

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council

November 17, 2020

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

Meeting Prayer: Lead by Jim King

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Preston Scroggin.

Established of quorum.

Approval of October 20, 2020 Minutes: Motion of approval made by Councilman Joe Maxwell, seconded by Jim King, no discussion, motion passed.

Approval of October, 2020 Financial Statements: Motion of approval by Councilman Jim King, seconded by Kathy French, no discussion, motion passed.

Announcements: Cares Act Funding. We have been awarded the Cares Act Funding in the amount of \$150,284.00 this money will be ear marked to make up expenses during the shutdown time for the city.

Reports of Boards and Committees:

Emergency Management, planning commission, Fire Department: Keith Hillman gave the report. The Fire Department has done about 800 runs this year to date. This number is down from last year at this time. They have 3 people in arson training class.

Code Enforcement: We are still getting grass calls. Building permits have slowed down a lot due to increase cost in building materials.

Planning Commission: The planning commission will not meet this month as nothing is on the agenda.

Police Department: Brad McNew reported that the new car should be here next week. The part that we were waiting for came in and is being installed. Officer Moody should be out patrolling on his own in a few weeks. This will help the force a great deal. The Chevy police car is broken down again and is going in for repairs. A new officer will be joining the force in January 2021. He will attend the academy shortly after joining our force. His name is Jordan McDaniel. The motion to officially hire Mr. McDaniel was made by Joe Maxwell and seconded by Jim King. No discussion, motion passed.

Parks and Recreation: Logan is attending a baseball training camp that the Vilonia's baseball Coach Wallace and the baseball team have been hosting. Ground work continues to be done at the parks to get them in shape for the spring season.

Chamber of Commerce: Shawntel Brown reported that the Chamber Business of the month is El Rancho. The Chamber will also be hosting Small business Saturday, on November 28th. The Chamber will be hosting a contest for this event. A business survey has been sent out to all small businesses on the effects of COVID has had. The Chamber will host their public board meeting on December 3, 2020 electing new board members.

The Veterans Museum had a great turn out on November 7th in honor of Veteran's Day. They will also be hosting a buggy ride and visit with Santa on December 3, 2020. This is a free event.

Senior Citizens: The center continues to be closed due to COVID. They are serving meals 3 days a week in a drive thru fashion.

Sewer Department: Brandon reported that the plan for the sewer expansion has been sent to the health department for approval. Plans to begin construction will begin in 2021. There were 94 man holes that need to be repaired. The group that finished all the camera work did a google map of all the man holes for the city.

Old Business: None

Simpson Street has been paved. The county helped with this project a great deal. The cost is approximately \$82,000.00

The bridge work is still on track for January 2021.

The mayor reported that he went to a meeting for state grant for street improvements and he felt good about the meeting. We will wait and see if we get the grant.

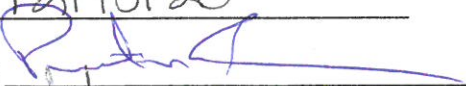
The Boy Scouts presented a project they had worked on for retiring old flags. Nate and Will worked on this project by doing chores raising money for supplies they needed to refurbish old paper boxes not being used by the paper companies anymore. The young men painted and designed the boxes and placed one at the Veterans Museum and the other box was presented to the city of Vilonia. The scouts will maintain and manage the proper destruction of the old flags. They did an amazing job. To date they have collected over 300 flags for this project.

AML dues in the amount of \$23,197.05: The motion to pay was made by Joe Maxwell and seconded by Jim King. A brief discussion on the cost and that is was an increase from last year. The motion passed.

The mayor asked the council to do a one-time wage adjustment for fulltime employees in the amount of \$500.00 and \$200.00 for part time employees. No discussion the motion to pass was made by Jim King and seconded by Joe Maxwell.

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

Date: 12/15/20

Mayor: 

Recorder: Sherry Clements