



**Meeting Minutes
Vilonia City Council
July 21, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.**

The Vilonia City Council meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor James Firestone.

Mayor Firestone welcomed Marshall Smith as the new Recorder/Treasurer.

Members present: Clay Heslep, Skip Cates, Sherry Clements, Joe Maxwell, Jim King, Kathy French.
Absent 0. A quorum was declared.

Councilwoman Clements moved to approve the June 16th minutes, Councilman Cates 2nd and the motion passed.

Councilman Cates moved to approve the June financial statement, Councilwoman Clements 2nd and the motion passed.

Announcements – Mayor Firestone mentioned that Harp's has bought the property where the old shopping center was and said the store will be built similar in size to the Conway store and would use the entire floor space where old shopping center was located.

Fire Dept. – K.C. Williams reported 386 runs, fire fighters are continuing to train. Currently there are 11 new firefighters going through a course for rescue. He and Keith recently got back from training for Inspector 3.

Planning Commission – Approval of the new Harp's store will be on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting.

Police Dept. – No report was given.

Parks & Rec./VSA – No report was given.

Chamber of Commerce – No report was given.

Code Enforcement – Keith Hillman stated 7,805 calls on grass Violations, he continued to correspond with owners on this subject. He mentioned several building permits were issued (12 residential, 3 tornado and 6 storage building. Councilman Heslep asked Keith if he could be certified in electrical wiring to check new homes being built up to code. Keith commended he felt he could.

Senior Citizens – Councilwoman French said A/C leak in exercise room is now taken care of. Mayor stated he had someone coming in next week to check the floors that were damaged by water leaks. Councilwoman French stated Miss Nell would be back next week and her operation was successful. She mentioned that a quilting session would be going on for men and women to learn how to quilt. Mayor

stated he appreciated Councilwoman French for being the liaison between the Senior Center and the City.

Sewer Department – Report was given in written form dated May 19th and June 16th.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Ordinance 2015-5 Pulled from Agenda, will present again at a later date.

Soccer Equipment – Mayor stated all equipment was lost in the storm. He mentioned several goals back stops, nets, lights, benches for a total of \$15,612.00 Motion made by Councilman Maxwell to approve, Councilwoman French 2nd motion passed.

Approval of Grading Contract for Baseball Park – Councilman Maxwell made the motion to approve the low bidder WK Contractors for \$105,399.10, Councilman Cates 2nd and the motion passed.

Resignation of Marty Knight – Mayor stated he had received an e-mail from Marty resigning from the Planning Commission due to he and his family selling their home in Vilonia and moving to Conway. Mayor further stated Marty still would like to be involved in “Rebuilding Vilonia” The Mayor will discuss more with him on said subject. Mayor recommended that Angie Rios be appointed to fill this vacancy. Councilman King made the motion to approve, Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion passed.

Approve Repairs to Senior Citizens Building – Mayor stated that water got into the kitchen, walls were damaged etc. We only received one bid from Mallard Contractors for \$2,750.00. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd, Councilwoman French said a small water heater is needed. Mayor said it would be added to the cost. The work will be done this coming Saturday. Motion passed.

Implementation Task Force – Devin Howland – Devin was absent. Kira read an e-mail from Devin concerning the Task Force. The Mayor commented that the work is just now starting in reaching the goals for rebuilding Vilonia, Mayor Firestone recommended the following be appointed to said task force – K.C. Williams, Melanie Gentry, Melissa Jenkins, Jim King, Clay Heslep, Angie Rios, Amanda Norwood, support would include Devin Howland and Kira Livingston. Councilwoman Clements moved to approve, Councilman Maxwell 2nd motion passed.

Contract Approval Industrial Park Drive Extension – Councilman Cates made a motion to approve the low bidder WK Contractors \$208,855.72, Councilman Heslep 2nd motion passed.

Proclamation – Harold Steelman – Mayor stated Mr. Steelman made a major contribution of the Traveling Museum of Arkansas to the Veterans Museum in Vilonia. Mayor read the Proclamation. All citizens are encouraged to recognize August 8, 2015 as Harold Steelman Day.

Approval of 2015 Salaries (rates of pay) to be effective December 21, 2014 due to the pay period being in both 2014 & 2015. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd and the motion passed.

Web Site Update – Kira gave a report concerning the web site. The web site is www.cityofvilonia.net . This site will provide information to residents, city employees, and other site visitors. This site contains: Codes and ordinances, elected officials, zoning and regulations, community events, department information, city and department galleries, city maps, zoning-ward and city boundaries, city council and planning commission, staff directory, other information links include: Engage Site Visitors – report a concern, alerts and certifications, staff directory, agenda and minutes, what’s going on in Vilonia, recovery highlights, visiting Vilonia. Also a site called Economic Development which includes – economic development, available sites-under construction, business testimonies-under construction. Cost to maintain is estimated at \$500.00 to 600.00 per year. Councilman King encouraged all commissions and committees to use the site.

Ruth McKennon - Mowing ordinance – She reported residents not mowing their yards on a regular basis, lawn clippings left in the streets, also she complained that grass debris and limbs could not be picked up. It was mentioned that the only solution now was to get a barrel to burn said items in. She was informed to continue to call Code Enforcement for lawn violations.

Motion was made by Councilman King to adjourn meeting, Councilwoman French 2nd motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned.