

**Town of Vernon  
Vernon Gym  
Regular Meeting (6:30 PM)  
June 12, 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 Brad Bender at 6:30 PM.

Town Officials and employees present:

**I. Call to Order** All Members Present excepting Steven Pennycuff, Fire Chief.

**II. Approval of minutes**

Mayor Bender asked if there were any comments or corrections to the May 08, 2025 Council minutes and recommended approval.

John Post made a motion to approve the May, 2025, minutes, Amber Fields 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 Brad Bender - Our water loss is at 27%, not as bad as thought but will work on getting this lower. Asked for quotes on insurance and declarations were not forthcoming until just yesterday, the bill will increase by \$400 overall. He welcomed Hailie Purdue as a guest and praised her efforts during her summer internship and her work on our behalf. Amber and Mary Jo were concerned about a \$2,600 bill from Traveler's insurance and have contacted insurance on what this is for.

B. John Post – Council Ward 1 - Going back to deficiencies, there is going to be required training for an asset management plan going forward beginning in 2026. Will need to stay on top of this for the future. House with tarp - permit has run out of time, the owner will be contacted concerning this. The house across from the roadhouse had a show cause hearing and they are trying to close the estate so more time has been given. House on Perry with junk vehicles has been contacted and will be selling some and licensing the others.

C. Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2 - Echoed Brad's sentiment of having Hailie here for the summer. She has compiled quite a timeline of tasks. Also, glad to have Omar and Luke.

D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - People are sleeping in the backyard at the Davis residence, the owners have been contacted.

E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer -

F. Brad Kage - Attorney -

G. Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall -asked for permission to get a new battery and oil changed,

John suggested he just go ahead with routine maintenance as needed and then present the bills to the Clerk Treasurer's office.

I. Steven Pennycuff - Fire Chief - Absent

## **V. Unfinished Business**

- a. Trail Project Update - have some extra money to spend, discussion on different options to spend the leftover money of approximately \$26,000, Change order 5. Suggestion was made to transfer easements to the Park instead of an interlocal agreement for maintenance. Amber motioned to accept change order 5, Jeff seconded. All in favor. The certificate of substantial completion for June 3rd and final for October 1, 2025 was presented to the council. Fields motioned to accept this and Jeff seconded. All in favor.
- b. OCRA Grant Update - nothing special to report.
- c. Gym Scheduling, Maintenance, Chair Lift, Updates - Library is open, chair lift is installed, needs an elevator permit but is usable at this time. Maintenance and operation changes, come mid-June...will have to suspend pay to Trish to cover others working, will prorate the month of June for half a month.
- d. Speed Limit Flashing Signs - INDOT to provide 2, ours don't meet INDOT specs. John Post motioned to donate the remaining flashing light to the county, Jeff seconded. All in favor.
- e. Town Office Moving Schedule - will shoot for mid-July.

## **VI. New Business**

- a. Recording Meetings in July - Ryan Rapine will set up for the next meeting.
- b. Introduction of Interns - Hailie, Luke and Omar, Hailie is working on the Master Plan for the Park Board. The other interns are not present but Mayor Bender reported on the jobs they have already accomplished. Still working on getting them set up through EARN Indiana, they are working limited hours at this time. Could they get paid bi-weekly instead of monthly? Will pay on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.
- c. Sewer Rate Study-Reedy Financial gave a \$5,000 quote, Sherman Barber Mullikan was much more. Jeff motioned to approve Reedy Financial, Amber seconded. All in favor.
- d. Lock Box Administrator Change - Dan Wright and Amber Fields are the administrators of record as of now. John motioned to remove Wayne and Dan and add Brad and Mary Jo Bender, keep Amber and keep the lock box for now. Jeff seconded the motion. All in favor.
- e. Town Credit Card - need one for ease of purchases, never carry a balance, need a policy to regulate. Keep the same administrators as lockbox.
- f. SS4A Grant-Match Money-\$25,000 The Town has received a \$100,000 grant for consulting, we need to find money to be able to fund our part. Cedit, Riverboat are possibilities. Could we use LRS or MVH/re? Asked if everyone was in agreement to continue to pursue this grant. If money is available, this could prove worthwhile.

## **VII. Claims**

- a. John made a motion to approve the claims, Amber seconded the motion.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

**VIII. Miscellaneous Business**

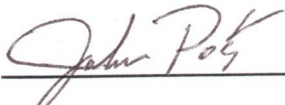
- a. 120 Water, GWorks and IDEM deficiency reports from Ron, the significant deficiencies were taken care of in February, there are others that are still non-compliant and we need to work on those.
- b. IDEM contacts updated - taken care of
- c. Meter Flushing Schedule - hasn't been done in at least 3 years, is going to tell Ron to come up with a schedule and it will be adhered to and needs coordination to achieve all of this.
- d. Work day special meeting on July 24th, to begin at 4:30 pm.

**IX. Adjournment** - John motioned to adjourn @ 7:48 pm, Amber seconded.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, July 10, 2025, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

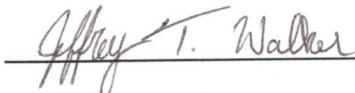
**Vernon Town Council**



John Post, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward



Brad Bender, Mayor



Jeff Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward



Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk



Amber Fields, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward