

**Town of Vernon**  
**Vernon Gym**  
**Regular Meeting (7:00 PM)**  
**May 11, 2023**

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

Town Officials and employees present:

**I. Call to Order – All Members Present**

Wayne Zamora – Mayor  
John Post – Council Ward 1  
Jeff Walker – Council Ward 2  
Amber Fields – Council Ward 3  
Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer  
Ron Hendershot – Maintenance/Works Manager  
Britt Burgmeier – Town Marshall  
Aaron Poole – VVFD Fire Chief

**II. Approval of April 13, 2023, minutes**

Wayne asked if there were any comments or corrections to the April 13, 2023, Council minutes and recommended approval.

John Post made a motion to approve the April 13, 2023, minutes. Amber Fields made the second.

3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

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

No comments at this time.

**IV. Reports from Committees and Officers**

**1. Town Mayor – Wayne Zamora**

Wayne asked to have the car on Montgomery Street tagged and towed.

**2. Ward 1 Council – John Post**

**3. Ward 2 Council – Jeff Walker**

- a. Jeff handed out information and discussed the Jennings County Active Transportation Plan with vision, goals and recommendations and supported

Vernon's position in recognizing a mutual benefit. Amber made the motion to support the JC Commissioners in regards to this plan. John Post seconded.

2 Yes votes, 1 Abstain

**4. Ward 3 Council – Amber Fields**

- a. Amber submitted the Corrective Action Plan concerning the SBOA audit.

**5. Clerk Treasurer – Mary Jo Bender**

- a. All of Clerk's information for Council is included in their meeting folders.

**6. Town Legal Counsel – Brad Kage**

- 7. Town Marshall – Britt Burgmeier** – Britt iterated that the neighbor dispute is escalating and essentially is that...a dispute between neighbors but not necessarily a town concern. He also issued his report for the month of March.

**8. VVFD Fire Chief – Aaron Poole**

**9. Town Public Works Manager – Ron Hendershot**

- a. Presented information about purchasing a pump to run the lift station, approximately \$5000 for a new pump and will get price on installation.
- b. Began water meter discussion but was pre-empted by John Post who declared it a moot point as the vote had already been taken to buy the Neptune meters. Attorney Brad Kage supported John's position.
- c. Ron also discussed possibilities of applying for grants to resolve any lead issues the town may encounter.
- d. Ron presented information on teaming with Dupont Water for a GIS positioning system and said a representative from MPower was willing to present information via a Zoom meeting with the Council.
- e. Other business such as a cyber security plan and issues regarding an ordinance that could charge customers for repairs to grinder pumps if negligence on the part of the homeowner was the cause. Town wants to pursue the idea of returning all grinder pumps to the customers themselves.

**V. Unfinished Business**

- a. Next Level Trails Grant update was presented by Brad Bender, work on the trail has commenced around the town with surveying and other work. Packets have been mailed to property owners concerning land acquisition and ideas to streamline this process.
- b. Summer intern will begin duties soon, looking forward to having the extra help.

**VI. New Business**

- a. Amend/Discuss Water Meter Choice-Not an issue up for discussion.
- b. Infrastructure GIS System-MPower to present at a later date.
- c. Cummins Project-Brown Street/Rat Row improved with new landscaping.
- d. Vernon Food Pantry (Gleaners) – Use former dance studio for their distribution site. Would want to make sure site is clean and free of any infestations.

- e. USDA Facilities Grant-Wayne is pursuing.
- f. Marie Shepherd APC zoning issue-Asked for 129 E SR 3 to be rezoned from Commercial to Residential as new owners wish to return property to its actual usage. John Post made the motion to allow rezoning. Jeff Walker seconded.  
3 Yes votes, 0 no votes
- g. Revised Internal Control Policy-Members/Employees will adhere and accept.

#### VII. Claims

Jeff Walker made a motion to approve the April 2023 claims. Amber Fields seconded.  
3 Yes votes, 0 No votes

- a. The Clerk Treasurer provided a Fund Report for the month of April 2023.

#### VIII. Miscellaneous Business

- a. Flowers for Town Planters and the tactical urbanism plan was reported on, there has been one fern pot destroyed among the ones placed in the plan so it will be replaced and possibly bigger planters will be utilized to prevent destruction.
- b. Alley off of Pike Street should be closed to vehicles and open to pedestrians only.
- c. Jeff Walker made the motion to Adjourn the meeting at 9:03 PM. Amber Fields made the second.  
3 Yes votes, 0 No votes.

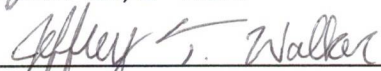
Wayne asked for a special meeting to hear information from SIRPC on Thursday, June 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Notices will be placed in town concerning this meeting.

**Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, July, 12, 2023, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

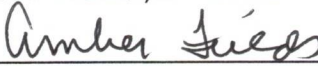
#### Vernon Town Council

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

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

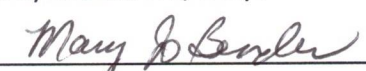
  
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Amber Fields, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward

#### Town of Vernon

  
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Wayne Zamora, Mayor

  
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Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk Treasurer