CITY OF VAN BUREN
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 13, 2026
Van Buren City Hall – 1401 Main Street

The City Council of the City of Van Buren met in regular session on Monday July 13, 2026, at the City Hall. Mayor John Bailiff presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Roll call by the City Clerk, with the following members present: Mayor John Bailiff, Aldermen Heath Grassham, Vince Holt, and Jonathan Hughes. Alderman Bobby Barnes not present

Others present: City Clerk Cori Pogue, City Supervisor Randall Jenkins.

Visitors present: OFRPC: Raamin Burrell

Raamin Burrell:
Mrs. Burrell gave an update on the Ballfield Upgrade Project.

- Project Scope:
  - Original proposal: Replace existing concession stand and restroom.
  - Current plan: Replace both with a brick facility similar to other ball fields.
  - The existing concession stand would need to be moved or sold.
- City In-Kind Contribution:
  - Randall needs to provide an approximate cost estimate for the city's in-kind contribution.
  - The adopting resolution currently shows "zero for cash" for in-kind services.
  - Required in-kind work includes demolishing the existing cinder block building, moving piping, and site preparation.
  - Uncertainty exists regarding the reuse of existing foundations/floors; this needs architect determination.
  - Moving the electrical pole is a significant cost factor; efforts will be made to avoid this.
  - Architect's drawings are needed to determine demolition scope (complete vs. partial) and associated costs (e.g., breaking up floors, hauling debris).

1. MOTION by Hughes, seconded by Grassham, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 07.2026 PENDING THE FINAL DOLLAR AMOUNT FOR IN-KIND SERVICES.

All in favor, motion passed.

2. MOTION by Holt, seconded by Hughes TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL MINUTES OF JUNE 15,2026 as presented.

All in favor, motion passed.

3. MOTION by Grassham, seconded by Holt, TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL MINUTES OF JUNE 29, 2026 as presented.

All in favor, motion passed.

4. MOTION by Grassham, seconded by Holt, TO APPROVE THE BILLS PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: GENERAL FUND 1-5, POLICE DEPT. 1-8, CAP IMP 1-3, FIRE DEPT. 1-3 CEMETERY. 1, METER DEPOSIT 1-3, AND W/S FUND 1-18 AND 20-21, AS PRESENTED.

All in favor, motion passed.

5. MOTION by Holt, seconded by Hughes, TO APPROVE THE June 2026 MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

All in favor, motion passed.

City Supervisor Randall Jenkins's Report:

MoDOT D Highway Work:

- MoDOT sign on D highway indicates upcoming work, scheduled to start Monday.
- Scope: Replacing culverts (across the road and on entrance roads), repaving, and shoulder widening.

Fenced-in / Inaccessible Meters

- There is a meter that is currently inside a fenced in yard and the only access is go to through the house. John said that he would talk to the owner of the house and explain that there needs to be access from the outside to be able to work on meters.

Westbrook Meters:

- **Problem**: Meters are located underneath trailers, making them inaccessible for reading or maintenance.
- **Current Setup**: Five trailers, two meter pits (each with its own meter, but under the trailer). No backflow preventers or other legal requirements.
- **Proposed Solution**: Move meters outside.
  - Cost Sharing: Suggest contacting the resident, explaining the need to move meters, and splitting the cost (e.g., city covers meter cost, resident covers line connection).
  - City Responsibility: Dig up the main, install a new meter pit.
  - Resident Responsibility: Connect their line to the new meter.
  - Challenge: Locating existing lines, as they were "teed off somewhere."

Bulk Water Rates

The clerk will call around to other towns and see how they handle bulk water rates such as trucks and campers filling up tanks.

Airport Inspection:

During the Airport inspection, it was noted that there are multiple trees that need cut down. Clerk will get clarification on exactly which trees and call Randy Vanwinkle to see how to handle that.

6. MOTION by Holt, seconded by Grassham, TO ADJOURN MEETING @ 7:54 P.M

All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

John Bailiff, Mayor

Vince Holt

Bobby Barnes

Jonathan Hughes

Heath Grassham

Cori Pogue, City Clerk