

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV called the Regular Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. on September 17, 2019 at City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Mayor Douglas Jeffrey IV

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

Staff Present: City Manager Martin Mangum, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Community Development Director David Pilcher, Finance Officer Dee Boatenhamer, Police Chief Randy Agan, 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:

Commissioner Aydelott moved to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Approval Minutes: Attached are Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, August 27, 2019 and Public Hearing held on Tuesday, September 3, 2019
- B. Approval of Finance Investment Report, Vouchers, Payroll and Benefit Expense for August 1, 2019 – August 31, 2019
- C. Approval of Department reports including Finance Report and other departmental reports August 1, 2019 –August 31, 2019.

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

3. Public Comment

Hear Citizen Comments with a Limitation of Five Minutes.

(Citizens Wishing to Comment Must Complete the Provided Form and Hand it to the City Secretary before the Start of the Meeting.)

None

4. Public Hearing on Adoption of the Budget for Fiscal Year October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020

Mayor Jeffrey called the Public Hearing to order at 6:32 p.m.

No Comment

Mayor Jeffrey closed the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.

5. Discussion, Consideration and Possible Action on the Approval of Ordinance Number 1744 approving the City of Vernon Annual Budget for October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

City Manager Mangum advised the total expenditure of \$18,515,194 which is approximately \$1,000,000 less than the previous year budget \$19,551,824.

ORDINANCE NO. 1744

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2019, AND THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2020, FOR THE CITY OF VERNON; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH BUDGETS; ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING AN OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR ALL POSITIONS AND ABOLISHING ALL POSITIONS NOT LISTED IN SAID BUDGETS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN CONFLICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1744 approving the City of Vernon 2019/2020 Proposed City Budget with a total expenditures including debt service requirements, inter-fund transfers, special revenue transfers and operational expenditures of \$18,515,194.

Commissioner Gosline seconded the motion, which passed by majority vote. 4 – Yes (Ferguson, Aydelott, Gosline, Marsh) 1 – No (Jeffrey)

6. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the Approval of Ordinance Number 1745 approving the tax roll, levying ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the City of Vernon for Fiscal Year October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020

City Manager Mangum advised the tax rate is the same as last year .56471 of that .41242 per \$100 of value is maintenance and operation and .15229 per \$100 of value is for interest and sinking to pay the long term debt of the city. Due to the increase of the value of mineral rights in the city this will generate a small amount of revenue at a 1.95% increase.

ORDINANCE NO. 1745

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2019 TAX ROLL; LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS, FOR THE YEAR 2019; PROVIDING FOR THE MAILING OF TAX STATEMENTS; FIXING THE DUE DATE AND TIME OF PAYMENT THEREOF, AND PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A REPEALING CLAUSE, RECORDING, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1745 and that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of .56471, which is effectively a 1.95% increase in the tax rate.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by majority vote. 4 – Yes (Ferguson, Aydelott, Gosline, Marsh) 1 – No (Jeffrey)

7. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Approval of Ordinance Number 1747 amending the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019

City Manager Mangum advised this is the last budget amended for the fiscal year. He advised projected revenues are \$19,546,425 and this is probably a low figure and we should have more revenue. He advised projected expenditures are \$19,551,824. Mangum advised a surplus of \$3,348 is projected.

ORDINANCE NO. 1747

**AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2018, AND
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2019, FOR THE CITY OF VERNON; APPROPRIATING
MONEY FOR THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH BUDGETS;
PROVIDING A SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL
ORDINANCES AND APPROPRIATIONS IN CONFLICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Ordinance Number 1747 amending the budget for fiscal year October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

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

8. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on condemned structure at 719 Wilbarger Street

Community Development Director Pilcher advised he had talked with the owner of the property and she decided she cannot make repairs to the building but she wants to tear it down on her own. He advised she would be given a demolition permit and give her six months to tear down the building.

No action taken due to the property being previously condemned.

9. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Resolution Number 1039 to Rescind the demolition order of 2501 Dean Street

Community Development Director Pilcher advised Mrs. Waggoner had replaced the roof and is cleaning the property.

RESOLUTION NO. 1039

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF VERNON, TEXAS,
THAT AUTHORIZES THE RESCINDING OF AN ORDER FOR DEMOLITION OF
CERTAIN STRUCTURES; AND PROVIDING FOR RECORDING AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Resolution Number 1039 to rescind the demolition order of 2501 Dean Street.

