

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council September 20, 2016

The Vilonia City Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor James Firestone.

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

Approval of minutes from meeting in August—Councilman King made a motion to approve, Councilwoman French 2nd and the motion carried.

Approval of financial statement for August--Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried.

Announcements –The Mayor mentioned on the table on the east wall the First Assembly of God brought some drinks, cookies and cake for refreshments. After our meeting you are invited to stay and have snacks and fellowship. They also provided breakfast to city hall about a month ago. We certainly appreciate the church.

Emergency Management –Keith reported that the fire department is up to 518 runs which is about 8 more than this time last year. We have a gentleman coming in October 14th from Oregon that will be teaching a National Fire Academy Class. We have people coming from all over the state to attend. It will be a Saturday and Sunday class totaling 14 hours.

Code Enforcement -Keith said the grass is getting shorter finally. Windstream did take down their old building, cleaned up the property which looks good. Keith also said he had talked to Mr. Grissom at 997 main street. He's gotten 2 of the cars moved out. I talked to him again on Monday and he is slowly getting the cars out. Keith stated he's working with Chief of Police on another issue on Naylor Road. Building construction has slowed down somewhat. Harp's is coming along good. Councilwoman French asked about some street lights out. Keith reported Energy came and fixed said lights. Councilwoman French also asked about the cleanup of some of the Jones property. Keith said their bush hog was broken. It is now fixed and they will be cleaning up all their properties across town.

Planning Commission – Keith reported said commission approved Charlie

Weaver's new shopping center on the bypass. Two items this month coming up is (1) ARcare is coming back as they didn't know to send out notices to area residents concerning their building being built. They have now completed this. (2) Baileys BBQ is coming back to get approval for their food/vendor business.

Police Department –The chief mentioned the problem of possible speeding on Weaver Circle in Quail Hollow subdivision that he had set up a tracker counter on speed. I set it up on August 26th at noon and took it down on September 1st at noon. There was a total of 791 cars that went through during that time period. With a speed limit of 20 mph there were 121 doing 26 to 30 mph, 23 doing 30 to 35 mph, 2 doing 36 to 40 mph, 1 did 41 to 45 mph, 1 did 46 to 50 mph, 1 did 51 to 55 mph, 2 did over 65 mph. The Chief said in his opinion there is not enough abuse to put the resources there to write tickets. As part of ALEAP that we are doing since March we are logging all of our calls. Over first 6 months we have averaged 579 calls. The last thing I wanted to bring up is (as you know) we have an open spot. We have advertised and interviewed and tested, done backgrounds. We have Mr. Jordan Stocks that we would like to hire to fill that vacancy. He is a certified officer so we don't have to send him to the academy. We will do some training where he will be with the other policemen. Councilman King asked a question if we controlled anything on the bypass. The Chief said yes. Councilman King said a trooper told him that we have a lot of high speed problems on said bypass, The Chief said we have worked it some and it was not uncommon for us to write several tickets running 90 mph plus. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to hire Mr. Stocks as a full time officer to fill said slot, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried.

Parks & Rec-VSA –Director Allin Crawford was not present at the meeting but he gave a written report which the Mayor read.

- 1. The main priority and focus is to complete the baseball complex and get it completely built and ready for the 2017 season.**
- 2. The fall soccer season has begun.**
- 3. We will be hosting some tournaments this fall at the Mt. Olive complex.**

- 4. We will be working with other programs and cities to build a good alliance and work relations for next year's program.**

Chamber of Commerce – No report given.

Senior Citizens –Councilwoman French reported that the breakfast and flea market is coming up on October 8th from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. They will accept any donations of eggs, milk, orange juice or money to purchase things they need for it. You can also donate items for the flea market. She thanked the ones who brought the sand. She also asked if there is any way to build a walkway from the Fire Department parking lot to Fred's parking lot as these are older people who cannot walk a longer way around. They need a shorter distance to walk. Councilman Maxwell asked if we need a motion. The Mayor said we need to take a look and see what is involved. Councilman King said we would probably have to get Fred's approval since the walkway would be on their property but saw no problem in getting their approval. The Mayor asked for a committee. It was decided Councilwoman French, Councilman King and Maxwell would serve and report back to the council next month on what is needed.

Sewer Department – The report was given in written form dated July 19, 2016 and August 16, 2016. Financial statement 7-1-16 thru 7-31-16 and August 16, 2016.

