

# Vernonia City News...

**At the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting:**

**Council Decides to Return to Distance Meetings**

– Councilor Susan Wagner requested the Council return to distance meeting, rather than in person in the City Hall chambers. Council discussed ways to make distance meetings accessible to the public. Staff said coordinating distance meetings is less work for them. Councilor Wagner recommended meetings be held by video. Council voted to return to distance meetings for the foreseeable future by a 4-1 vote, with Councilor Bruce McNair voting against after stating he wanted more time to consider the proposal.

**Council Votes to Reduce Speed Limit on Certain Streets**

– Council voted 5-0 to approve Ordinance 923,

reducing the speed limit from 25 mph to 20 mph on Missouri Avenue; the City may reduce the speed limit on other streets by resolution. The ordinance takes effect in 30 days.

**Council Tables Electronic Records Management Contract**

– Council voted 4-1 to table an Intergovernmental Agreement for Electronic Records Management Services between the City and the State of Oregon; Councilor Susan Wagner voted against. Council asked staff for additional information on exiting the contract.

**Council Tables Policy for Water Service Outside City Limits**

– Council voted unanimously to table a vote on a new policy concerning extending new water service to property owners outside the City limits.

**Topics From the Floor** – Corrie Aiuto and Sharlena Roberts Oviatt, representing Vernonians for Racial Justice and Equality addressed the Council and explained they are a peaceful group which has organized three successful demonstrations. The group asked to work with the City Council and Police Department to make the community more safe and welcoming to people of color and other visitors. They said they would like to host structured conversations and educational meetings within the community and the Vernonia School District about racism and Vernonia’s historic and systemic racist past. The group also asked the Council to consider adopting a resolution denouncing white nationalism. (See Readers Lend Their Voices on page 4.)

**Police Blotter July 1-13, 2020**

<p><b>Reports/Arrests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 8, 2020 Arrest on a Warrant near Bridge Street</li> </ul> <p><b>Citation/Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 3, 2020 Cited for Driving While Suspended and Driving Uninsured near Grant Avenue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 7, 2020 Cited for Driving While Suspended near HWY 47</li> </ul> <p><b>Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 07/01/2020 through 07/13/2020 VPD had 68 calls for service.</b></p>
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The Transfer Station is scheduled to be open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday January - October

**July 25  
August 8 & 22**

Currently not accepting oversized items (mattresses, couches, etc.) and limiting the number of vehicles in the yard at one time.

*Dates are subject to change*

**Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures**

Please check the City’s website for details on upcoming City Council Meetings scheduled for 7:00 pm:

Monday, July 20, 2020  
Monday, August 3, 2020

[www.vernonia-or.gov](http://www.vernonia-or.gov)

City Closures are scheduled for:  
Monday, September 7, 2020  
*Labor Day Holiday*

*Dates and times subject to change*

**Cedar Side Inn**



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from opening until 9 pm  
3 hardshell or 1 softshell \$4.25

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**VERNONIA'S voice**  
reflecting the spirit of our community

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