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CITY COUNCIL MAY 19, 2014 **AGENDA**
REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM
City Hall, 1001 Bridge St. Vernonia OR 97064

Vision Statement
Vernonia will continue to build a secure and diverse economic foundation while maintaining its historic atmosphere and undying sense of community through the values of: Pride – Integrity – Respect
Mission Statement
The City of Vernonia pledges to be an ethical and responsive government using community collaboration to foster leadership and a vision for civic improvement while providing a safe, peaceful, economically viable community.

General Work Session held 6 pm – 7 pm

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Josette Mitchell

2. **Additions or Corrections to Agenda**

3. **Mayor Report**

4. **Councilor Committee Meeting Reports**

5. **Topics from the Floor/Audience Participation**
Persons addressing the Council must state their name for the record. All remarks shall be directed to the entire City Council. The Council reserves the right to delay any action requested until they are fully informed on the matter.

6. **Consent Agenda for Acceptance**
The Consent Agenda is a policy of the governing body to approve, in one motion, routine and/or noncontroversial items, which can be determined prior to the meeting.

7. **Consent Agenda for Approval**
   A. City Council Minutes May 5, 2014

8. **Unfinished Business**

9. **New Business**
   A. 1992 Bridge Street -- Sewer Line
   B. Application for Inhabiting Travel Trailer Permit – Roger Smith

10. **Business from Departments**
   A. Police Department – Chief Michael Conner
   B. City Administrator – Pro Tem City Administrator Josette Mitchell
      a) City of Vernonia Community-Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant Oregon Brownfields Conference May 2014

11. **Ordinances/Resolutions**

12. Correspondence

A. Flyer to Vernonia Citizens from City of Vernonia on Closures starting May 19

13. Items from Mayor, Councilors, City Administrator

14. Recess to Executive Session as per ORS 196.660(2)

The City Council will now meet in Executive Session for the purpose of

(h) Legal Counsel

The executive session is held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2), which allows the Council to meet in executive session for the purpose stated.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff are allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room. *Council may choose to allow other specified persons to attend.*

"A member of the news media or designee may not disclose any information from executive session, may not tape record, digitally record, and/ or video record any information to decrease the likelihood that information discussed in the executive session will be inadvertently disclosed."

15. Return to Open Session for Final Action

Adjournment

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE
Please contact the City Recorder, Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064 (Phone No. 503-429-5291) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation. TCC users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900.

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CITY COUNCIL MAY 5, 2014 **MINUTES**
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM
City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia OR 97064

Councilors Present: Mayor, Josette Mitchell; Councilors: Donna Webb, Bruce McNair, Kim Tierney and Randy Parrow
Staff Present: Chief Michael Conner; Joann Glass, City Recorder
Press: Vernonia's Voice, Scott Laird

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1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** -- Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. **Additions or Corrections to Agenda**
   Addition: Executive Session (a) Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents
   8. Unfinished Business
      B. Spencer Park update

   Councilor Parrow moved, "To accept the agenda with the additions." Councilor Webb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Proclamation – Metro West, Jeff Mathia This proclamation was not presented.

Presentation – Picnic Shelter and Restroom at Spencer Park – Scott Laird, Parks Committee President

Scott Laird presented a hand out of the preliminary drawing for the restroom and shelter. The structure will be similar to the restroom/shelter at Anderson Park. Casey Mitchell's understanding is that part of the structure does not need to be engineered and part of the structure will be engineered and stamped. Volunteers will be especially helpful with the construction of the shelter especially with the beams that will be used.

Scott let Council know that $115,000 is available for construction. The lumber is already stacked at the public works shop.

3. **Mayor Report**
   A. Recommendation from Parks Committee to approve spending of $1500 for repair of bleachers owned by the Vernonia Logging Show.

      Council consensus accepted and approved the request of the Parks Committee to spend $1500 for repair of bleachers owned by the Vernonia Logging Show.

4. **Councilor Committee Meeting Reports**

Councilor Tierney attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee. The Committee has one opening. They are looking at action items on the Hazardous Mitigation Plan and prioritizing the list. They are also looking at representatives from the stake holders to become a part of the Committee even if not voting members for the planning process.

Councilor Webb will be attending the Library Board on Wednesday.

Councilor President, Randy Parrow presided over the meeting. Mayor Mitchell temporarily removed herself from the position at the table as Mayor and sat in the audience during Topics from the Floor/Audience Participation.

5. Topics from the Floor/Audience Participation

Persons addressing the Council must state their name for the record. All remarks shall be directed to the entire City Council. The Council reserves the right to delay any action requested until they are fully informed on the matter

George Bellingham, Ridge Riders, gave to the Council copies of correspondence between attorneys and the Ridge Riders. George expressed that he was very disappointed with the Council and that they did not have the facts correct. He does not acknowledge that the lease the Ridge Riders have with the city is invalid as the letter from the attorney states. George informed the Council that he is the Chairman of the Committee of Lease and that the President of the Ridge Riders, now, is not part of the Lease Committee.

