

Town Council Action

MAY 23, 1988

- Conducted a public hearing on a proposal to remove provisions for "lot averaging" from the Town Code.
- Following a public hearing, adopted increases in water and sewer rates for fiscal year 1988-89.
- Approved a request to retain a basketball backboard in Town right-of-way on Onondio Circle, and directed that an ordinance be drafted to permit the backboard to remain on the street. The backboard is to be located between 411 and 412 Onondio Circle and safety precaution signs installed. Questions of insurance and Town liability will be investigated.
- Adopted the Town budget for fiscal year 1988-89 and set tax rates as follows: real estate, 30¢ per \$100 valuation; bank net capital, 30¢ per \$100 valuation; utility tax, 20% of first \$15 for residential and 15% of first \$300 for commercial.
- Approved the landscape plan for Anita's Restaurant, 521 Maple Ave., E., with the stipulation that the two red maple trees shown on the plan be a minimum of three-inch caliper and not less than 10 feet tall.
- Approved the final plat for the re-subdivision of the property at 511 Marshall Rd., S.W., contingent on the existing residence becoming a conforming building on its existing lot.
- Requested the Virginia Department of Transportation to continue supervising the installation of the traffic signal at Beulah Road and Church Street.
- Amended the contract for machine-laid asphalt for the asphalt overlay of MacArthur Avenue, John Marshall Drive and McKinley Street at a cost of \$27,126, from the General Fund.
- Awarded a bid for a desktop publishing system to Applied Time Division, Inc., at a price of \$8,287, from the Capital Projects Fund.

VIENNA NEWSLINE - 255-6333

JUNE 6, 1988

- Adopted an ordinance repealing provisions in the Town Code concerning "lot averaging."
- Deferred until July 11 consideration of final plat approval for West End Manor, 400 block of West Street, N.W.
- Approved the final plat for the re-subdivision of the property at 347 Beulah Rd., N.E., contingent on filing of a \$12,361.25 bond for curb, gutter, sidewalks and other off-site improvements.
- Approved the proposal by Insituform East, Inc., to reconstruct 352 feet of 12-inch sewer pipe at a cost of \$23,372.80, from the Capital Projects Fund.
- Referred to the Transportation Safety Commission requests for a four-way stop at Tapawingo Road and DeSale Street and for painting a yellow center line down Tapawingo Road.
- Accepted the proposal by Zambelli International Fireworks Manufacturing Company, Inc., of New Castle, Pa., to provide the Town's fireworks display on July 4 at a cost of \$6,000, from the General Fund.
- Amended the Town's Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to change to \$30 the per diem rate paid to individuals while on Town business.

Lawn Mower Safety Is a Must

Lawn mower accidents cause 62,000 injuries annually in the U.S. Most of these injuries can be prevented by following safety practices while working with mowers. Here are some tips for a safe lawn maintenance season from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department:

- Never smoke while refueling your mower. Gasoline is very explosive.
- Wait for your mower to cool down before refueling. Wipe up spills immediately. Never refuel a running mower.

Hughes Aircraft Honors Vega

The Hughes Aircraft Company has selected Vega Precision Laboratories, Inc., to receive its 1988 Performance Excellence Award. Hughes presents the award to companies that give outstanding service in supplying components for its products. Hughes considers the award "a symbol of tradition, progress, achievement, honor, excellence, and partnership" between Hughes and the recipient.

Vega was founded in Vienna in 1963 and was one of the first firms to occupy the Vienna Technology Park. Originally specializing in radar transponders, the company now designs and manufactures both target and reconnaissance tracking and command radar systems, interference resistant data links, location and navigation beacons, ranging systems, antennae and microwave devices, special test equipment and other special devices for target drones and unmanned vehicles. Vega systems are currently in operation on major U.S. ranges and in numerous foreign countries.

Vega employs approximately 350 people, including many Vienna residents, in engineering, design, development and manufacturing.

— Inspect electric mower cords for damage. Frayed insulation added to a metal mower and damp grass can cause lethal shocks or severe electrical burns.

— Never leave your mower without turning it off. It only takes a second for an unattended mower to cause an accident.

— Never, never reach under a mower while it is still running. Disconnect the spark plug or unplug the electric cord before reaching underneath.

— Leave blade sharpening and electric repairs to the professionals.

News from Vienna Parks and Recreation Dept.

For more information on any of the activities listed below, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department, 255-6360.

YOUTH THEATER WORKSHOP

A Youth Theater Workshop for youngsters aged 8 to 12 will be held at the Vienna Community Center July 11 through August 12 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Children will learn the fundamentals of improvisation, characterization, mime, stage direction, and use of voice and body.

The workshop will conclude with a morning dress rehearsal on Saturday, August 13, and a performance of scenes, stories, song and dance by the students at 4 p.m.

