward



Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk



Amber Fields, 3rd Ward