

Meeting of the July 18, 2023

Members present: Jim King, Steven Craig, Joe Maxwell, Mike Matos and James Firestone members present. LaCosta Beene was absent.

Meeting Prayer: Lead by Jim King

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Preston Scroggin.

Established of quorum.

Approval June 20, 2023 Minutes: Motion of approval made by Councilman Joe Maxwell, seconded by Jim King, motion passed

Approval of June 2023 Financial Statements: Motion of approval by Councilman Jim King seconded by Joe Maxwell, no discussion, motion passed.

Reports of City Departments:

Fire Department has had 616 runs year to date. The department had the water balloon parade it was a great time for the kids and some adults and they will be doing this again in August before school starts. Planning Commission will meet on the 27th of July to review a plat for a new sub-division.

Police Department: Chief McNew stated that the new car is still waiting to get the equipment in for installation. Officer Watkins is on her own now working and officer Maher is almost ready to be on his own working.

Sewer Department: Joe Maxwell gave the report this month. He reported that the work is being done on the UV installation. The plant expansion is complete only waiting on Entergy to hook all of the power up to the areas of the expansion. Mr. Maxwell stated that the contractor is cleaning up everything from the project and if anyone has any issues with this to call him so he can get this issue taken care of.

James Firestone presented for Mrs. Beene a big combined thank you for all of those who assisted in the fireworks display for the community. Space X for the fireworks show, the following families who donated to make sure this program happened: Jackie and Jamie Garrett, Billy and Sissy Jones, Charlie and Linda Weaver, Todd and LaCosta Beene, Stephen Craig for cooking and set up, Mayor Preston Scroggin the Vilonia Fire Department and the Keith and Priscilla McCord. This show is in the planning stage for next year.

Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber gave an overview of this year's accomplishments and events they have had so far. The Log Cabin Democrat was thanked for their reporting of the events had. They will have a fall festival on October 7, 2023 at the Vilonia Veterans Museum from 10:00-2:00, more information will be forthcoming. The chamber website now has the ability to pay for memberships, buy

t-shirts, and pay for booth rentals for events. It was asked if the chamber events could be placed on the city website so that the two entities can work together.

The mayor reported the funds for the Duncan Street Bridge came in on 6/29/2023 in the amount of \$126,906.27 for the project. We have applied for grants to complete the bridges on Graddy Loop and Beryl Road. A meeting was held with ARDOT about the traffic issues on highway 107 and 64 at the school. City officials and school officials met with ARDOT and more meeting will be scheduled. Church Street project work has started, this will be a long project. The extension of people wanting to speak at the meetings has been changed to cut off at 4:00 one day prior to the council meeting. Agenda items will remain cut off at noon the Friday before.

Old Business: 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2023-3 Live Streaming of all public meetings

New Business:

Bid for baseball field 3 maintenance Joe Maxwell made the motion to accept the bid and James Firestone seconded the motion, after some clarification of the funding the mayor called for a vote and the motion passed.

Resolution 2023-2-Surface transportation block grant: This was discussed at length by Trey to the council and audience. It will be an 80% federal match and 20% local match and a developer has agreed verbally to cover half of the 20% local match for the city. This is a great project for the city. We should know in November if we are awarded this grant. A motion was made by Joe Maxwell and seconded by James Firestone no further discussion. The motion passed.

Conditional Use revocation for the VILO, AR LLC Crypto site: The mayor brought this issue forward and asked for the council's decision. Joe Maxwell made motion to uphold the Planning Commission decision Jim King seconded the motion. The mayor asked for a verbal vote and all 5 members were yeas. Motion passed.

The meeting to adjourn was made by James Firestone and seconded by Jim King. The meeting was adjourned.

Date: 8-15-2023

Mayor: 

Recorder: 