



**Meeting of the Vilonia City Council
Tuesday, January 20 2015**

The Vilonia City Council meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor James Firestone.

Members Present: Sherry Clements, Joe Maxwell, Jim King, Skip Cates, Clay Heslep, and Kathy French.

New council member, Clay Heslep, was welcomed by Mayor Firestone to council and audience. The Mayor and all city officials were sworn in @ 6:00 p.m. by Judge Susan Baker. A quorum was established with 6 members present.

Councilman King moved to approve the 12-16-14 minutes, as written, Councilwoman French 2nd and carried.

Councilwoman Clements moved to approve the December 2014 financial statement, as written, Councilman King 2nd and carried.

Announcements: Mayor Firestone reported that on 12-22-14, the bids were opened for the first station addition and the low bidder was Paladino/Nash construction in the amount of \$35,280.00. Councilman King moved to approve the bid for fire station #2 for \$35,280.00 to Paladino/Nash Construction, Councilwoman French 2nd and carried.

The bids for the storm sirens were also opened and the low bidder was Simplex Grinell in the amount \$53,888.00. Councilman King moved to approve the storm siren bid to Simplex Grinell in the amount of \$53,888.00, Councilwoman French 2nd and carried.

Vilonia Fire Department – Keith Hillman gave report and handed out stat sheets for the year activity. They are working on the training site and have it ready for use.

Planning Commission – Fred Fowlkes gave report. There was zero December 2014 meeting. They will be meeting in January 2015 and have a replat for Green Valley Loop – a lot split (21 lots.)

Vilonia Police Department – Chief McNew reported an on-going problem the police car that was struck by lightning, regarding insurance. Mayor is checking into the situation with insurance. The new Caprice problem of getting fitted and all necessary equipment, being worked on at this time.

Parks & Recreation – VSA – No Report

Chamber of Commerce – No Report

Code Enforcement – Keith Hillman gave an update. A list of building permits and progress was included in Council Packets. There was a total of 37 tornado rebuild permits. 34 Regular housing permits, and 8 storage or addition permits. They will be checking on subdivisions for addresses.

Senior Citizens – No Report

Sewer Department – Presented written form dated November 18, 2014 and December 16, 2014.
Financial Statement dated November 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014.

Changed agenda to allow Devin Howland with CAPDD to speak at this time. Devin is the Local Disaster Recovery Manager who was hired through Central Arkansas Planning and Development and has been working hard. Devin has been working since June 2014 and he gave an update on what he has been doing to assist the recovery process. David Dodd has also been on the re-building process. Devin gave detailed explanation of how and why they were formed and what their functions are in regards to their rebuilding of Vilonia.

Old Business –

1. Worker for Senior Citizens Center – Mayor gave information regarding part-time worker at the center. The city, in the past, has assisted helping at the hiring of part-time help. Mayor requested that the council approve a part-time worker for the center as needed basis, so every so often we don't have to come back and be asked for assistance. Councilman Cates moved to approve a part-time worker for Senior Citizens for serving, as needed basis, Councilman King 2nd and carried. (This will come before Senior Citizen board and they will notify the city of action.)

New Business –

1. Appointments for 2015 – Mayor appointed to Senior Citizens Board – Billy Mitchell, Frank Mitchell, Clifford Towles, and Katy French. Councilman Maxwell moved to approve and stated appointments to the Vilonia Senior Citizens Board, Councilman King 2nd and carried.
2. Mayor Appointed as follows – Prosecuting Attorney: Marcus Vaden, City Attorney: Danny Rasmussen, and Vilonia Police Chief: Brad McNew. Councilman Maxwell moved to approve above stated appointments, Councilman King 2nd and carried.
3. Planning Commission – Mayor appointed to Vilonia, Planning Commission the following: Trey White, Brad Fisher, Jeanna Branson. Councilman Maxwell moved to approve the appointment of Trey White, Brad Fisher, Jeanna Branson to the Vilonia Planning Commission, Councilman King 2nd and carried.
4. Award of contracts at city park – Mayor reported on bid openings. Next phase will be actual construction of park.
 - a. First contract to approve is contract #1, which is irrigation, sod, seeding, and installing of infield materials. The low bidder was Cardin Farms of Perryville, AR, low bid of \$104,565.50.
 - b. Second contract to approve is contract #3, for lighting and electrical. The low bidder for contract #3 was Centech Services of Mt. Vernon, AR, low bid of \$282,000.00.
 - c. Contract #2 for fencing, dugout, and bleacher covers is on hold at this time due to bid amounts were a little over what was anticipated. They will try and negotiate on prices.

Mayor requested approval for contract #1 and contract #3 and stated bid amounts of \$104,565.50 and \$282,000.00. Councilwoman Clements moved to approve the bids for Contract #1 – Cardin Farms in the amount of \$104,565.00 and Contract #3 – Centech Services in the amount of \$282,000.00. Councilman King 2nd and carried.

5. Resolution 2015-1 – A Resolution Commending Long Serving Members of the Vilonia Planning Commission for Their Contributions to the City of Vilonia, Arkansas. Resolution 2015-1 was read, as written, Councilman Maxwell moved to approve Resolution 2015-1 as written, Councilwoman Clements 2nd and a voice vote was taken (Heslep – Yes, Cates – Yes, Clements – Yes, Maxwell – Yes, King – Yes, and French – Yes). Resolution 2015-1 approved. (6 votes – Yes, 0 votes – No)

6. Ordinances for property donated to city – Ordinance 2015-1: Be it enacted by the City Council of the City of Vilonia, Arkansas – An ordinance to be entitled: An ordinance Accepting Real Property and Establishing A city Park, and For Other Purposes (Parkwood Meadows Subdivision). Ordinance 2015-1 read, as written, Councilwomen Clements moved to suspend the 2nd and 3rd reading of Ordinance 2015-1. Councilman King 2nd and voice vote taken (Heslep – Yes, Cates – Yes, Clements – Yes, Maxwell – Yes, King – Yes, and French – Yes). Motion carried. (6 votes – Yes, 0 votes – No) Councilwomen Clements moved to approve Ordinance 2015-1, as written, Councilman King 2nd and voice vote taken (Heslep – Yes, Cates – Yes, Clements – Yes, Maxwell – Yes, King – Yes, and French – Yes). Ordinance 2015-1 approved, as written. (6 votes – Yes, 0 votes – No)
7. John Fowlkes – Land for Park – Joh Fowlkes presented drawing of proposed park area located off Green Valley Loop and Linda Lane, which is north of First Baptist Church. The part in the middle is about 1.5 acres and 3 entrances into area, that are 18 feet wide. No decision requested regarding situation at this time. Mayor responded they will discuss situation and decide on what to do at a later date.
8. Councilman King brought to attention the possibility of getting some safe rooms located across city, if possible. FEMA had mentioned the idea of a community safe room located across the area. This situation will be checked into further.
9. Sandy Towles and Martha Martin with VDRA gave an update on their activities on the Habitat for Humanity Homes being constructed. They also reported on the assistance they have provided for various people affected by the tornado and others services for the community. They requested permission to re-build their office (VDRA) back on the slab that was left at old city hall. They have obtained donated help for rebuilding of the building and also for materials being donated. Discussion held regarding situation. Councilman Maxwell moved to allow VDRA to build a building on the old city hall site, Councilman Kind 2nd and carried.

There was no further business.

Councilman King moved to adjourn, Councilman Maxwell 2nd and motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.