Josette Mitchell gave public notice of her intent to apply for the upcoming City Administrator opening.

Josette Mitchell resumed her position as Mayor with the Council.

6. Consent Agenda for Acceptance

The Consent Agenda is a policy of the governing body to approve, in one motion, routine and/or noncontroversial items, which can be determined prior to the meeting.

No Consent agenda for acceptance

7. Consent Agenda for Approval

A. City Council Minutes April 21, 2014

Councilor McNair moved, "To accept the April 21, 2014 City Council minutes as presented." Councilor Webb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business

A. City Administrator Recruitment – Angie Handegard, Finance/HR

Council reviewed the information from HR Outsource as they have been contacted to do reference checks for the upcoming City Administrator recruitment process. The City has used this same company in the past and the company works with other small cities as well.

Consensus of Council, polled by Council President Randy Parrow, was for Angie Handegard to move forward with HR Outsource. Mayor Mitchell did not participate in this discussion.

B. Spencer Park.

Council was given information and maps showing Spencer Park. Dr. Ken Cox and Jim Krahn were in the audience from the Vernonia School Board to answer questions or comment. Mayor Mitchell explained there will be some changes to the original plans such as the meandering paths will be done at a later time after it

is observed where the majority of people walk. The playing field will have 4" instead of 6" of compound which will help with the cost.

It was explained that the school board needs to pick the winning bidder to finish the project.

Scott Laird shared that the Parks Committee is good with the changes that are being requested.

Councilor Tierney was concerned about ADA access and if there were enough.

Dr. Cox explained that the paths were designed for ADA access and are required to be permeable. The project needs to move forward to be completed before the end of June.

Council gave consensus to approve the changes for Spencer Park and for the School District to move forward.

9. New Business

No new business was presented to the Council

10. Business from Departments

A. Police Department – Chief Michael Conner

Chief reported that he is back in the office on light duty.

Councilor Tierney expressed that she was concerned about the thefts and break in's that she has been hearing about.

Chief Conner reported that the department is working on all the leads.

Councilor Webb questioned the neighborhood watch program and heard that some areas are wanting to establish this.

Chief Conner will support this and he has spoken with several people about the process.

Chief Conner reported that the County is covering the gaps for his department as a courtesy.

B. City Administrator – Pro Tem Josette Mitchell

- The building filing transfer went well and there are four more boxes to go through.
- There was a conference call with Regional Solutions on the California Avenue match and the ODOT fund
- Job descriptions are completed
- IFA continues for the Grant for the engineering of California Avenue
- May 19 Bio-solids dredging will begin. Web Way and Anderson Park Bridge will be closed. The transfer station will be closed on the 24th. The dredging will take about two weeks. Signs will be posted and information will be put on the web page letting everyone know of the closures during this time. Waste Management will be contacted about the closures.
- The attempt to award is being sent out

The City Recorder was not able to continue recording the meeting as the memory on the recorder was full.

11. Ordinances/Resolutions

A. Second Reading by Title Only Ordinance 893 An ordinance of the City of Vernonia Codifying Title 3, Public Protection, of the Vernonia Municipal Code and repealing Ordinances 313, 520, 544, 558, 598, 599, 582, 601, 605, 644, 690, 756, 809, and 813, including resolutions that amended these ordinances.

The City Recorder read the ordinance by title only.

Councilor McNair moved, "To adopt Title 3 Public Protection." Councilor Parrow seconded the motion. Motion carried with all Ayes.

12. Correspondence

No correspondence was presented.

13. Items from Mayor, Councilors, City Administrator

Councilor Parrow questioned Council on holding a Work Session to discuss the next steps in recruiting for the City Administrator.

Council agreed that Friday, May 9, 2014 at 6 pm to have a Work Session and requested that Mayor/Pro Tem Josette Mitchell not attend this meeting.

Councilor Webb reported that Vernonia Shine day went well. There were 67 volunteers. The VCLC trim on the building is being painted by volunteers from the church groups. The street benches are all done and have been put back. Skip Goodman planed them and resealed them. Two of the benches were beyond repair. Mike Pihl has offered to donate cedar logs for more benches to be made.

14. Recess to Executive Session as per 196.660 (2)

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(h) Legal Counsel
(a) Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents

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A recording of the executive session was placed on Vernonia's Voice digital recorder.

15. Return to Open Session for Final Action
No final action was presented.

Adjournment: City Council adjourned the May 5, 2014 City Council meeting at 9:25 pm

Signed this_____day of _____, 2014

_____
Josette M Mitchell, Mayor

Attest:_____
Joann M Glass, City Recorder

City of Vernonia Community-Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant
Oregon Brownfields Conference May 2014
Power Point

Background:

In 1996 the City of Vernonia experienced what was believed to be a 100 year flood event, 11 years later in 2007 the community experienced the worst flood of the area in recorded history.