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

10. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action to Approve sale of tax properties: Parcel 420002, 2817 Luna Street to Joe Palacios for \$200.00; Parcel 1966001, 1003 Turner Street to Harold Languois for \$500.00, Parcel 6754001, 3600 Bacon to Dinorah Quintanilla for \$500.00, Parcel 6755001, 3530 Bacon to Dinorah

Quintanilla for \$200.00, Parcel 831001, 1306 Lamar to Joe Palacios for \$100.00, Parcel 716001, 2216 Dawson to Joe Palacios for \$200.00, Parcel 3861001, 800 London to Joe Palacios for \$50.00

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to approve sale of tax properties: Parcel 420002, 2817 Luna Street to Joe Palacios for \$200.00; Parcel 1966001, 1003 Turner Street to Harold Languois for \$500.00, Parcel 6754001, 3600 Bacon to Dinorah Quintanilla for \$500.00, Parcel 6755001, 3530 Bacon to Dinorah Quintanilla for \$200.00, Parcel 831001, 1306 Lamar to Joe Palacios for \$100.00, Parcel 716001, 2216 Dawson to Joe Palacios for \$200.00, Parcel 3861001, 800 London to Joe Palacios for \$50.00.

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

11. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Approval of Ordinance Number 1748 amending Ordinance Number 1087 by updating building and trade permits

City Manager Mangum advised HB 852 made it unacceptable to use the cost of the actual construction it must be based on square footage.

Community Development Director Pilcher presented the Commission with new fees at .30 per square foot and advised the rates are substantially higher.

Commissioners requested any action be tabled until the next Regular Meeting and fees lowered.

12. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Approval of Ordinance Number 1749 amending the Personnel Policy of the City of Vernon and establishing a concealed weapons policy allowing City employees to carry concealed weapons while on duty or on City property

City Manager Mangum presented the Commission with a set of guidelines for a concealed weapons policy for City employees.

Citizen Charles McArthur stated "I am truly against this because, what happens if a city employee walks up to a civilian with an attitude and they both have guns and the next thing you know we have a shooting going on. Have we ever had a city employee been shot at or threatened? The best thing to do is call the police. If shooting is going to be done, let the police do it not just any city employee. If you put the city employees in this and everybody knows they have guns you are going to cause chaos around here. If they go to someone's house to cut the water off and somebody gets mad and everybody gets mad then everyone starts shooting. I think it is a bad idea."

Citizen Rick Hardcastle stated "the first thing you need to check on is a liability policy."

City Manager Mangum advised TML Underwriters advised it would not change the city liability policy.

Commissioners discussed the matter at length and tabled action until the next Regular Meeting.

13. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action to approve nomination to serve as the City of Vernon's representative on the Wilbarger Appraisal District's Board of Directors

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve the nomination of Linda Shivers to serve as the City of Vernon's representative on the Wilbarger Appraisal District Board of Directors.

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

14. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Approval of Vernon Business Development Corporation's Budget Amendment for 2018/2019

BDC Administrative Assistant Jan Bonner advised this is a balanced budget and expenses do not exceed income.

Commissioner Aydelott made the motion to approve Vernon Business Development Corporation Budget Amendment for 2018/2019.

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

15. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on Approval of Vernon Business Development Corporation's Budget for 2019/2020

BDC Administrative Assistant Jan Bonner presented the Commission with the proposed Vernon Business Development Corporation's Budget for 2019/2020 which showed an increase of \$21,500.

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve the Vernon Business Development Corporation's Budget for 2019/2020 of \$660,000.

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

16. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on the approval of the Main Street Sidewalk Grant guidelines

Tourism Director Amanda Lehman presented the Commission with a set of guidelines for the Main Street Sidewalk Grant which has been approved by the Main Street Board.

Commissioner Gosline made the motion to approve the Main Street Sidewalk Grant guidelines.

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

17. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on closing street for a Main Street District Halloween Event

Main Street Director Amanda Lehman advised she was seeking approval from TxDot to close Main Street for a Halloween Event on October 31, 2019. Commissioners discussed closing Main Street pending TxDot approval.

Commissioner Marsh made the motion to close Olive Street between Fannin and Maiden and Pease Street between Main and Mesquite for a Main Street District on October 31, 2019 Halloween Event from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

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

18. Discussion, Consideration and Take Possible Action on request from Nadhi Sharma on the closing of Cumberland from Hwy 287 access road to Dawson from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm on September 20, 2019 for a private birthday party

Died for lack of motion.

19. Adjourn - Commissioner Gosline made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm.

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

Douglass Jeffrey, Mayor

ATTEST:

Marsha Jo Stone, City Secretary