

# Vinton Today

## NEWS : Mayor requests residents to call City Hall with questions to save the City Money

By **Valerie Close, Editor** · May 1, 2023, 12:46 pm

Closing the council meeting on Thursday evening, Mayor Bud Maynard put a request out to all Vinton residents. In this year so far, he said that legal fees racked up by the city have reached around \$30,000. Rather than incurring extra expenses for the city, the mayor encourages residents to first contact City Hall with questions or concerns. Making calls to government entities outside the city usually require the involvement of the city attorney, which requires a bill for services.

He expressed concern that if this continues, he's afraid that there will have to be services cut to keep up with the legal fees. So please, call (319) 472-4707 with any questions and concerns rather than burden the city with more legal debt.

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At Thursday night's council meeting, a lengthy [agenda](#) met the council. Zipping quickly through all of the agenda topics, the council approved all the topics on the agenda. The property located at 903 B Ave. will be sent back to Planning and Zoning for discussion.

The council also approved the Rental Code Advisory Committee members which will serve at the pleasure of the mayor through the creation of a new ordinance. Those appointed to the committee were landlords John Watson, Chad Christoph and Gary McKenna. The representative for a financial institution will be Matt Johnson. The real estate representative will be Alan Michael, Council members on the committee will be Ron Hessenius and Bethany Gates. Two tenants were also appointed. The council will approve a mission statement as a guide for the committee to refer to.

During citizen's input clarification was requested concerning the Benton County Pride Event. Mike Dominick expressed concerns about what types of events would be presented as well as what vendors will be at the festival where children would be in attendance. His concern was that because the theme of the festival highlights sexuality that it should be clarified what should be expected at the festival. Sam Thompson, a member of the festival board, shared with the council that the purpose of the event was to "make it clear that not everyone in our community has an issue with an identity that makes them uncomfortable." He shared that there

would be an artist and a self-defense class as well as music. The council moved to approve the event request.

A date was set for a public hearing for the FY23 budget amendment.

In other updates, the Riverside Park construction is still being scheduled for the weekend of May 6th. Watch the [Vinton Parks & Recreation](#) Facebook page for ways that you can help.

A member of the Corbett family send a note to thank the city for their work on the water retention pond built on the former Corbett property. The family is pleased with the project.

Melissa Schwan also thanked the street department for their help to clean the area in front of city hall. She also noted that she received a scholarship to help pay for the clerk institute in July.