

**Town of Vernon  
Vernon Gym  
Regular Meeting (6:30 PM)  
October 9, 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: Brad Bender, Brad Kage, John Post, Amber Fields, Mary Jo Bender. Absent: Jeff Walker, Steven Pennycuff....Britt Burgmeier-no longer a member.

**I. Call to Order - Pledge recited**

**II. Approval of minutes**

Mayor Bender asked if there were any comments or corrections to the September 11, 2025 Council minutes and recommended approval.

John Post made a motion to approve the September 11, 2025 minutes. Amber Fields seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

**III. Petitions or comments by the members of the public present: No one present, comments were made that this was the first time ever for this to happen.**

Fred Vogel, Sam Ballenger and Mike Anderson from Heartland Classic Cruiser presented a check for \$1000 to the town for supporting their car show over the years as a token of gratitude. Amber Fields motioned to accept this gift on behalf of the town, John Post seconded. 2 Yes votes, 0 No votes the town is extremely grateful for this show of support and gratitude. We welcome their involvement as it is good for the town also.

**IV. Reports from Committees and Officers**

- A. Brad Bender - Mayor - Out of town from 10-24-11/1 and will need help with town activities.
- B. John Post - Council Ward 1 - APC was cancelled for lack of a quorum, the tarp house will be on the agenda for the month of December due to a full agenda for November.
- C. Jeff Walker - Council Ward 2 - absent
- D. Amber Fields – Council Ward 3 - When is Trunk or Treat? 10/24/2025
- E. Mary Jo Bender – Clerk Treasurer - Read an E-Mail about installing cable for utilities, wanted clarification on how to respond. The town is in the process of creating an ordinance for this very situation. Discussion about a subcontractor who left gaping holes in and around town.
- F. Brad Kage - Attorney -
- G. Britt Burgmeier – Resigned

I. Steven Pennycuff (via Brad Bender) - Fire Chief - Spaghetti Dinner on Oct 24, 2025, Holiday Market is on Nov. 1- with 31 vendors and some food trucks and Dec 19, 2025 is Cookies with Santa. He informed the board of several grants that are in the works for truck, equipment and other projects that are hoped for or needed. They have raised over \$21,000 this year but have already had over \$25,000 in repairs of various

## V. Unfinished Business

- a. Next Level Trails grant - Final Change Order for the last items on the trail are in packets. Final change order to completely close out the project \$23,010 for final change order. Amber motioned to accept; John seconded. All in favor. Amber motioned to accept Triple A Striping contract for final completion of signage. John seconded. 2 Yes votes, 0 No votes. Mayor Bender asked to deal directly with the Striping Company to facilitate the final completion.
- b. OCRA Sewer Project - Working diligently, no new pay apps. A small hiccup when valves were not going to be available and forms were filled out to accept different valves. May save some money and definitely will save time.
- c. Muscataduck race - Went well and as planned. Will welcome the group every year.
- d. Park Board Report - Madison RR will need to have conditions and the town will ask for compensation for staging their project on Vernon grounds. Discussion ensued as to the impact and situation involved with their project. The town needs to post a public notice concerning the work to be done and will post according to guidelines. Amber motioned to acknowledge the public notice put forth by the RR authority. John Post seconded. 2-0 votes. A Park Board member asked about vending machines. It was also noted that another person had approached the Town about putting in vending machines also. Discussion ensued as to how and who to allow this so the council agreed to look into this matter.
- e. Budget - Hearing was held last month, this month we need to adopt the budget proposal. Amber motioned to adopt the 2026 budget as presented. John seconded. 2 Yes votes, 0 No votes
- f. Boy Scout Rental Agreement - Proposal is \$50 per month and the troop will help with projects when agreed to by both the town and the scouts. Amber motioned to accept lease agreement; John seconded. 2 Yes votes, 0 No vote

## VI. New Business

- a. Soccer Rental Agreement - Tabled with motion by John and seconded by Amber. 2 Yes, 0 No, will bring old agreement to next meeting.
- b. Possible Camping at the Commons - Brought for discussion and left to the Council to peruse and think of ways to see if it would be a viable option.
- c. CCMG Paving and Grant Applications - New requirements will make it harder and more expensive to even be able to pursue, it was decided this year is too late to pursue now.
- d. Gym Responsibilities and Pay - Discussion ensued as to whether to pay Brad Bender for all the work he is doing on the Gym with reservations and maintenance on the gym. They will look into this possibility.
- e. Front Door of the Gym - Some complaints have been made as to not being able to find where to enter... discussion ensued as to getting the doors fixed but it was decided that we will just make better signage to direct patrons around back.

**VII. Claims**

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

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

**VIII. Miscellaneous Business**

a. Discussion about creating a construction and Right of Way ordinance to protect the town when companies come in to work on projects. Will have an ordinance ready to present to council next month.

**IX. Adjournment** - Amber motioned to adjourn @7:36 pm, John Post seconded.

2 Yes votes, 0 No votes

a. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next Regular Vernon Town Council Meeting will be Thursday, November 13, 2025, at the Vernon Gym, 29 Washington Street, Vernon, Indiana 47282. The Regular meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

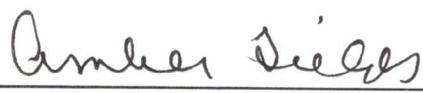
**Vernon Town Council**

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

  
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Bradley Bender, Mayor

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

  
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Attest: Mary Jo Bender, Clerk

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