The cost for the five-week program is \$50 for Vienna residents and \$62.50 for out-of-town participants.

THEATRE COMPANY AUDITIONS

The Vienna Theatre Company will hold auditions for its autumn musical production on Wednesday, July 20, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center. To schedule an audition appointment, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 255-6360.

ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

Spend a day at the casinos in Atlantic City on Thursday, July 21, sponsored by the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department. A charter bus will leave the Vienna Community Center at 9 a.m. and return about midnight.

The cost for transportation is \$20. A \$5 non-refundable deposit is due on registration and the balance by July 17. For reservations and more information, call Vienna Parks and Recreation at 255-6360.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Provide your child aged one through eight with a special birthday party without the bother and mess of a party at home. Birthday parties at the Vienna Community Center feature Totgym activities including parachute games, music, puppetry, tumbling and much more.

The Community Center staff will lead children in games and activities geared to their interests. Parents can sit back and relax or join in the fun.

Each child will receive a balloon, candy and stickers. Also included in the package are ice cream cake, beverage and paper supplies. Parents take care of supervision and serving refreshments at the end of the Totgym activities.

The cost is \$8.50 per child with a minimum of 10 children. Parties are scheduled on a space-available basis.

New W&OD Guide Available

A colorful new guide to the W&OD Trail, published by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, is now available.

The 56-page, four-color, spiral-bound booklet includes 25 pages of new detailed, scale-drawn maps with symbols to indicate connecting trail systems, bicycle repair shops, restrooms, fast food restaurants and other useful information. This 1988 revised addition features horizontal connecting maps beginning in Purcellville and guiding the trail user through Leesburg, Ashburn, Sterling, Herndon, Reston, Vienna and Falls Church. There, the trail and maps continue through Arlington to Shirlington, where connections can be made to the Mount Vernon Trail.

The W&OD Trail Guide may be purchased for \$3.50 at all regional parks in Northern Virginia or for \$4.50 by mail from the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, 5400 Ox Rd., Fair-

LITTLE LEAGUE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

Vienna Little League is hiring boys and girls over the age of 16 to work as instructors for the Little League Baseball School, which will be held August 1-6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The salary is \$125 for the week. Those interested should call Fred Crabtree at 938-1764.

KINGS DOMINION TICKETS

Kings Dominion tickets are available at the Vienna Community Center for a special discounted price. Tickets are good for one use through July 10 at \$11.25 each (regular admission \$16.95). Only checks or money orders made payable to "VRPS" are accepted for payment.

fax Station, VA 22039, Attn: W&OD. The guide is also available at bike shops in Northern Virginia and at 7-Eleven stores along the trail. For information, call 352-5900.

Wildflower Tour

Enjoy a bike tour of the W&OD Trail in search of summer wildflowers on Saturday, July 9, at 6 p.m. This two-hour tour will be led by a Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority naturalist and will start at the Sunset Hills Railroad Station in Reston.

Participants should bring their bikes and wildflower guides. Reservations are required for this free event. Call 528-5406.

The Sunset Hills Railroad Station is located in Reston adjacent to Bowman's Distillery and the pond on Old Reston Avenue near its intersection with Sunset Hills Boulevard.

Be Cautious About Radon Tests

Radon, an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas, has gained much attention in the past few months as people have become aware of the radon problem and are testing their homes. With this increased consumer interest, so too has the number of radon testing and remediation methods and firms increased. The Fairfax County Department of Consumer Affairs cautions citizens to protect themselves by taking the following steps:

• Become informed about radon. Copies of two EPA brochures, "A Citizen Guide to Radon" and "Radon Reduction Materials," are available at County libraries. The Fairfax County Health Department also has citizen radon information packages available. To obtain one, call the Radon Hotline, 246-2300. Read closely the information in the packet on how radon is detected.

• If someone comes to the door selling a test kit or offering to test a home on the spot, two things should be done. First ask to see a Town of Vienna peddlers or solicitors license. If the person has none, citizens should not do business with the salesperson and should report this activity to the police at 255-6366. Second, citizens should ask to see a copy of the letter indicating that the firm has demonstrated proficiency in the EPA testing program (or check the name of the firm against the list of EPA proficiency test participants in the County radon information package mentioned above).

• Bear in mind that due to the high expense of equipment capable of making on-the-spot tests ("grab samples"), it is unlikely that a genuinely qualified test firm will go door-to-door in this fashion.

• If do-it-yourself test kits purchased by mail, from a store, or at your door are used, carefully follow the directions on the kit or the test may be inaccurate.

If, after receiving the test results, a firm recommends remedial action be taken, check the advice against the

radon reduction/mediation techniques described in the EPA brochures or the citizens information packet. Again, citizens should protect themselves by taking the following steps:

• Ask the firm to prepare a detailed estimate of the work to be done, separately stating parts and labor.