Old Business – None

New Business –

(A)Vilonia Tornado Memorial -VHS EAST – The Mayor welcomed Jacob Hogan, David Reyes, Devin James, and Seth Arendall to our meeting. They have a project and would like to present to the city and get our thoughts on it. Their looking to build a memorial for the 2011 and 2014 tornados and victims. They are going to do a presentation. Said memorial will have 2 columns with plexiglass case in the middle. In the case will be items from people that have died and items that were found from the tornado and will be a memorial to those who lost their lives and the tragedy that happened in the city of Vilonia.

The locations that were mention was the baseball field in an open spot, or the Senior Citizen Building close to the flag pole. We're not sure about the cost for cement, brick with names of victims. Plexiglass, etc. The memorial would be 9 feet long with 2 X 4 columns on each side with 5 feet of plexiglass. On the back the columns will be slanted 4 feet in the back, 3 feet in the front, the plexiglass will be 5 feet long and 4 feet deep. We talked to the maintenance director James Ellison this afternoon for a rough cost as the city may want to support us. He gave us a rough estimate of \$3,000.00. We think we can get it lower than that. We feel like this project will raise pride in our community. We would also list the business and individuals who donated. We want to start as soon as possible and finish somewhere by the 1st of December.

The Mayor asked the group to send him pictures and dimensions of the project as I feel some of the builders may want to donate material. I feel this project will be worthwhile to do and I feel we can get the costs down. The Mayor liked the idea of putting the memorial over by the baseball park. More people can see it there and the park is a memorial park. It was generally agreed by the council to place said memorial at the baseball park.

(B)Proclamation – Go Pink for the Cure -The Mayor wanted to do a Proclamation at this time naming October 7th, 2016 as “GO PINK FOR THE CURE DAY”. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month to bring awareness for the Susan G. Komen Foundation designating this date to bring importance of Mammography testing.

(C)Resolution – Project Shelter Fund -Resolution 2016-6 was read by Marshall Smith whereas the City of Vilonia has \$548.04 that was set up with donations from Area Merchants for the use during emergencies. This account will be closed and this amount will be donated to the VDRA for use to aid Citizens of Vilonia Area in their time of need. A check will be cut from the Project Shelter Fund Account to the VDRA for the amount mentioned above and will close the Project Shelter Fund Account. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve, Councilman King 2nd, voice vote was taken and the motion

carried. Councilman King put in a good plug for VDRA. They are doing a lot of good positive things for our community. Their teaching classes and we need to make others aware if they have good projects VDRA can help, let them know.

(D)Discussion on Mobile Food/Business Vendors -Proposed Ordinance. -The Mayor mentioned this proposed ordinance is for your consideration. No action will be taken tonight. Everybody look it over, if you have questions or if you want to have a special meeting to discuss please call. We will try to bring it back in October for a vote. The second sheet is an information sheet.

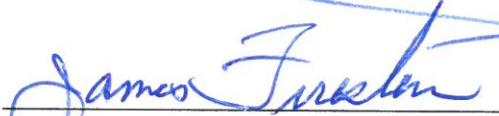
(E)IT Disaster Recovery Plan -The Mayor said this is something that we were required to have. This plan gives contacts in case of disaster, phone contacts, etc. This is a formal plan that we need approval. Councilwoman French made a motion to accept the IT Disaster Recovery Plan, Councilwoman Clements 2nd and the motion carried.

(F)Clint Tucker – Discussion on Ball Tournaments & Food Trucks – Clint wanted everyone to know “What’s For Dinner” is hosting ball tournaments. October 7th & 8th “Swinging For Veterans” proceeds will go to the Veteran’s Museum. He needs input from the community on whom to honor next June (Pay It Forward Tournament) so I won’t have to go around trying to find the honoree. October 21st 22nd will be a “Guns & Hoses” tournament with the proceeds going to Vilonia Police and Fire Department. Next year the proceeds from this tournament will go to another small town recommended by Police & Fire that need the money. Next spring I have the park reserved for 8 tournaments. Clint asked to put said tournament dates on the city web site so the public can be informed. The Mayor said get him the information and it will be done.

(G)Kubota Track Hoe – The Mayor said this equipment is getting a lot of hours on it. Matt and I were looking at the possibility of trading and upgrading to a new piece of equipment. We got prices from Fiser Kubota and Capital Equipment. Capital was \$915.00 cheaper. They gave us \$21,000.00 trade in. Fiser

offered \$20,000.00. The Mayor recommended that we purchase from Capital Equipment. We have a lot of projects coming up this coming year. The total price is \$68,035.00 less trade in of \$21,000.00 leaving net total of \$ 47,035.00. Councilman Maxwell made a motion to approve \$47,035.00 for the tractor from Capital Equipment, Councilman King 2nd and the motion carried.

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



Mayor



Recorder/Treasurer

Date 10-19-2016