

February 6, 2020

Town of Vernon regular scheduled council meeting, brought to order at 7 PM by Mayor Dan Wright.

Present: Mayor Wright, Council John Post, Danny Stark and Shelly Davers, Attorney Brad Kage.

Jean Rockey and Britt Burgmeier were not there.

Dan Wright asked the council if they had time to go over the <sup>January</sup> minutes. Shelly Davers had a couple of corrections. The first concerned the topic of the repair or replacement of the storm sewers between his property and his neighbor to the right of his property. Dan informed him it was on the list of things to talk to the accountant about. The second thing she wanted corrected was the discussion about the disconnect and reconnects for the people who turn their water off and leave for the winter. He feels there should be something charged for these services. Right now the clerk explained that we only charge a reconnection of \$60.00 for a shut off due to a delinquent bill. Dan Wright will bring this up also when he talks to the accountants. And third concerning the grant to have the floor repaired at the gym, she had written down \$7000 for the match money and Jean had reported \$7500. Dan will check his records.

Danny Stark made a motion to pass the minutes as presented with the two corrections by Shelly, this was given a second by Shelly with all in favor.

Marie Shepherd with the APC concerning the second half of the variance requests from the Fire Department concerning the property on the corner of Brown and Posey for the purpose of a new building. Parking, drainage issues all have been addressed and they are asking for final approval on the last piece of property. Essentials Services has passed and the APC has passed this request and she is here to ask the Town for their approval. John made a motion to approve with a second by Shelly with all in favor. Signatures were done and Marie thanked the council. Dan was given a copy of this matter.

Next Marie asked about the two positions the Town appoints every year, one council member for the APC and one representative for the Board of Zoning. The Board of Zoning is not due yet, but the APC is due by the 1st of the year. If they want John to continue all she needs is a letter from the Town stating that John will be the representative for the Town for 2020. Danny Stark made a motion to keep John in this position with a second by Shelly. Brad will send a letter.

Public Comments:

Kayla <sup>Coleman</sup> would like to do a fund raiser on her own, but tie it in with the lollygag walk in the spring. She is proposing a bike ride, food services. The money would go to the United Way. The council listened to her proposal and asked her to come back next month with something in writing with dates and times. They asked her about permits and John suggested she look into insurance.

Bill Miller spoke up about the letter he received about more than 2 dogs on his property. The last dog they acquired is being trained for him as a service dog. Brad explained the ordinance on no more than 2 dogs. Discussion with Dan asking Mr. Miller present a written request on this matter.

Council: Danny Stark had nothing to report.

Shelly asked about the trash situation. Where are we on this matter? Dan explained that we need to look at this matter more closely. We need to have a utility set up just for trash. She is asking for a time frame. Dan had just contacted them on a cost to establish this utility not to establish a plan. She asked about a special meeting in February on this matter. John asked if they would come here or do we have to go to their office. Brad explained about the open door policy, only the mayor and one council person could go. Brad suggested Dan invite them to come to the next meeting for an outline on this matter.

Dan bought up the cost of the rate studies: 4000.00 /5000.00 Water, 6500.00/7500.00 Sewer, and 400.00/5000.00 Utility Service. We have not had a rate survey done in 15 years. He came across this while checking into money for the new water meter system. He would like to check with some other companies and come up with plan for the sewer later.

John made a motion to go ahead with the water rate study, Shelly gave this a second with all in favor.

Ron reported the new office is done and the old one has been cleaned out. It looks really nice. Dan Wright and Ron had met with Will Spencer with NV Utilities about working with Ron toward his certification . He will be with him this spring working and showing him what needs to be done and Ron will take classes and he may be able to take his test in late summer and get his certification. He will shadow Ron and sign off on him for the state.

Ron has looked into the Mission System at the Water Tower. He has done repairs and it is up and running.

Pub Works is installed and Ron has been putting in data. He has put in 3 hours of training and has 7 to go.

The web site needs to be managed.

The North Vernon Papers and the Republic out of Columbus needs to update where we are having our meetings. Brad has sent letters and so has the Clerk annually to update meetings, dates, and times. Brad said he will contact them again.

Concerning the fire we had just outside of Vernon a couple weeks ago, Ron thinks we need to find a way to contact people to let them know why the hydrants were tapped and why they have cloudy water. He wants to talk to Rodney about the web page or put something on Facebook.

Ron found a lot of garbage at the commons trash cans lately and he found out it was the new renter that moved into the white house on the corner across from the commons. They would save their trash and them stuff it in the cans at the playground. Ron went and talked to them.

Ron has fixed the hole by the highway a couple of times on Gaines Street , but dumping is still going on and it has moved to the grassy area from the hole to the guard rail. Dan asked if he knew who was doing this and Ron said Mike Barber. Brad will send him a letter

Frontier finally fixed the phone line that was down between the church and the gym on Washington Street.

There is a dumpster on Jackson Street, Ron is going to get address and check on.

Fire Department: Eric brought up the doors at the gym entrance. They have bars on them and they have to be removed. Warning signs are needed on the highway where the fire trucks come out or safety reasons. Dan explained that the state needs to take care of that and he will help him get in touch with the right people. Discussion on the warranty on the generator at the fire house. They have agreed to leave this one in place, therefore the Town will set it up and pay the warranty fee. The Fire Chief requested keys to the Utilities office between the fire department and the office for him and Nick Trulock, they need to put 2 filing cabinets in the new office for storage until the new building is done. Eric said he would give access to the cameras to Ron. And last concerning the utilities are we going to split them or reimburse them? Discussion with Brad suggesting a meeting with Jean on these matters as she has to deal with State Board of Accounts on her payment vouchers.

Discussion with John making motion to meet with Jean on these matters with a second by Danny Stark and all in favor.

The fire department is going to have an outside audit done and would like one member of the council to be with them on this. Shelly volunteered.

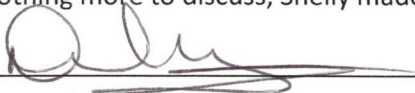
A discussion about the gallons of water taken from the hydrants for a fire or to fill up after a fire. The Town needs these numbers so we can keep track of the water we are losing. Reports need to be filed when an hydrant is tapped or a truck is filled and given to the Town or Ron Hendershot so this can be tracked.

Dan Wright reported on the grant for the gym floor and the one on the trail system. We have not heard anything from either of these projects.


John asked about the DNR project on Jackson Street, Dan explained that will not be until 2021.

Dan has an application for a grant from HGTV.

Nothing more to discuss, Shelly made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.



Dan Wright, Mayor



M. Jean Rockey, Clerk Treasurer