

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 26, 2020**

Mayor Pro-Tem Pam Gosline called the Regular Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. on May 26, 2020 at City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Mayor: Douglas Jeffrey

Commissioners: Pam Gosline, Don Aydelott, Britt Ferguson, Justin Marsh

Staff Present: City Manager Martin Mangum, City Attorney Jon Whitsitt, Tourism Director Amanda Lehman, Finance Director Dee Boatenhamer, City Secretary Marsha Jo Stone, Police Chief Randy Agan, Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Code Enforcement David Pilcher, Municipal Court Judge Dianne Gribble

**1. Call To Order**

- A. Declaration of Quorum – Mayor Jeffrey declared a quorum
- B. Invocation – Commissioner Marsh led the group in the Invocation
- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Marsh led the group in the pledge to the United States Flag and to the Texas Flag

**2. Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Commission meeting held on Regular Meeting held on April 28, 2020.
- B. Approval of the Finance Investment Report, Vouchers, Payroll and Benefit Expense for April 1, 2020 to April 30, 2020.
- C. Approval of other Department Reports

Commissioner Aydelott moved to approve the consent agenda.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**3. Public Comment - None**

**4. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action accepting Mayor Douglas Jeffrey, IV resignation**

Mayor Jeffrey read the following letter:

To the Citizens,

It has been an honor serving the people of Vernon over the past two years. When Molly, the children, and I first decided to run we said we wanted to leave it better than we found it. We've done that. Businesses opened at an unprecedented rate, citizens have options like none before, our City finances have never been better- from passed audits to balanced budgets. Vernon is better because of the work we accomplished. On a personal note, I voted to keep the effective tax two years in a row and fought for disciplined conservative governance. On the council we didn't always vote together, but I always felt we were rowing in the right direction. Each of you want what is best for Vernon, and I thank you for your service. The decision I've made is a lot easier knowing we have an outstanding team

of City employees led by one of the finest City leaders I've ever known. Thank you, Marty. We have all these great things going for our town.

And then COVID-19 happened and our society ground to a halt. Governor Abbot rightly encouraged local election officials to postpone their elections until November. Citizens were left wondering what the Government was going to do. Candidates for all types of offices were left in limbo if they had an opponent. For those that didn't, it was going to be a long few months.

We started this whole journey with the understanding it would be for one term. That was a campaign promise. Today marks the end of that term, and while I could legally stay on until November that would be robbing the next Mayor of vital time. It would not be fair to let the disease win, and that is why I am proud to say, effective immediately I am resigning as Mayor of Vernon. Pam, I want you to have every opportunity to continue the great work we did during my term, and I want you to have a full term to accomplish great things for our City. May God Bless you and our City.

Douglas Jeffrey IV

Mayor, City of Vernon

Commission Aydelott made the motion to accept the resignation of Mayor Douglas Jeffrey, IV.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote

**5. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the appointment of Mayor to fill the unexpired term**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to appoint Commissioner Pam Gosline as Mayor.

Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

City Secretary Stone administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Gosline.

Mayor Gosline stated "I received a call this week expressing their appreciation to the Parks Department for their work at the cemetery."

**6. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Resolution Number 1047 approving a Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Vernon and Wilbarger County**

Wilbarger County Emergency Management Coordinator Cody Alexander presented the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 1047**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS OF APPROVAL OF A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF VERNON AND WILBARGER COUNTY**

WHEREAS, natural hazards in the City of Vernon area historically have caused significant disasters with losses of life and property and natural resources damage; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) require communities to adopt a hazard mitigation action plan to be eligible for the full range of pre-disaster and post-disaster federal funding for mitigation purposes; and

WHEREAS, FEMA requires that communities update hazard mitigation action plans every five years in order to be eligible for the full range of pre-disaster and post-disaster federal funding for mitigation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vernon has assessed the community's potential risks and hazards and is committed to planning for a sustainable community and reducing the long-term consequences of natural and man-caused hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Wilbarger County Hazard Mitigation Plan outlines a mitigation vision, goals and objectives; assesses risk from a range of hazards; and identifies risk reduction strategies and actions for hazards that threaten the community.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Wilbarger County Hazard Mitigation Plan is approved in its entirety;
2. The City of Vernon will pursue available funding opportunities for implementation of the proposals designated therein, and will, upon receipt of such funding or other necessary resources, seek to implement the actions contained in the mitigation strategies;
3. The City of Vernon vests with the Mayor the responsibility, authority, and means to inform all parties of this action; assure that the Hazard Mitigation Plan will be reviewed at least annually; and that any needed adjustments will be presented to the City Council for consideration; and
4. The City of Vernon to take such other action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the Plan and report on progress as required by FEMA and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM).