Community leaders realized this was not a 100 or 500 year event and the focus turned to moving important entities out of the flood plain.

In order to succeed to that end the first task was turning viable land outside of the floodplain into areas of redevelopment.

MOVE TO SECOND SLIDE

1. Goal of applying for grant
   In 2009 the community passed a 13 million dollar bond to initiate moving the entire K-12 school district out of the floodplain.

   Once that was up and moving the City of Vernonia focused on moving essential Social Service Programs and a local manufacturing business to high ground.

   The local health clinic, food bank, and senior center were devastated by the 2007 flood event. These three social service entities suffered greatly and realized they could not continue to service the community was another flood to happen. Currently two of these entities are scheduled for FEMA buyouts of their properties.

   Additionally a high tech business Photo Solutions was also devastated by the 2007 flood event.
   The options for Photo Solutions post flood were to find a local high ground site to relocate or move to the metro area.

   The owner of Photo Solutions was determined to stay in Vernonia, so the City made it a priority to find a high ground site for the relocation.

MOVE TO THIRD SLIDE

2. Effort in preparing the grant application
   The initial application for EPA Brownfields funds was to identify high ground areas, which in past history had been used in old industry which would require investigation.

   The City of Vernonia Public Works Committee identified potential sites for redevelopment, working with PBS the City narrowed the sites to those most likely to be useful, and determined if historical land use resulted in potential contamination. The two sites most useful and which warranted investigation were the Rose Avenue Property and California Avenue Property.

3. Type of grant awarded
   The City of Vernonia was awarded a Community – Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant for $100,000 Petroleum and $100,000 Hazardous Materials in June 2012.

MOVE TO FOURTH SLIDE

4. Projects they have funded/ expect to fund
   The first project using EPA Brownfields grant dollars, was the Rose Avenue Project, which involved a 2 acre section of land, once used as a bulk oil plant, in 2010 the City obtained an NFA for the former site of the oil plant, however the remaining ¾ of the property had not been investigated.

   The Phase 1 and Phase 2 Investigations identified petroleum lenses and other debris as the parcel had been used in the past as the post flood temporary storage of refuse to be transferred to Waste Management.

   Working with PBS, the City of Vernonia identified the problem areas and PBS developed a CMMP plan for the future developers to manage the site in relationship to the potential hazards.

   MOVE TO FIFTH SLIDE
   The second project using the EPA Brownfields grant dollars was the California Avenue Project, which involves a 7 acre section of land, once used by the Oregon American Mill.

   Sections of the old mill site had been investigated a year prior when the Vernonia School District mitigated 4 acres of wetlands in the area; however the remaining portion of the property had not been investigated.

   Phase 1 and Phase 2 investigations identified trace amount of lead and potential groundwater contamination. We are currently in the second round of ground borings and groundwater testing.

5. Project outcome
   The Rose Avenue site received an NFA letter from DEQ in February 2014. The Vernonia Health Center broke ground in April 2014, using the CMMP Plan developed for the City by PBS, the construction is moving forward.

   The City intends to apply in the fall for CDBG grant funds to relocate the Vernonia Senior Center and Vernonia Cares Food Bank to the Rose Avenue Project site.

   The California Avenue site is in Phase II testing as we speak, DEQ asked for a Level I Ecological Risk Assessment to determine if additional pathways or receptors are present at the site. Depending on what is found with this round of testing and risk assessment, the City of Vernonia will move forward to address and finalize this analysis.

   The hope is that this site will become the future home of Photo Solutions, turning an area of land that once built Vernonia as the Oregon American Mill, into a light industrial area that will continue to supply living wage jobs to members of the Vernonia community long into the future.

   MOVE BACK TO FIRST SLIDE

6. Next steps forward.
   The next steps for the City of Vernonia will be completion of the California Avenue investigation phase and hopefully a conclusion that allows DEQ to issue an NFA letter. Having these two properties investigated and cleared to move forward gives the City of Vernonia firm footing to move important social services and manufacturing entities to high ground.

   Are there any questions

ATTENTION !!

To: VERNONIA CITIZENS

From: City of Vernonia

Due to the bio solids removal project a portion of the Banks-Vernonia linear trail will be **CLOSED** to the public starting Monday, **May 19th – Saturday, June 7th**

The closed section is from Webb Way at the Lake to the Transfer Station. Citizens are asked to use the path that runs along the Transfer station road and connects to California Avenue to access Vernonia Lake.

Due to the high volume of truck traffic associated with the bio solid removal the Transfer station road will be closed to all traffic.

There will be **NO DUMP DAY SATURDAY, MAY 24th, 2014.**

Transfer Station will resume operations on Saturday, June 14th, 2014.

The City of Vernonia appreciates your cooperation and patience as we complete this necessary project.