

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council

September 15, 2020

Members present: Shawntel Robinson, Skip Cates, Joe Maxwell, Jim King and Steven Craig. Absent Kathy French

Meeting Prayer: Lead by Jim King

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Preston Scroggin.

Established of quorum.

The presentation of two proclamations to recently deceased community members, Billy Mitchell and Freddie Fowlkes. These proclamations were presented to the families of these men who served the community for several years.

Approval of August 18, 2020 Minutes: Motion of approval made by Councilman Jim King, seconded by Joe Maxwell, no discussion, motion passed.

Approval of August 2020 Financial Statements: Motion of approval by Councilman Skip Cates, seconded by Shawntel Robinson, no discussion, motion passed.

Announcements: Mayor Scroggin spoke of the importance of everyone participating in the Census for our community. Mayor Scroggin said that there are people going around to homes that have not completed their census. Vilonia currently stands at 77%.

Keith Hillman is out for a few weeks due to a recent surgery and Joe Maxwell will be helping do the building inspections and Vanesa will be helping with the grass and trash complaints while Keith is out.

Reports of Boards and Committees:

Emergency Management, planning commission, Fire Department: 680 run so far this year for the fire department. Three of the tornado sirens are not working. The mayor has someone coming this week to make the repairs on these sirens.

Building Inspections: There were 5 new building permits this month so far. The Mayor reported that we continue to get complaints on grass and people not mowing their yards.

Planning Commission: The planning commission will meet to discuss a new sub-division on Grady Loop. Last month's meeting was postponed.

Police Department: Brad McNew reported that they are continuing to look for a new officer. We had one other officer turn in his resignation. We have several officers who are out due to COVID-19.

A presentation to the police department was made to the officers for meals and gift cards by the council. The meals were given by Matt Bradford of Pizza Pro for the officers to eat a free meal for their hard work and service to the city.

Parks and Recreation: Fall ball has started and the season so far is going good and has been very busy.

Chamber of Commerce: Shawntel Brown reported that the Chamber Pizza Pro of Vilonia was the business of the month. She stated how much Matt Bradford did for the community. The Chamber began visiting with all businesses in the coming weeks and sharing information about the cares act loans for small business. Shawntel also reported there a 3 board positions opening in October. Please contact her for more information. She also reported on the Veterans Museum having the Blue/Gray event on September 19, 2020. This is a reenactment. Shawntel also reported on Constitution week and the projects she and Kira Livingston are working on. There will be videos launched that week from several individuals interviewed about the constitution.

Senior Citizens: The mayor reported that all senior citizens centers are closed indefinitely due to COVID-19. The 3 workers continue to work and provide the meals on wheels. The Senior Center continues to do curbside meals on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for anyone that wants to pay a small donation. He also reported that the air conditioning unit in the senior citizens building needed repair and he is working on having this done.

Sewer Department: Brandon reported that the camera guys are working in the Saddle Creek, Quail Hollow area this week and may start Janski Lane this week looking for leaks or problems in the sewer lines. They have found several problem areas recently and repairs are being made. The 2nd phase of the sewer expansion bids will go out in October.

Old Business: The second reading of Ordinance 2020-4 was read. The mayor gave an update on the Loyd Drive extension and bridges. We are in the pipeline for the grant process which is a big step in the process. Faulkner County road department has been a great help in the process so far. Simpson Street work is to begin this week. The county allowed the city to use its contract price for the asphalt for repaving Simpson Street. We have preliminary approval on the replacement of the two bridges left in the city for repair, North Marshall and Church St. The Church St sidewalk project and the lighting projects are still a go with COVID-19 everything has slowed down. Resolution 2020-3 was read again. This was approved at the last meeting. It is the grant for the North Marshall matching grant for new recreation facilities. The mayor and Brandon are currently working on new standards for new construction and streets.

Appointment of Planning Commission: With the recent passing of Mr. Fowlkes a vacancy occurred. Trey Wyatt will become Chairman. The mayor appointed Kim Williams for the vacancy. She is an architect. Joe Maxwell made the motion to accept the appointment and Jim King seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Ruth McKinnon wanted to address the council regarding her sewer and water bill. She was not on the agenda. The mayor allowed her to speak. She was upset about her sewer and water bill. The mayor tried

to explain to her how the sewer and water worked and told her we would work with her in any way we could. She was not satisfied.

The motion was made to adjourn by Jim King seconded by Stephen Craig meeting adjourned.

Adjournment: Motion made by Councilman Jim King and seconded by Shawntel Brown, no discussion motion passed.

Date: 10/20/20

Mayor: [Signature]

Recorder: Mary Clements