

**Town of Vernon
Vernon Gym
Regular Meeting (7:00 PM)
January 12, 2023**

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

Town Officials and employees present:

I. Call to Order – All Members Present

Dan Wright – Mayor

Eric Genda – Council Ward 1

Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2

Amber Fields – Clerk/Treasurer

Ron Hendershot – Maintenance/Works Manager

Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall

Aaron Poole – *Absent*

II. Approval of December 8, 2022, minutes

Dan asked if there were any comments or corrections to the December 8, 2022, Council minutes and recommended approval.

Jeff Walker made a motion to approve the December 8, 2022, minutes. Eric Genda made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

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

Dan asked anyone from the public wishing to make a comment to sign in and let the Council know what they wished to comment on.

Larry Jines (Indian Hills)

Larry asked the Council why the water meter readings were so inconsistent and why his meter was being estimated so often. Larry said that the days between readings were ranging between 22 and 62 days. He said that he and his wife typically use between 1500 and 1600 gallons and the readings were making that usage go over and costing him more money, and he was on a fixed income. He also asked why the Council had not moved to replace the old meters. Dan said there had been other complaints and they will be addressed later in the meeting. Jeff Walker said that the new contract addressed those issues.

Trish Hendershot

Trish (Vernon Gym Keeper) said that Dakota Miller, who rents two rooms in the Gym wanted to hold a Renaissance fair at the Gym. Trish did not think there was enough room to hold that kind of event at the Gym. The Council agreed, but said Dakota should put together a proposal as to what he needed for that kind of event.

Roger Taylor (Vernon Trustee)

Roger wanted to let the Council know that he is now a resident of Vernon, and renting Ron Roane's place on the corner of Brown and Montgomery streets. Roger asked if the Council provided gravel for the area between the sidewalk and the street. Amber said that the Homeowner was responsible for that area and had to purchase their own gravel. John Post said that the Homeowner or resident should ask permission from the Council. Jeff made a motion to allow Roger Taylor to purchase gravel for the area between the sidewalk and the street in front of his house. Eric Genda made the second. 2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Shelly Davers

Shelly asked if the Town Council had ever considered allowing someone else to sit on one of the Boards. John Post said that the Area Plan appointment had to be a Vernon Council member, but the BZA Board (Board of Zoning Appeals) did not.

IV. Reports from Committees and Officers**1. Town Mayor – Dan Wright**

- a. ARP Funds** – Dan said that the ARP money was for meter replacement. (currently \$71,840.80) Dan said that he met with Water Alliance and the Bond Bank but that the ARP money was to be used first. Dan also said that there was to be a committee consisting of one Council person and two others. At least 3 people to determine how the money was to be spent. Eric said that he would be the Council person for at least the next month to be on that committee. John Post also volunteered. Jeff Walker made a motion to approve the formation of a committee consisting of Amber Fields, Eric Genda and John Post. Eric Genda made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

- b.** Dan said that the **Trail Project** still needs additional survey work. He said that we could separate it out and bid it separately and that the bids would be going out by the end of March. Jeff Walker said that he would like to be involved in that project.

2. Ward 1 Council – Eric Genda

- a.** Eric said that the Gym oversight looked good. Gym rents have been picking up.

Trish added that there were 3 weddings scheduled and brought in over \$2,300 in Gym revenue in December.

3. Ward 2 Council – Jeff Walker

a. Financial Oversight

Jeff said that the Financial Oversight looked good and nothing new to report. His Gateway Access had been expanded to include the City of North Vernon, but he was getting that corrected.

b. Review Town of Vernon Ordinances

Jeff made a motion to expire, repeal and replace the following Town Ordinances:

#152 to be expired

Jeff made a motion to read new traffic Ordinance 180, regulating the parking of vehicles, by "Title Only". Eric made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Eric made a motion to pass Ordinance 180 on the first reading. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Eric made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the second reading of Ordinance 180. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Jeff made a motion to adopt Ordinance 180 on its second reading. Eric made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Jeff made a motion to read new traffic Ordinance 181, regulating the stopping of vehicles, by "Title Only". Eric made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Eric made a motion to pass Ordinance 181 on the first reading. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Eric made a motion to suspend the rules and proceed to the second reading of Ordinance 181. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Jeff made a motion to adopt Ordinance 181 on its second reading. Eric made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. Eric made a motion to adopt **Ordinance No. 182** on its second reading. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

4. Clerk Treasurer – Amber Fields

- a. Amber said that she had talked to Aaron Poole, (VVFD Fire Chief) and the Firehouse was requesting that the Town help out with the VVFD Utilities using the Loit/PS funds up to a maximum of \$12,000 in 2023. Eric made a motion to table the decision until the next meeting. Jeff made the second.
2 Yes votes, 0 No votes
Amber also reminded the council and the Town that the VVFD would be having a Spaghetti Dinner on the 21st of January from 4 to 7 PM
- b. Amber included a Town Meeting schedule in the folders for 2023. Brad said that he had submitted the schedule to both papers. Jeff made a motion to approve the 2023 meeting schedule. Eric made the second.
2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

5. **Town Legal Counsel – Brad Kage**

- a. Brad said that he would revise the 2023 Fire Protection Agreement for the February meeting.

6. **Town Marshall – Britt Burgmeier**

- a. Britt said that he was most interested in revising the Parking Ordinance since the majority of calls he received was on that topic.

7. **VVFD Fire Chief – Aaron Poole - *Absent***

8. **Town Public Works Manager – Ron Hendershot - *Absent***

V. **Unfinished Business**

VI. **New Business**

a. **2023 Board & Committee Appointments**

Area Plan Commission – Currently Eric Genda until 2023 Election

Board of Zoning Appeals – Currently Ron Hendershot until 2023 Election

Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission – Currently Dan Wright. Dan offered to volunteer to remain on that committee after the election.

Eric made a motion to keep Eric and Ron on their respective committees until after the election. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

Eric made a motion to keep Dan on the SIRPC for 2023. Jeff made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VII. **Claims**

a. **Claims**

Jeff Walker made a motion to approve the **December 2022 claims**. Eric Genda made the second.

2 Yes votes, 0 No Votes

b. The Clerk Treasurer provided a **Fund Report** for the month of December 2022.

VIII. **Miscellaneous Business**

a. A question was raised about trailers and vehicles on the street. Britt said they have to be operable and plated. A question was also raised about the trailer across the street from Judith Bentz house. Trish said it was going to be moved soon.

b. Eric Genda made a motion to start the process for the **March 6, 2023 Election**. Sign-ups will be due by February 24, 2023. Jeff Walker made the second.
2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

IX. Jeff Walker made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM. Eric Genda made the second.

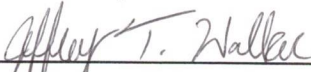
2 Yes votes, 0 No votes.

Next Regular Meeting: The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, February 9, 2023, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

Vernon Town Council



Eric Genda, 1st Ward



Jeff Walker, 2nd Ward

VACANT, 3rd Ward

Town of Vernon



Dan Wright, Mayor



Attest: Amber Fields, Clerk Treasurer