

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2020**

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV called the Regular Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. on February 25, 2020 at City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV

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

Staff Present: City Manager Martin Mangum, City Attorney Jon Whatsitt, Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, Police Chief Randy Agan, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Code Enforcement David Pilcher, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Tourism Director Amanda Lehman, City Secretary Marsha Jo Stone

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 January 28, 2020
- B. Approval of the Finance Investment Report, Vouchers, Payroll and Benefit Expense for January 1, 2020 to January 31, 2020.
- C. Approval of other Department Reports

Commissioner Ferguson moved to approve the consent agenda.

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

3. Public Comment

None

4. Presentation from Patricia Humphrey Daughtery on the 2020 Census and discuss the establishment of a Complete Count Committee

Ms. Daughtery explained the importance of a complete count for the upcoming 2020 Census which includes federal dollars such as grants, redistricting, federal assistance benefits and education. She advised a meeting will be held on February 26, 2020 at the Wilbarger County Commissioner’s Court to establish a Complete County Committee and encouraged anyone who is interested to attend.

5. Presentation from Rick Sims – Outdoor Pavilion

Mr. Sims presented the Commission with boards showing the design for the proposed Outdoor Pavilion located 1716 Pease Street.

6. **Public Hearing – Dangerous Structures 3518 Wilbarger and 2525 Mesquite Street**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to enter into the Public Hearing at 6:47 pm

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

Code Enforcement Officer David Pilcher advised “we attempted to do this last year for 2525 Mesquite and Mrs. Clark came in and got a permit to do some work on it. Some improvements have been done but the work has stopped. The city has spent approximately \$3,000.00 cleaning up the yard and we have had neighbor complaints about the condition of the property.”

Carl Clark addressed the Commission “I am Joyce Clark’s son and I the one who is remodeling the house. She has the gas pipe approved and paid for an electrician. We would like six months to complete the work. We would ask to make payments on the clean up the City has done. The roof has been repaired. We will have the exterior painted.”

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to exit the Public Hearing at 6:55 pm

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

7. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Resolution Number 1044 Declaring that Certain Improvements described herein are Public Nuisances and requiring the taking down and removal of such improvements: 3518 Wilbarger and 2525 Mesquite**

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve Resolution Number 1044 Declaring that Certain Improvements described herein are Public Nuisances and requiring the taking down and removal of such improvements: 3518 Wilbarger and 2525 Mesquite

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

Commissioners agreed to allow thirty days to see significant improvements to the exterior of the house located at 2525 Mesquite.

8. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action to Approve Sale of Tax Properties: Parcel 1875001, 1022 Turner Street to Cornell Curtis for \$353.00, Parcel 100203, 2224 Georgia Street to Jason Mitchell for \$3,350.00, Parcel 408001, 1020 Deaf Smith to Gary Lindsay for \$51.00, Parcel 6943001, 1113 Houston to Gary Lindsay for \$51.00.**

Code Enforcement Officer Pilcher advised the two properties to Gary Lindsay needed to be pulled from the agenda item due to being disqualified.

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to Approve Sale of Tax Properties: Parcel 1875001, 1022 Turner Street to Cornell Curtis for \$353.00, Parcel 100203, 2224 Georgia Street to Jason Mitchell for \$3,350.00.

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

9. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Ordinance Number 1756 amending Ordinance Number 1748 pertaining to building permit fees**

Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson advised the accessory structures rates need to be reduced from .25 per square foot to .05 per square foot.

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to Approve Ordinance Number 1756 amending Ordinance Number 1748 pertaining to building permit fees.

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

10. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Ordinance Number 1753 regarding HB 1548 and Off Highway Vehicles**

Wilkinson advised the wording of a “roll bar” was added to the Ordinance per the Commission request.

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1753 regarding HB 1548 and Off Highway Vehicles to include roll bar or factory enclosed cab to #4.

Commissioner Marsh stated “I want to go on record saying I don’t like them.”

Commissioner Gosline seconded the motion, which passed with unanimous vote.

11. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on a proposed application for a grant with the Priddy Foundation for the construction of a splash pad**

Wilkinson advised “we recently found out the Priddy Foundation accepts grant applications for municipalities. This project was in the works so we decided to go for it. The project cost is \$200,000 and we are applying for twenty percent which would be \$40,000. The remainder of that will come from our aquatics donation fees which have a current balance of \$83,723.85. This project would not be completed until 2021 and we will still be collecting fees and possible donations.”

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve a proposed application for a grant with the Priddy Foundation for the construction of a splash pad.

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

12. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Ordinance Number 1757 pertaining to the regulation of outdoor storage**

Wilkinson advised “basically it takes the regulations we had for the past ten years in our overlay corridor district and applies it to the entire city. If you approve this we will clean it up in our zoning ordinance where it was based on zones or districts and move it to our Health and Sanitation in Code. This will give us the tools to enforce the regulations. Storage on Public Right of Ways was added.”

Commissioners requested additional time to consider Ordinance Number 1757.

No action taken.

13. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the appointment of an individual to the Main Street Board**

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve appointment of Gene Tyra to the Main Street Board.

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

14. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the purchase of a lawnmower for the Cemetery Department**

Public Works Director Darell Kennon presented the lowest bid received for a John Deere model 1570 at the price of \$22,300.00 from Quality Implement Company.

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve purchase of a John Deere model 1570 lawnmower for \$22,300.00 from Quality Implement Company for the Cemetery Department.

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

15. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Ordinance Number 1755 allowing for providing of solid waste collection for residents and businesses located within one mile outside the city limits who are also water customers of the City of Vernon**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1755 allowing for providing of solid waste collection for residents and businesses located within one mile outside the city limits who are also water customers of the City of Vernon subject to approval by Waste Connection.

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

16. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the amendment of the City of Vernon Personnel Policies**

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve the amendment of the City of Vernon Personnel Policies on Section 1103 allowing employees to have a fire arm in their locked vehicle parked on city property. It will not allow them to have fire arm on any other city property including but not limited to, city-owned vehicles and buildings and Section 804 to not allow Division Directors to accumulate Compensatory Time.

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

17. **Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on granting a request from Hillcrest Country Club to allow them to purchase water from the City of Vernon at rates commensurate to inside city limits rates**

Terry Bourland addressed the Commission "we are asking for the inside city limits water rate for the club. We provide a venue for the citizens of Vernon and school golf and tennis teams use the club. We feel this venue is beneficial to the City of Vernon and citizens. This would be used for the restaurant, club and pool."

Digital Recording on file

City Manager Mangum advised “the rate for inside city limits is \$3.40 per 1000 gallons and outside rate is \$4.40 per 1000 gallons. It would save the club approximately \$100.00 per month.”

No action taken.

18. **Executive Session** – Discussing the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property, 551.072

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:36 pm

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

Exit Executive Session

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to exit Executive Session at 7:56 pm

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

19. **Adjourn**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 pm.

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

Douglas Jeffrey IV Mayor

ATTEST:

Marsha Jo Stone, City Secretary