

**Town of Vernon
Vernon Gym
Regular Meeting (7:00 PM)
July 11 , 2024**

Regular Meeting: The Town of Vernon Council meeting at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282, was called to order by Brad Kage at 6:30 PM. Executive session was held immediately preceding the regular meeting.

Town Officials and employees present:

I. Call to Order - Wayne Zamora- absent, meeting led by Brad Kage. All other members present.

II. Approval of June 13, 2024 minutes

Wayne asked if there were any comments or corrections to the June 13, 2024 Council minutes and recommended approval.

Amber made a motion to approve the June 13, 2024, minutes. Jeff seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

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

Matt Robinson was asking about Metronet offering service to the town of Vernon, he was informed that they have agreed to bring fiber optic to Vernon but not sure if that includes residential. Council will check on that.

IV. Reports from Committees and Officers

A. Mayor Wayne Zamora - Absent

B. John Post – Council Ward 1 - 4 properties in the town of Vernon have been referred to APC, initial letters have been sent, process has started but takes quite some time. John thanked Brad for his work in cutting brush back on South Street.

C. Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2 - Park Board has an open position, will fill it soon. Discussed the granite stones to commemorate the new firehouse, we need to decide what is to be put on the one from the Town of Vernon. Thank you to Amber, Mary Ablanap, Trish, Wayne and Ryan Wheeler for their work on the grant application, he will also be applying for a 15,000 grant from Subaru.

D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - Application for speed signs needs to be sent to State, asked for Brad Benders help in submitting this application. Also, the \$4,000 grant for Arts Park project is approved, Council should approve the artist's design from Mikey Brown. Received the \$200,000 for the Block Grant match money, also the remainder of Trail money was received from the state.

E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer - Questioned paying invoices for gravel delivered to alleys behind new houses. Council was not aware of any work the town was doing and believes they should go to the builder, namely Steele Myers.

F. Brad Kage - Attorney - Brad Bender and Brad will attend remediation on the Maschino property. Amber motioned to allow the authority to make decisions at the remediation meeting, Jeff seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

G. Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall - nothing to report

H. Brian Clark– Contract Maintenance - 120 Water will do the data entry for the lead remediation and Clark plumbing price will be 20-30 per residence, Brad Bender questioned what we are paying 120 Water to do. If they are not doing the actual work, then contingent on their scope of work, we will hire Clark's plumbing. John motioned to hire Clark's if needed, Amber seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

I. Jeff Pennycuff - Fire Chief - not in attendance

V. Unfinished Business

a. Trail Grant - bathroom permit in hand, State is requiring sidewalk markings either permanent or temporary, Brad suggests permanent. New signage will be installed, discussed the new start date of mid-August, Jeff Walker motioned to approve both grant agreements from the JCCF for the bathrooms and Trail. Amber seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

b. Steele Myers has contacted the town about a large tree on Poplar that is next to his new houses and is wrapped up in wires. Suggestion to have Pike look at this tree and the Rockey tree on Gaines street. John motioned to have Pike inspect both trees, Jeff seconded

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

c. Layne reported on quotes from Adam Hall on 3 different rooms, Flooring - Library-\$4,224, Meeting Room-\$3,740, Storage Room-\$825 Total \$8,789. Possible reduced cost for doing all 3 at once. Starkey quote was between 7 and 8 thousand for all 3 rooms. The HVAC work will include 4 rooms, \$8,600 for each room for windows. He also talked to a flooring contractor who was recommended by Jeff, but is still waiting on his quote. Layne reported on his various work around town, put mural up in the alley and is planning more cleaning and more grant work, especially on the Safe Streets narrative.

d. Park Board first meeting on July 8th, officers-Stacie Burns-Secretary, Brad Bender-Vice President, Matt Robinson-President. Arts Park, Master Park Plan, Boat Ramp at Commons, are all ideas tossed about. They discussed what inventory to include in the Park domain? Next meeting on 8/12/24. Position on the benches at the Art Park, have not come to any recommendations yet, but will meet with the public. John Post asked that before we move the Rockey park bench, they should contact members of his family. Jack Rockey, Randi Hofelich and other members for input on their plan. They will take over discussions with the artist on his plans for the Park. Brad Bender talked with Dave Shaw about the benches and discussed the origins and concepts. All history based, colors could be removed, table needs a footer, has never been erected and it could be dangerous if not installed with a footer. If the benches had a plaque explaining more in depth information, it would go a long way in explaining their significance.

VI. New Business

a. Duck race on 9/21/2024. John proposed a motion to allow the race every year as long as they contact the Park Board in advance. Amber seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VII. Claims

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

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

VIII. Miscellaneous Business

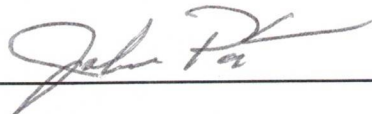
a. Amber stated a fence was erected very close to the alley and she proposed closing the alley as it is so narrow and she worries about someone hitting the gas meters. John will check with APC concerning the fence to see if it's on the property line.

IX. Adjournment - Amber Fields motioned to adjourn @ 7:39 pm, John Post seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, August 8, 2024, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

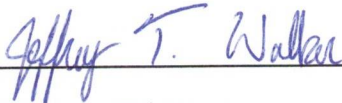
Vernon Town Council



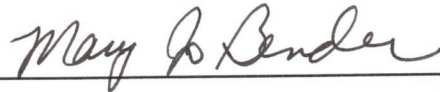
John Post, 1st Ward



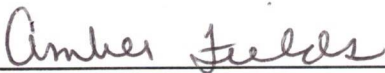
Wayne Zamora, Mayor



Jeff Walker, 2nd Ward



Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk



Amber Fields, 3rd Ward