ADOPTED this 26th day of May, 2020.

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Pam Gosline  
Mayor

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Marsha Jo Stone  
City Secretary

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve Resolution Number 1047 approving a Hazard Mitigation Plan for the City of Vernon and Wilbarger County.

Commission Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**7. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action to appoint Mayor Pro-Tem**

Commissioner made the motion to appoint Don Aydelott as Mayor Pro-Tem

Commissioner Aydelott seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**8. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Resolution Number 1048 Calling for a Public Hearing to determine whether certain improvements described herein are each dangerous structures and public nuisance**

Code Enforcement David Pilcher advised a resolution was needed to call for a Public Hearing.

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 1048**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE EACH DANGEROUS STRUCTURES AND A PUBLIC NUISANCE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Code Enforcement Director has determined that the improvements described below are unsafe buildings and dangerous structures and must be abated by demolition and removal from the premises; and

**WHEREAS**, The Code Enforcement Director has given notice of the defects to the owners of each of the buildings as required by the ordinances of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the owners whose names appear below in connection with the description of the various improvements have failed, neglected or refused to comply with such notice by the Code Enforcement Director.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** A copy of this resolution shall be mailed to the owner, agent or occupant of the premises described below at least ten (10) days prior to the date herein set for the public hearing, and notice of said hearing shall be published one (1) time in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Vernon, Texas.

**SECTION 2.** The City Commission shall conduct a public hearing on the 23rd day of June, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. in the Commission Chamber of City Hall, at 1725 Wilbarger in the City of Vernon, Wilbarger County, Texas, for the purpose of determining whether the improvements described below are each dangerous structures and a public nuisance. The owners whose names appear below or any person interested are hereby summoned to appear before this Commission at such time and place and testify as to the issue to be decided.

<u>IMPROVEMENTS AND STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>OWNER &amp; ADDRESS</u>
1. 3029 MESQUITE ST. Tax I.D. 967	All of the W ½ Blk 126 South Add.	Larry Haynes Est. No Address

**SECTION 3.** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this resolution was passed was open to the public as required by law.

**SECTION 4.** This resolution shall not be recorded in length in the minutes of the City Commission, but shall be filed for permanent record in the office of the City Secretary.

**SECTION 5.** This resolution shall be in force immediately upon passage by the City Commission.

**PASSED and APPROVED**, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_ Pam Gosline, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Marsha Jo Stone, City Secretary

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Resolution Number 1048 Calling for a Public Hearing to determine whether certain improvements described herein are each dangerous structures and public nuisance.

Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**9. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on update of 2525 Mesquite Street**

Joyce Clark, owner of 2525 Mesquite Street advised improvements have been made to the property.

Commissioners discussed the structural integrity of the house. Photos were presented to Commissioners by Code Enforcement David Pilcher showing burned wood. Commissioners were concerned the structure will not pass code.

No action was taken on this item

**10. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action to approve sale of tax property: Parcel 728001, 1311 Lamar Street to Charles and Victoria Ford for \$1,210.00**

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve sale of tax property Parcel 728001, 1311 Lamar Street to Charles and Victoria Ford for \$1,210.00

Commissioner Aydelott seconded the motion, with passed with a unanimous vote.

**11. Public Hearing regarding specific use permit at 4031 Circle Drive**

Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson advised a special use request from 4031 Circle Drive for a front yard carport was received and explained that there was not an alley and no room on either side. The Planning and Zoning Commission met on May 19, 2020 and approved the specific use request. Wilkinson advised a Public Hearing is required by the City Commission and approval.

**Public Hearing**

Mayor Gosline opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm.

No Public Comment

Mayor Gosline closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm

**12. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Ordinance Number 1760 regarding specific use permit at 4031 Circle Drive**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1760 regarding specific use permit at 4031 Circle Drive

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**13. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the certification of compliance with HB 3834 for Cyber Security Training of City Employees**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve the certification of compliance with HB 3834 for Cyber Security Training of City Employees and appoint the City Secretary as the designated representative.

Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

- 14. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action designating the City Manager to request payments from the State of Texas for federal funds appropriated pursuant to Section 601 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No 116-136, Div. V, Title V (March 27, 2020)**

Commissioner Aydelott made the Motion designating the City Manager to request payments from the State of Texas for federal funds appropriated pursuant to Section 601 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No 116-136, Div. V, Title V (March 27, 2020)

Commissioner Marsh seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

- 15. Budget Work Session**

City Manager gave an overview of the 2020-2021 budget, projections of revenue with the possibility of revenue loss due to COVID-19 and lower interest rates.


- 16. Adjourn**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

  
Pam Gosline, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Marsha Jo Stone, City Secretary

