

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council April 19, 2016

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 March–Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd, and the motion carried.

Approval of financial statement for March – Councilman Cates made a motion to approve, Councilwoman Clements 2nd, and the motion carried.

Announcements – The Mayor reminded everyone that the Veterans Motorcycle Group will be this Saturday the 23rd starting from Gravel Ridge at Gregory Polaris and arrive at the Veterans Museum at 11:15 a.m. He invited everyone to come out and support our veterans. Councilwoman French express her appreciation to the city for the plant sent to my husband's funeral. Also she had special thanks to Steve Austin. She said she was still talking to 911 and Steve was already in my house. After that Don Tackett and fireman were there so I was never alone. She also thanked Chief McNew, Tony Hartwick, James Bell, and Steve Austin in supporting us to the cemetery. The Mayor mentioned also that next Wednesday 27th (second year anniversary of the tornado) there will be a special dedication for the new storm box at 2:00 p.m.

Fire Department –Keith Hillman reported that so far this year we have had 250 runs. He mentioned we need to get some AEDs(Automated External Defibrillator) at the ball parks just in case anything happens. He stated we were cleaning up in our storage area, we had some old AEDs that were out of service for us to use. Keith said he had called the sales rep. today to see if we could still use them. The sales rep. said we could still use them and could still get parts for them so we are going to donate these 2 AEDs to the parks. He further stated the Fire Department will be doing the training for the employees on how to use them.

Planning Commission –No report given. The Mayor asked Marshall Smith if he knew of anything coming up. Marshall said last month's meeting was cancelled, so this month we may have a meeting. The Mayor said we will call the meeting tentative.

Police Department –Chief McNew said they were still working on ALEAP. You know you have the policy in front of you, but there is a lot of things that goes with that. Hopefully we will get these things completed by year end. I know we will have an inspection before that. The Chief said he wanted to get the council to approve purchasing 2 vehicles taking the cost out of ACT 209 money. Nothing would come out of the general fund. With the vehicles fully equipped the amount would be \$43,900.00 each totaling \$87,800.00. There is \$102,000.00 in that fund. These would be Ford SUV Explorers. Councilwoman French asked if the Police Department was still putting money back in the ACT 209 fund. The Chief said yes every month from \$800.00 to \$1,000.00. Councilman Cates made a motion to approve 2 Ford Explorers vehicles from ACT 209 fund for \$87,800.00, Councilman Maxwell 2nd, and the motion carried.

Parks & Rec-VSA –The Mayor mentioned that Allin was working his regular job and could not be with us tonight. The Mayor read from written agenda Allin had supplied to the council.

- (a) Since the season has started we have brought in around \$8,000.00 off the concessions.**
- (b) We have brought in \$3,850.00 off banner sales.**
- (c) Field workers and concession workers have been selected and started working this past week.**
- (d) All of the softball complex has been completed and is fully functional. In the future we will be placing a more permanent fencing where you see orange construction fence currently.**
- (e) Baseball complex is under construction currently but we have 2 fields completed, the 15u and 12u, that will allow us to schedule and play all the age groups at home now.**

- (f) 8 and under tournament went very well, everyone complemented the park and the kids had a blast.**
- (g) Advertisement and selling of banner space on complex fencing is still continuing.**
- (h) Logo contest is still continuing.**
- (i) Working on setting up benefit kick tournament for Jerry Roberts/ Wayne Hartness. We are going to try and have it May 21st.**
- (j) I am currently trying to talk and get together a program for an adult coed softball league.**
- (k) I want to give special tanks to Trisha, Kira, Amanda, and all of our hourly workers for all the help and effort they have put into this season so far, without them this would not have been possible to get a successful park and recreation program together and running.**

The Mayor complemented Allin for his hard work. Councilwoman French mentioned the parking problem at the soccer field and also softball field. The Mayor said we are looking to have extra parking across the street in that field.

Chamber of Commerce – No report given.

Code Enforcement –Keith mentioned the Fire Department will be hosting a blood drive May 6th at city hall from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Keith reported he gave out 42 violations in March, so far this month the total is 28. He referred to a hand out of building inspections (11) being slow due to wet spring, but should pick up in the summer. Also he said he attended the Faulkner Solid Waste Management meeting today and their going to have an e-waste drive at the Recycling place (JSI) in Conway April 22nd and 23rd. He also said May 3rd and 4th. he will be attending a training school in Alma.

Senior Citizens –Councilwoman reported that the Dominos, Rook, and Skip Bo tournament brought in a little over \$7,200.00. Their super sponsor was Woodmen of the World who donated \$1,000.00. Other sponsors Keith's, What's For Dinner, Smoking Buns, Vilonia Realty, Gordons Financial Services, Sawbucks and Webco Mining. She also wanted to mention some ladies who at every fund raiser these same ladies, organize, plan and run it. They work hard and I think they need special mention, Sue Briley, Bernice Fulmer, Margaret Millikin, Ruby Victory, Linda Wallace, Nell Waddell, Virginia Northington, Jackie Lawrence, Charlotte Williams, also Monk Osier and Skip Cates. She mentioned Debra Robinson came to the Rook Tournament and said their going to start paying the part time worker through the center in Conway. The Mayor said he knew about this and had talked to Debra. He also appreciated Councilwoman French recognizing those names who volunteer as we are blessed to have people who step up.

Sewer Department – The report was given in written form dated February 16, 2016 and March 15, 2016. Financial statement 2-1-16 thru 2-29-16 and March 15, 2016.

Old Business – None.

New Business

(A) Water Board Appointment—The Mayor said he wanted to reappoint Howard Williams to another term on the Water Board. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilwoman French 2nd, and the motion was carried.

(B) Resolution – VPD Policies and Procedures – The Chief wanted to hi-lite a fiscal fitness program. We'll be sending one of our guys to get certified to be a trainer this year. We'll start the evaluation around the end of this year but not making it count until next year. The Mayor asked Marshall Smith to read the Policies and Procedures Resolution. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve VPD Policies and Procedures Resolution. Councilman King 2nd. The Mayor did a voice vote, all 6 council members voted yes, and the resolution was passed.

(C) Proclamation for National Preservation Month –The Mayor read said proclamation and stated he would sign the proclamation today April 19, 2016.

(D) Concession Stand Bid – The Mayor said he wanted to hold up on that bid. He stated he wanted to wait as there was more work to be done on the bid and price and wanted to wait for a later time to bring this item up. He said we may have a special meeting called next week to consider this item. Councilwoman French asked which field, the Mayor replied the baseball field.

Councilman Cates mentioned the motorcycle ride this coming Saturday was also the grand opening of Keith's. There will be a lot going on. Hot Dogs and refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to stop by.

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

Mayor

Recorder/Treasurer

Date_____