

**Town of Vernon
Vernon Gym
Regular Meeting (6:30 PM)
February 13, 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 Wayne Zamora at 6:30 PM.

I. Call to Order All present excepting Britt Burgmeier, Town Marshall

II. Approval of minutes

Wayne asked if there were any comments or corrections to the January 9, 2025 Council minutes and recommended approval.

Jeff made a motion to approve the January 09, 2024, minutes. Amber seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

III. Petitions or comments by the members of the public present: None

IV. Reports from Committees and Officers

A. Mayor Wayne Zamora - Wrapping up the bathroom project and Wayne addressed the many issues with Matt Owens, see facility, pictures and will close out the grant. He is getting some pressure from MHS grant to award but is being held up by OCRA and Indiana Landmarks that caused several issues from questions from Historic Preservation. They are finally easing up but then other problems are arising when trying to get floors refinished, is now looking for someone to FIX the floors so they can be then refinished. This has all delayed the library and internet and computers being acquired. Amber, Wayne and his intern have worked very diligently in creating an alumni room in order to free up space to eventually move the Town Hall/Utilities office to the old Alumni space. All reporting is up to date and WiFi should be live by next week-Mid February. BSCC grant will be drawn upon as soon as we have spent our matching funds. Wayne will meet with Judge Bright to show her space to generate revenue in the future. Perceptions Yoga wants gravel in their alleyway, says it is being washed out from heavy rains. Will have someone take a look at it. Wayne took a train ride from NV to Dupont and the way back, he was insistent on keeping their equipment and everything inside of their right of way. They went to the other bridge they had finished and everything looked good. The RR feels like they are missing out on opportunities for more transport. Brad Bender suggested charging rent to the Railroad so we could benefit from the inconvenience of having them on our property for 3-5 years. Discussed the Lift and the fact our State Release got denied for the Lift, Brad filled it out and waited on a response and was told it needed to be done by a design professional. FPBH, Inc. quoted \$1,500 to do the design, may be another 6-8 weeks to get all of this going.

B. John Post – Council Ward 1 - Duke repaired a streetlight, O'Mara will replace the culvert, paid for by REMC. They also put some cold patch in holes on Poplar Street. House on Perry Street being taken to APC, and the Rosenbaum property, Wayne has been in contact with his son, is possibly interested in both of their properties. Will be addressing cleaning up soon. Have all been taken to court. Stark property has been given more time, may have to be addressed later. John says Brenda King is

under the impression that if there is no opposition and all candidates have declared candidacy, it would be up to us to decide if we have an election. Council agreed to go ahead and have the election.

C. Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2 - All grant activity has been paused, Spring Tonic on 4/26/25...there is online registration, walk ups at 7 am. Asked about help in recording meetings but missed the deadline and will possibly try for the next round. SAI Foundation for a possible grant for this, he will pursue.

D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - Light out on Gaines Street, part of light fell out. Also, a sewer rate study will need to be done and raise rates to pay for all of the maintenance issues that are arising. Ron is doing the work now, he is willing to go back to doing the testing and water issues and then hire someone else for basic maintenance. Fire Chief asked about doing flow tests and offered to do the flushing if that would help. Will set up a meeting with Brian to discuss issues. March 5th @ 3 pm. As a town, we can borrow money up to \$1,000,000 as a general obligation bond to work on projects that are in desperate need of being completed. Whole process is lengthy and is something to consider.

E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer -

F. Brad Kage - Attorney - Judgement against Krista Huff Anderson and have a meeting in the morning to pursue payment.

G. Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall -Absent

H. Brian Clark– Contract Maintenance - Absent

I. Jeff Pennycuff - Fire Chief - May 31, Golf Scramble, Apr 25, 2025, Spaghetti Supper before the Spring Tonic, Feb 22, 2025 Chili Supper. Was told by Brian Clark that they need a bigger meter.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Trails grant, working diligently, will be pushing to make the deadline. May need a handrail on some of the sloped portions. Is looking into which gates will be required. Restrooms are still being worked on, Rohe cleaned up from slide project and scouts will be working as weather permits. John was asking about the handrails because of grade, it was not foreshadowed but allowed as part of the scope of the project being following the old lines. Amber Fields made the motion to move ahead with the parking stops. Jeff seconded the motion. 3 Yes votes, 0 No votes
- b. OCRA WW Grant - Bid opening on Feb 20, 2025 at 10 am. A special meeting on Feb 27, to award the bid, will need a quorum for this. 8 bid holders.
- c. Park Board Updates - Matt reported on the meeting, update from Mikey, is working on the sculpture for the Art Park, is on schedule for the Sassafras festival weekend. Dave Shaw and family will be on board for moving the benches, pouring footing and all be in kind-no cost. Need a day of caring to prepare for the changes in the park. John Post would like a different arrangement so as not to have an enclosed area. Discussion ensued as to where to place the benches. They will be reconfigured and presented to the council. Matt called DNR for a project at the end of Jackson Street to build a ramp. He is meeting with DNR to discuss.
- d. IDEM Response - Will touch base about information with Brian or Ron.

VI. New Business

- a. 2025 Election All is going as planned
- b. Pay for the monthly REMC invoices, will keep getting paper.

c. Midwest Gas says we need a bigger meter on the generator. Wait and see what they do.

VII. Claims

a. John made a motion to approve the claims, Jeff seconded the motion.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VIII. Miscellaneous Business

a. Brad Bender asked for permission to rent the Gym for the Blue and Gray ball during Sassafras festival. Cost will be \$75.

IX. Adjournment - John motioned to adjourn @ 8:31 pm, Jeff seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, March 13, 2025, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Swearing in of newly elected officials will take place.


Vernon Town Council




John Post, 1st Ward



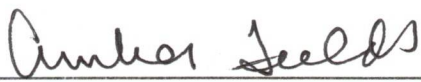
Wayne Zamora, Mayor



Jeff Walker, 2nd Ward



Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk



Amber Fields, 3rd Ward