



CITY COUNCIL JULY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM  
City Hall, 1001 Bridge St. Vernonia OR 97064

---

**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.

---

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Leonetti**

Mayor Leonetti called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Additions or Corrections to Agenda**

City Recorder Borst added to the agenda under New Business A. Scheduling of City Administrator Mitchell review.

Councilor Hult made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. The motion was seconded by Councilor McNair.

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes      Councilor Hult: Yes      Councilor Wagner: Yes  
      Councilor McNair: Yes      Mayor Leonetti: Yes

Motion carried.

**Councilor Committee Meeting Reports**

**Topics from the Floor**

**Consent Agenda for Approval**

A. City Council Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2017

Councilor Seager made a correction under City Administrator Report, Airport Road should have been Airport Way.

B. City Council Work Session Minutes for June 19, 2017

Councilor Hult would like to clarify that when speaking about Old Bridge Street she was suggesting it may be a candidate for gravel rather than asphalt at this time.

Councilor Wagner made a motion to approve the meeting minutes listed above with the correction and clarification. The motion was seconded by Councilor Seager.

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes      Councilor Hult: Yes      Councilor Wagner: Yes  
      Councilor McNair: Yes      Mayor Leonetti: Yes

Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**

A. Parks Recommendation – Smoking in Parks

Parks Committee representative, Scott Laird, presented the recommendation to Council. He does not feel as though the smoking ban will need to be strongly enforced as he sees it as being self-enforceable. The committee's main objective was to protect the area's most frequented by children (IE Play grounds, restrooms, etc). Police Chief Conner doesn't foresee the regulations being an issue as they wouldn't be high priority calls.

City Administrator Mitchell inquired as to if the committee had discussed where the designated smoking areas would be in parks with them. She proposed instead restricting these parks to no smoking within 50' of a restroom or play area. Mr. Laird stated that they hadn't really thought about where the areas would be. Councilor McNair proposed that the committee look at each park and decide where these areas would be. Mayor Leonetti requested maps with the areas clearly marked as well as proposed signage before Council makes a decision.

Consensus of Council is for staff to work with the Parks Committee to work out the logistics. They would also like to thank the Parks Committee for all of their efforts on the project.

### **New Business**

#### **A. Scheduling of City Administrator Review**

City Council scheduled an executive session to begin the review process of City Administrator Mitchell on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

### **Business from Departments**

#### **A. Police Department – Chief Conner**

Chief Conner reported that there have not been any significant events since the last meeting. The department is focusing on traffic enforcement and Jamboree scheduling. There are two applicants for the reserve position and they hope to move forward soon. The citizens whom were parking at the gravel lots have been notified. There has not been a lot of backlash.

Councilor Seager inquired about national night out and if the department has plans to participate. Chief Conner explained that the department hasn't participated in a few years. They are considering putting together the Vernonia Night Out sometime in August or September.

Mayor Leonetti would like to thank Chief Conner for his action after chatting about the gravel lot this morning.

#### **B. City Administrator Report – J. Mitchell**

City Administrator Mitchell presented her report.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant:** The Public Works Committee has planned a tour of the WWTP project for July 25<sup>th</sup>. The paving is scheduled to be done on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. The bio domes are ready and we are just waiting for USDA to sign off on the contracts, once they approve the forms the contract will be brought to Council for to authorize the Mayor signing. Once the contracts are signed we can send WCS the deposit and the bio domes will be shipped.

Councilor McNair inquired as to if there has been any change in the river temperature since we started discharging. Public Works Foreman Burch explained that the water isn't even getting to the river as it is getting absorbed in the drain fields first. The water is staying a consistence temperature in the fields as well.

**Rose Avenue Project:** The permit set is still in review by the City Planning Department. Once review is complete the architect will complete the construction bids and we will be able to post for the contractor. The environmental was completed however the CDBG staff asked for organizational revisions, we are working on those now.

**Nickerson Ridge Estates:** No correspondence.

**Spencer Park Picnic Shelter:** July 20<sup>th</sup> is the curing date for the piers. Once that is done the timber construction can begin. Construction is being done by community volunteers. Staff is working on construction schedule.

**Main Street:** Staff is working to get bids for the grinding of the stumps on Bridge Street. Public Works staff is



currently completing the painting of the crosswalks in the downtown core. Public Works will start tomorrow on placing the thermoplastic coating on crosswalks across the highway, we chose to go with this material since it last 5-7 years. The cost for the materials is roughly \$8-9,000 and will last for 5-7 years.

Staff is working on putting together paint containers for property owners to paint curbs as well. Mayor Leonetti requested staff to bring one to him tomorrow so he can start painting curbs.

**Upcoming Work Session Request:** I would like for Council to schedule a work session regarding the Cemetery house and the options Council has and would like investigated to move forward in selling or rehabilitating it. Council consensus is to hold the work session on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Lake Pump:** Staff is concerned about the way the pump is rigged in the river. It may need strengthening and additional screens added.

**Staffing Change:** The new utility billing clerk quit on Friday after 5 days on the job. Another candidate is coming in tomorrow to see if she may be a good fit.

### **Ordinances/Resolutions Correspondence**

### **Items from Mayor and Councilors**

Councilor McNair inquired about planning of a meeting with Rob Wilson. City Administrator Mitchell stated that she is waiting on confirmation from Mr. Wilson regarding his schedule.

### **Action Item Summary**

Staff will work with the Parks Committee on mapping smoking areas and developing sign samples. Staff will schedule the work session for the cemetery house discussion on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Leonetti adjourned the meeting at 7:50pm.

These minutes were approved at the August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 City Council Meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Borst, City Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mario Leonetti, Mayor