

**CITY OF VERGAS
PUBLIC HEARING
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER
6:00 P.M. on Monday, September 9, 2019**

(Reminder the Frazee-Vergas Forum is recording this meeting and all information discussed is public information)

Consider vacating Oak Street

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNCIL AGENDA
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER
6:30 P.M. on Monday, September 9, 2019**

(Reminder the Frazee-Vergas Forum is recording this meeting and all information discussed is public information)

Additions or Deletion to Agenda

Council Minutes of the August 12, 2019

League of MN Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form

Vacation of Oak Street

West Central Initiative

Planning Commission Report

2019 Street Project Update

Vergas Event Center Advisory Committee Report

Vergas Long Lake Trail Report

Utilities Superintendent Report

Use of Maintenance of City Vehicles Policy

Mayor's Minute

Otter Tail County Emergency Disaster Training – Wednesday, October 2, 6:30-8:30 pm

Financial Report

- a. Bills Paid Between Council and Council Bills
- b. Liquor Store Bills for August 2019
- c. Late Water/Sewer bills
- d. 2020 General Fund Budget
- e. 2020 Water Fund Budget
- f. 2020 Sewer Fund Budget

Information

2019 League Regional Meeting – September 26, 2019 in Perham (Bruhn, Smith, Haarstick)

**CITY OF VERGAS
PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, September 9, 2019 6:00 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met for a public hearing at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, September 9, 2019 in the Council Chambers, Event Center with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstad, Council Members Logan Dahlgren, Paul Pinke and Terri Smith. Absent: Julie Bruhn. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Shawn Day and Chad Koenen of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

The City Council of Vergas, MN meet to consider the vacating Oak Street at the neighboring property owners' expense. Shawn Day explained the location of Oak Street and his reasons for wanting to vacate the street as the property owner surrounding the street he is currently mowing.

Hearing no public comments, Mayor Haarstick closed public hearing at 6:15 pm.

**CITY OF VERGAS
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 9, 2019 6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of Vergas met in regular session at 6:30 p.m., on Thursday, September 9, 2019 in the Council Chambers, Event Center with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstad, Council Members, Logan Dahlgren, Paul Pinke and Terri Smith. Absent: Julie Bruhn. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Sheri Holm, Kathy Wouters, John Benney, Will Benney, Jill Hoffman, Keith Bunkowske, Paul Haarstick, Jay Summers, Mike Surreys, Paul Haarstick, Tory Sonnenberg, Shawn Day, Rebecca Hasse, Shane Hasse, Scott Kolbinger, Chad Koenen of the Frazee-Vergas Forum and Steve Peloquin of Peloquin Law Firm.

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the meeting to order.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Smith to accept agenda with additions Council meeting date, donation, gambling permit and city email. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Pinke, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2019 meeting with the change in the date of conference DuFrane and Neuman are attending from the 11th to the 25th of October. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to move the City Council meetings from the 2nd Thursday of the month to the second Tuesday of the month. Voting yes: Dahlgren and Pinke. Voting No. Smith. Motion passed.

Discussed City email addresses and the difficulty Council members and DuFrane is having receiving emails. They have requested emails be sent to their personnel email addresses. Peloquin addressed the importance of using City email addresses. If anyone has issues, they need to contact Paul Haarstick, our web support for help.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Pinke for the City of Vergas to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.06 accepting liability coverage limits of \$1,000,000 on a single occurrence from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Pinke to approve Resolution 2018-010 (a complete text of the resolution is part of permanent public record in the City Clerk's office.) approving donation from Zumba. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Dahlgren to approve Resolution 2018-012 (a complete text of the resolution is part of permanent public record in the City Clerk's office.) approving gambling license for the Vergas Lions on January 24, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to vacate Oak Street at property owners Shawn and Dell Ray Day's expense Attorney Steve Peloquin will file the paper work with Otter Tail County. Motion passed unanimously.

Sherri Holm of West Central Initiative provided information on West Central Initiative and how they serve the 82 communities of the region.

Pinke provided planning commission report. Kolbinger provided capital improvement plan. There was discussion regarding the 5ton road limit and the exceptions. Tory Sonnenberg stated he spoke with DOT and they said if a sign was up; no trucks over 5 tons, they would ticket everyone. Bunkowske questioned Council on if they wanted development in Vergas. With this new rule no new development will be able to proceed. Council asked Planning Commission to review. Haarstick questioned change of Ordinance 151.39 and if we wanted to include businesses as we have enough empty businesses in Vergas. We would not want to encourage 1 more business to leave town and others to not want to invest in Vergas. Council asked Planning Commission to revisit. Kolbinger asked if Council was going to pass Capital Improvement Plan. Keith Bunkowske asked why Scharf was included in the plan until development is completed on Scharf there will be no need to complete any more street work. Dahlgren questioned if the Council passed the plan if they were tied to any expenses and was told no. Motion by Pinke, seconded by Dahlgren to approve the Capital Improvement plan. Motion passed unanimously.

Engineer Scott Kolbinger reviewed 2019 street project. All new streets have ditches that home owners are having a difficult time mowing and topsoil needs to be added. Diane Avenue's water is draining onto the Hasse's property on Hill street and they cannot access their property from the road. Jill Hoffman stated some vehicles cannot drive in her driveway after the project has been completed and she has water in her garage for the first time. Rebecca Hasse stated they have been coming to meetings for months and nothing seems to be getting done. She also stated the property behind hers has not been mowed this year. Council asked Lammers to write property owners letter and have it mowed if not done. Haarstick thanked everyone for coming to Council meeting.

Lammers reviewed Vergas Event Center Advisory Committee Report.

Lammers reviewed Long Lake trail report.

Utilities Superintendent Report was given by Dean Haarstick. The flushing of the hydrants will be done late September or early October. Please watch the electronic sign for more information.

Use of maintenance of city vehicles policy was discussed and will be reviewed again next month as there were questions on the hands-free devices for City employees cell phone use.

Mayor Haarstad stated the Mayors meeting was in Underwood and next month they met here in Vergas.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Dahlgren to allow the Otter Tail County Emergency Disaster training to use the Vergas Event Center on Wednesday, October 2 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm free of charge. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Pinke to approve City bills totaling \$81,468.69 and Liquor Store bill totaling \$94,307.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Lammers presented late water/sewer bills report.

Discussed 2020 budget. Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to approve Resolution 2019-011 (A complete text of the resolution is part of permanent public record in the City Clerk's office) regarding 2020 tax levy.

Motion by Dahlgren, seconded by Pinke to approve the 2020 water and sewer budgets as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC