

Meeting of the June 20, 2023

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

Meeting Prayer: Lead by Jim King

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Preston Scroggin.

Established of quorum.

Approval May 16, 2023 Minutes: Motion of approval made by Councilman Joe Maxwell, seconded by Mike Matos, motion passed

Approval of May 2023 Financial Statements: Motion of approval by Councilman James Firestone, seconded by Jim King, no discussion, motion passed.

Mike Matos Moved to have the agenda amended to let Tim Hunter and James Quinn speak before the conducting of regular business. These gentlemen spoke about the agenda and not being able to see what is on the agenda in a timely manner. Tim Hunter wanted to eliminate the requirement to get on the agenda and just be able to come speak at the meetings when people wanted to. James Quinn wanted the deadline removed to speak.

Reports of Boards and Committees:

Fire Department has had 530 runs. This Saturday will be the Water parade for the kids. They will be throwing water balloons and spraying water in sub-divisions throughout town. The parade route is posted on the city website. There were 2 new storage building permits and 3 residential permits issued for the month. The Planning Commission will meet on the 29th for a new subdivision final plat review and the Crypto plat review.

Police Department: Chief McNew presented the new hire Cody Maher and asked for council approval. Joe Maxwell made motion to approve and Jim King seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Sewer Department: They had no meeting this month. The sewer project should be completed in July they are hooking up the electrical operations of the plant expansion and doing line maintenance.

Parks and Recreation: There will be a Sandlot ball in the park warm ups starting at 6:30 and playing beginning at 7 p.m.

The mayor spoke about the street department needing a backhoe and one was purchased for \$70,000.00 this will be used city wide for cleanup and other issues.

Work is continuing on the Church Street project.

LaCosta Beene presented cards and cookies to the Senior Citizen Center workers. She thanked Ms. Nell and Jolene for their hard work at the center.

Chamber of Commerce: The Chamber reported that the Chocolate festival had over 126 in attendance. They are planning another Chocolate festival next year. They received a grant from Entergy for \$1,000.00 for a lap top and printer. They will have their monthly luncheon on the 20th of July at Simple Simons with Zachary Hale from Entergy as their speaker.

The mayor reported that the city was chosen for the Community Catalyst Community Program. We were chosen by UCA and by AEDC.

Old Business: None

New Business:

The mayor presented the 2021 audit and it was spotless. Mike Matos made motion to approve the audit findings and Jim King made motion to second, no discussion, motion passed.

Permission to shoot fireworks is being asked by the Beryl Baptist Church and Vilonia Church of Christ for the Fourth of July holiday. Mike Matos made the motion to approve and Jim King made motion to second, no discussion, motion passed.

The Space X Fireworks will do the community firework show at the school on the 4th at 7:00 p.m. This put on by Space X Fireworks and other families in the community.

Presentation of Ordinance 2023-2 publishing of pending business –Stephen Craig made the motion to read the ordinance by title only and LaCosta Beene seconded the motion. Mike Matos, Jim King and Joe Maxwell voted no and Stephen Craig, LaCosta Beene and James Firestone voted yes and the Mayor broke the tie and the ordinance was read by title only. Mike explained his ordinance wanting to publish city items on Facebook. Stephen Craig didn't agree with the timing section and the media platform. Mike Matos agreed to delete Section 2 of the ordinance and after more discussion, Mike Matos pulled the ordinance for a work session.

Presentation of Ordinance 2023-3 Livestreaming of all meetings Stephen Craig made a motion to read by title only. The motion was seconded by Joe Maxwell. A verbal vote was asked Mike Matos, Joe Maxwell and Jim King were no and James Firestone, LaCosta Beene and Stephen Craig were yes. Mayor broke the tie and voted yes. The ordinance was read by title only and the mayor opened the floor for discussion. Mike Matos explained his ordinance and volunteered his services to live stream all the meetings that the city has from all departments. Much more discussion was held and Mike withdrew his motion for a work session.

Presentation of Ordinance 2023-4 Noise Ordinance Stephen Craig voted to read by title only and LaCosta seconded the motion. A verbal vote was made, Joe Maxwell, Jim King, Stephen Craig, LaCosta Beene, James Firestone all yes and Mike Matos No. Motion passed. Stephen Craig presented his ordinance and explained steps to report, that this was a complaint driven ordinance, which could have a revocation of

a business license and that this ordinance only pertained to businesses not residential areas. After discussion among the members it was agreed to change the decibel from what was listed to 5 less than each decibel that was listed in the table. After much discussion the motion was made to suspend the 2nd and 3rd reading of the ordinance by Stephen Craig and seconded by LaCosta Beene, a verbal vote was asked for all yes. Motion passed. A motion was made to adopt the ordinance with the changes by Stephen Craig and seconded by Joe Maxwell. A verbal vote was asked for by the mayor and all voted yes.

Joe Maxwell presented a community dumpster packet to the council to review and to discuss at the next meeting. He explained his findings and the costs.

Public Commentary of the Crypto site was then given by 12 people in the audience all but one who had signed up to speak about Crypto in Vilonia. Each person was given 3 minutes to speak. Each person came to the mic and stated their name and address for the record.

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

Date: 7/18/2023

Mayor: [Signature]

Recorder: Sherry Clements