

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council

January 17, 2017

The Vilonia City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor James Firestone.

Members present – Clay Heslep, Skip Cates, Sherry Clements, Joe Maxwell, Jim King and Kathy French. A quorum was declared.

Approval of minutes from meeting in December—Councilman King made a motion to approve, Councilman Maxwell 2nd and the motion carried.

Approval of financial statement for December—Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried.

Announcements –The Mayor reminded everybody that the Chili Cook-off which will benefit the Veterans Museum will be this Saturday January 21st at “What’s for Dinner”.

Emergency Management –Keith read from 2016 report of activity that was handed out to the council.

Fire Dept. 722 runs total

**Fires -85
Medical -411
Hazardous Conditions -11
Service/Good Intent -186
False Alarm -23
Severe Weather -4
Special Incident -1**

Code Enforcement – 82 Violations

Building Inspections -36 Total Permits

**Residential -12
Business -8
Storage -16**

Keith mentioned the report totals are down in comparison with years passed.

Councilwoman French asked what is Service/Good Intent? Keith said this for example is cows out, dog out, cat in a tree, tree across the street that fell, kind of a catch all when they don't know who to call.

Councilman Heslep asked Keith to tell what had happened last Saturday. Keith mentioned a 10 yr. old boy Kaleb Evans who has a medical syndrome (that has to do with his organs) came to our fire station and spent an hour and a half with some of our fireman. His life's long dream is to be a fireman or policeman. He got to ride in our fire truck, sounded the siren, talked on the radio. We had a fire helmet which was out of service and gave it to him. The helmet had his name on the front of it and he thought that was really something. He is going to Cincinnati in February to have his 48th surgery. He is amazing happy kid. This story was reported on the TV news.

Planning Commission –No report given.

Police Department -Chief McNew reported that last year we had a total of 4,634 calls, of that we did 1,430 reports. 95 of the reports were accidents. About the same as the year before. The Chief introduced James Tipton as our new reserve who just finished his class last Saturday. He's been around Vilonia along time, volunteers at the Veterans Museum quite a bit. He wants to volunteer and work with us. The council welcomed James.

Parks and Rec-VSA -Allin read from written agenda given to the council.

- 1. The main priority and focus is to complete the baseball complex for the 2017 season.**
- 2. I am currently working on agreement for concessions.**
- 3. To set up programs with other cities for this year's spring season.**
- 4. 2017 spring signups are now open and will remain open until February 21st.**
- 5. The tentative date for tryouts are the last weekend in February to first weekend in March.**
- 6. Coaches meeting is coming up in the second week of February.**

7. To have Executive session to discuss personal needs and concession agreement for the parks department.

Chamber of Commerce – Keith reported that Bailey's BBQ had their ribbon cutting last Tuesday. He reminded us that February 18th is the annual chamber banquet that starts at 6:00 pm. It will not be at the high school as we have outgrown it but instead will be held at Friendship Baptist Church. The Mayor said he did not get an e-mail about Bailey's ribbon cutting. Keith said that will be changed. In the future he will get e-mail addresses of the council from Kelly and mail the council and chamber members in the future on events.

Senior Citizens -Councilwoman French reported the center is in their pre-planning fund raiser in March which will be Rook, Domino and Skip-Bo Tournament. She said anyone who is interested call the center and get a partner for this event. It will be 27th, 28th, skip Wednesday and then do 30th & 31st.

Sewer Department -The report was given in written form dated November 15, 2016 and December 20, 2016. Financial statement 11-1-16 and 11-30-16 and December 20, 2016.

Old Business –None.

New Business –

(A) Appointments by Mayor 2017 - The Mayor presented a list of appointments for 2017 as follows:

Police Chief – Brad McNew

Prosecutor – Marcus Vaden

City Attorney – Danny Rasmussen

Planning Commission—3 year appointments

Reappointments – Charles Coker, Frank Mitchell

New Appointment -John Wimberly—replacing John Bonner who resigned from the commission last month.

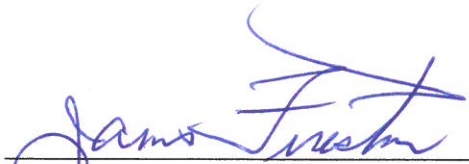
Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve appointments, Councilman Cates 2nd and the motion carried.

Executive Session –The Mayor stated we have some personnel issues to discuss so at this time we will go into executive session.

After returning the Mayor called the meeting back to order. He stated we discussed personnel issues. One thing we discuss was hiring a concessioner to run our concession stands. What is the council's wishes? Councilman Heslep made a motion to approve contract of T & C Corporation to run the concession stands, Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion carried.

The next item we discussed was hiring an assistant park director. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to hire James Williams, Councilwoman French 2nd, council members Cates, Clements, Maxwell, King and French voted yes on the motion. Councilman Heslep voted no and the motion carried.

Adjournment – There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.



Mayor



Recorder/Treasurer

Date 2-21-17