

Meeting of the Vilonia City Council
March 17, 2026

Members present: Mike Matos, Brady Zweifel, Joe Maxwell, James Firestone, LaCosta Beene, Steven Craig

Meeting Prayer: Led by Mayor Scroggin

Pledge of Allegiance: By all.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Preston Scroggin.

Established quorum.

Approval of minutes for February 17, 2026, meeting: Motion to approve made by Maxwell, seconded by Beene, all in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Financial Statement for February: Motion to approve made by Maxwell, seconded by Zweifel, all in favor, motion passed.

Reports of City Departments:

(A) Fire Department: Chief Jimmy Hoofman presented. Fire Department has responded to 250 runs so far this year. One building permit in February and one so far this month. Last week, school volunteers came to the fire department for their community volunteer hours. Minor work was done on the ATB Fleet Rescue One. Recently completed training: EMS training for the department; one member completed Responses to Radiological Nuclear Weapons of Mass Destruction; and three members completed Mass Facility Incident Planning and Response. Upcoming training: HAZMAT Awareness and HAZMAT Ops and Active Shooters Class.

- a. **Mayor** - The generator has been received and installed; right at \$21,300. It has automatic switch gear and runs on natural gas.
- b. **Craig** – Are all Storm Sirens operational? Mayor – yes.

(B) Planning Commission: No meeting in March.

(C) Police Department: Chief Brad McNew presented. Fully staffed, no one in training, all vehicles in operation. Will be doing some training at the beginning of next month.

(D) Sewer Department: Council Person Maxwell presented. Nothing much going on. Our system is 32 years old.

(E) Street Department: Mayor presented. Contractor for doing the streets should be here within the next 30 days.

(F) Parks & Rec: Director Chase Imhoff presented. Spring Ball starts in the next two weeks. Fields are looking good. Soccer fields have been painted. Softball starts March 31st and Baseball starts April 6th.

Public Comment: none

Announcements:

- (A) City Hall Closed Friday, April 3, for Good Friday.**
- (B) Pafford Membership Renewal for Employees** has been completed.
- (C) Senior Citizen Center Update** – Mayor announced the City will no longer allow rentals of the Senior Center. Mayor met with new director of Faulkner County Council on Aging about three weeks ago. Federal budget cuts have hit the program hard, cutting roughly \$300,000 from Faulkner County. FCCA will be providing meals at Vilonia starting in July. They are cutting staff, so it will be a quasi-volunteer situation. We have been sending one of our employees over to help and dedicated some of the budgeted money that was for the employee through the Senior Citizens over to that position to have help for Lacosta (Beene) and then what they're doing. FCCA will only be providing meals. Beene stated FCCA will only deliver meals; they will not have any employees. They will bring the same food as Meals on Wheels; it will be hot on trays. They will bring it, drop it off, and they're done.
- (D) Fund balances:** General Fund - \$204,749.97; Street Fund - \$493,484.55; Fire Department - \$92,258.70; ACT 833 - \$12,761.45; Park and Rec - \$66,756.22. We are going to start watching overtime and comp; we are full staff with the Police Department.
- (E) Vilonia Community Development Corporation (VCDC)** – still working on Eagle Fest, which will be May 16th, starting around 6AM at Weaver Family Park. We've scaled back this year, cutting the concerts, going back to the roots of the Fishing Derby and 5K. We're going to have the Farmer's Market, the Chamber's Kid Zone, keep it more festival and less concert venue. We'll have food provided so we'll have some sort of hamburgers or hot dogs to hand out. Diamond Sponsors are Centennial Bank and Comcast. Gold sponsors will be TC Works. If interested in the Fishing Derby or 5K, visit DevelopVilonia.org to sign up. Eagle Jam, a basketball 3-on-3 tournament put on by the school, will be going on at the gym.
- (F) Vilonia Area Chamber of Commerce (VACC)** – President Jackie Fowlkes presented. The banquet was very successful. The membership drive is going very well.
 - Our monthly luncheon will be this Thursday, March 19th, at 11:30am at Simple Simon's. The speaker is Sandra Cansado with Just Dance Vilonia will be our speaker.
 - We will be sponsoring the Kid Zone at Eagle Fest. We plan to still have the bounce houses but also new things as well.
- (G)** Mayor announced Entergy Arkansas has a new representative and she has greatly helped improve the local map for Entergy's lights. Beene stated if there are lights that appear out or on a timer, to report them, as they may still be operating under new-construction conditions.

Old Business:

- (A) 2026-PDO-01 Adopting Regulations for Abandoned, Inoperable, or Unlicensed Vehicles** – authored by Fire Chief Jimmy Hoofman. Third and Final Reading. Motion to read by title only made by Craig, seconded by Zweifel, all in favor, motion passed. Ordinance read by title only.
 - a. **Edited:**
 - 1) Lines 63-34: Removed “regardless of whether wrecked or inoperable, and regardless of whether currently inspected and/or registered”

- 2) Lines 95-96: Removed entirety of Subsection B, which stated "Subject vehicle not defined as an inoperable vehicle except for not having a current license may be stored in a covered carport."
- b. It was discovered the Council had been given an old version of the ordinance, without the edits. Hoofman left to make copies of the new version for the Council.
- c. Motion to pass the new version, with the removal of lines in the draft already stricken through, made by Craig, seconded by Zweifel, voice vote called, all in favor, motion passed.
- d. Motion to pass the Emergency Clause made by Craig, seconded by Maxwell, voice vote, 5 in favor, 1 against (Matos), motion passed.
- e. The ordinance passed and immediately went into effect.

New Business:

- (A) **Resolution for Amendment of 2025 Budget** – Motion to read by title only made by Craig, seconded by Beene, all in favor, motion passed. Resolution read by title only. Motion to approve made by Matos, seconded by Craig, all in favor, motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by Firestone. Meeting adjourned.

Date: 4-21-26

Mayor: 

Recorder: 