



**Meeting of the Vilonia City Council
Tuesday – February 17, 2015**

The Vilonia City Council meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Firestone.

Members present: Clay Heslep, Skip Cates, Sherry Clements, Joe Maxwell, Jim King & Kathy French. A quorum was established with all 6 members present.

Councilman Maxwell moved to approve the 01-20-15 minutes, as written, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried.

Councilman Cates moved to approve the 01-2015 financial statement, as written, Councilwoman Clements 2nd and the motion carried.

Announcement: Mayor reported on Saturday there was a memorial tree planting between the fire station and library. The tree planted was a Western Red Wood Cedar, donated by the National Arbor Day Foundation and was funded by Fed Ex. The tree was planted in memory of the tornado victims of the April 2014 storm. The Arkansas Forestry Commission also gave free seedlings to the public. There was a good turn out for the event.

VFD - Keith Hillman was not present. Mayor reported that this past Thursday, Hillman and the Mayor went to Fairfield Bay by, invitation, to meet with about 30 people. They spoke regarding the recent storm and how the situation was handled and how our city responded to the emergency situation. There was a question and answer period following the presentation. Councilman Cates gave a report regarding joint efforts between the Fire Dept. and School on the recent tornado drill. He reported on taking 1700 students in into the new facility in less than a 20 minute time frame. This drill included some busing of students. This was a 1st time drill effort. They used 7 buses in the drill.

Planning Commission – No report was given. They will have a meeting on 2-26-15 at 7:00 p.m.

VPD – Chief Brad McNew gave an update. There are 2 police cars in shop for repairs at this time. The Mayor reported on the police car that was struck by lightning last year. The Mayor reported that he had talked with Don Zimmerman at Municipal League and the car will be covered for about \$30,000.00. This had been an ongoing situation for a period of time.

VSA/Parks & Rec. – Mayor gave an update. The N. Mt. Olive project grading has been completed and the top soil has been replaced. They are ready for gravel on the parking lot. The baseball park on Cemetery Street, concept drawings have been completed, cost proposal has been submitted to FEMA. Now we are waiting on approval so bids can go out at a later date.

Chamber of Commerce – Banquet is scheduled to be held on 02-21-15 @ 6:00 p.m. at VHS cafeteria.
Code Enforcement – No report was given.

Senior Citizens – Councilwoman Kathy French gave report and status on activities provided at the local center. She also gave information on the various events and activities held at the center.

Sewer Dept. – Report was given in written form dated 12-16-14 & 01-20-15 financial statement dated 12-01-14 to 12-31-14 & 01-20-15.

Mayor announced a town hall meeting will be held on Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. at the High School cafeteria. The purpose of the meeting is to bring everybody up to speed regarding the tornado recovery process. Another meeting is scheduled for 02-21-15 at 10:00 a.m. in the court room for those who can't make the Thursday meeting.

Old Business – Mayor reported that in the 2015 budget, the expense for our non-uniformed employee's to be covered by APERS retirement. An official motion is needed, with the effective date of April 1, 2015. Councilman Maxwell moved to allow the joining of APERS program with the effective date of 04-01-2015, Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion carried.

New Business:

Resolution 2015-2 – Amendment of the 2014 Budget. Titled – A Resolution providing for the amendment of the budget for the City of Vilonia, Arkansas, for the twelve (12) months beginning January 1, 2014 ending on December 31, 2014. Appropriating money for each and every expenditure therein provided for; Declaring an emergency to exist; and for other purposes. Res. 2015-2 was read as written. Councilwoman Clements moved to approve Res. 2015-2 as read, Councilman King 2nd and a voice vote was taken with Heslep-yea, Cates-yea, Clements-yea, Maxwell-yea, King-yea and French-yea. Res. 2015-2 was approved with 6 yea votes and 0 nay votes.

Resolution 2015-3 Titled Requesting Rebuild Vilonia to organize and facilitate public meetings for the purpose of collecting citizen input that will be utilized in the development and implementation of a city wide disaster recovery plan. Res. 2015-3 read as written. Councilman Maxwell moved to approve 2015-3, as read, Councilman Cates 2nd and a voice vote was taken with Heslep-yea, Cates-yea, Clements-yea, Maxwell-yea, King-yea and French-yea. Res. 2015-3 was adopted, as written, with 6 yea votes and 0 nay votes.

VPD – Request for disposal of vehicle – Chief McNew gave information regarding the 4 vehicles that he's requesting disposal of at this time. Discussion was held regarding disposal of vehicles. A list of vehicles was presented to the Council. They plan to scrap the vehicles. All usable parts have been taken off of the 4 vehicles. Councilman Maxwell moved to allow VPD to dispose of a 2002 Ford Crown Vic., 2003 Crown Vic., 2004 Crown Vic., and a 2005 Crown Vic., to be sold for scrap, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried. (List will be attached)

Website & Projector Approval – The Mayor gave a report regarding the city not having a projector screen for presentations. Situations have come up where these items are needed and can be utilized. Mayor explained after checking on these items they came up with a Sony Projector with accessories for the cost of \$4,369.48 from Deboard Electronics. Councilman King moved to allow the purchase of the projector screen and hook up from Deboard Electronics at the cost of \$4,369.48. Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion carried.

The Mayor gave information regarding development of a website for the city. He obtained information from Institute for Economic Development College of Business. They develop websites and get them up

and working. This would cover all aspects of City government and their information for all areas including demographics. This will also help with economic development within the area. The Mayor feels that we should move forward and come into the 21st century and be able to get all of our information out. Estimated cost for system is \$6,750.00. Discussion was held regarding the situation. Councilman Maxwell moved to allow the city to enter into DINA website at the cost of \$6,750.00, Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion carried.

Presentation of art by Jan Crummer & Carol Stroud – These ladies have done an art project covering landmarks of Vilonia prior to the tornado. They had 4 oil paintings for the council to view. These were excellent paintings; these were 16X20 oil on canvas. They are interested in displaying their paintings on the wall at City Hall. They have several more paintings to be done. These will be greatly appreciated by all the citizens of the area.

Ordinance 2015-2 Land donated to city for City Park. Ordinance 2015-2 Titled An Ordinance Accepting Real Property and Establishing A City Park and For other Purposes. Ord. 2015-2 – Read as written; Councilwoman Clements moved to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings of Ordinance 2015-2 and a voice vote was taken with Heslep-yea, Cates-yea, Clements-yea, Maxwell-yea, King-yea, and French-yea. Motion carried with 6 yea votes and 0 nay votes. Councilman King moved to approve Ord. 2015-2 as read, Councilman Maxwell 2nd and a voice vote was taken with Heslep-yea, Cates-yea, Clements-yea, Maxwell-yea, King-yea, and French-yea. Ord.2015-2, adopted as read with 6 yea votes and 0 nay votes.

There was no further business.

Councilman King moved to adjourn meeting, Councilman Maxwell 2nd and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.