• Ask the firm for qualifications such as training and experience in radon reduction methods, any references it may have (since radon reduction is a relatively new business, few firms will have extensive experience or references) and any professional/occupational licenses or certificates the people performing or supervising the job will have (there currently are no licensing/certificate requirements specific to radon reduction).

• Check with the Fairfax County Department of Consumer Affairs at 359-9161 to see if the firm has had complaints filed against it and, if so, how they were resolved.

• Make sure that a contract is prepared that matches the terms agreed upon and includes provisions for follow-up testing/monitoring to ensure that the steps taken are reasonably effective; that the bulk of the payment of the contract price is to be made upon completion of the work, not in advance; that a schedule of work is set forth from start-up through completion dates; that the firm has responsibility for getting any permits for work to be done; and that the firm is insuring the risk of any injury to its employees.

• Get any guarantees in writing. Since the effectiveness of any particular reduction method is not totally within the control of a contractor and is difficult to predict precisely, a guarantee that the work will be 100% successful may be unrealistic.

**** SHOP IN VIENNA ****
Support Our Local Merchants

Purchasing Agent Certified

Town of Vienna Purchasing Agent Janet Berrier has received certification from the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing as a Professional Public Buyer (PPB). This honor recognizes professional competence in the field of public purchasing.

The Professional Public Buyer concept was developed to demonstrate that a prescribed level of achievement in public or governmental purchasing has been attained. The basic eligibility requirements for the PPB are four years purchasing experience, two years of which must be in a public purchasing position, and successful completion of a four-hour written examination on purchasing functions, organization and coordination.

To maintain their certification, Professional Public Buyers must demonstrate continued advancement through professional association memberships, education and training, and related activities.

Gifts of Sight

The Vienna Lioness Club thanks the residents of Vienna for their generous contributions of used eyeglasses for its program to restore sight. For those who can't afford to see, sight is the greatest gift of all. Collection boxes are located at the Vienna Community Center and Patrick Henry Library.

The eyeglasses received are sent to a non-profit organization that sorts and distributes them overseas to many underdeveloped countries to help bring sight to people with poor vision who would not otherwise be able to afford glasses.

Contributions are recognized by the Treasury Department as allowable tax deductions, the value to be set by the donor or an appraiser. Hearing aids are also welcomed.

Comment from the Council Table

Lot Averaging Repealed

By Mayor Charles A. Robinson, Jr.

At its regular June 6 meeting, the Town Council voted unanimously to remove the "lot averaging" provisions from our residential zoning ordinance.

Our zoning ordinance reserves three zones primarily for single-family detached dwellings; namely the RS-10, RS-12.5, and RS-16 zones. The RS-10 zone, which requires that each house be situated on a lot of at least 10,000 square feet, has not been changed. The RS-12.5 zone formerly provided that, for approved subdivisions, the average lot size must be 12,500 square feet, but that so long as the average was satisfied, some lots might be as small as 10,500 square feet. Similarly, in the RS-16 zone, lots were required to average 16,000 square feet, but a minimum lot size of 14,000 square feet was permitted.

The Town Council became increasingly concerned as it observed the repeated use of "lot averaging" to design unattractively dense subdivisions and subdivisions with grossly irregular lot shapes, and thereby sidestep Vienna's well established limited growth, low-density land use policy. The repeal of "lot averaging" means that hereafter all new subdivision lots in the RS-12.5 zone must be at least 12,500 square feet, and that all new lots in the RS-16 zone must be at least 16,000 square feet.

It is the Council's feeling that the majority of people in Town really desire to preserve the low-density land use concept, and we feel that by reducing the number of homes permitted per acre of land in new subdivisions, this concept will be enhanced.

During our public hearing on this matter, opponents of the change argued that by increasing average lot size in new subdivisions, the Council would effectively raise the cost of housing to the public. We pointed out, however,



Mayor Robinson

that the price of a new home is much less related to the cost of land than it is to the maximum market value of the home. Thus, we have some new homes in Town on which the price has increased by more than \$100,000 during construction and well after most of the costs were fixed.

My Town Council colleagues and I very much hope that our continued commitment to a conservative land use policy will meet with acceptance in the community.

COUNCIL INVITES COMMENTS

The Town Council invites citizens to submit comments for use in the *Newsletter*. Comments must be made in writing and received at Town Hall by the 15th of each month to be included in the following month's *Newsletter*. Please give your name, address, and daytime phone number. (This information will not be published.) Send comments to: *Vienna Newsletter*, 127 Center St., S., Vienna, VA 22180.

1988-89 BUDGET

(continued from front page)

cost of line replacement and other capital improvements.

Based on an average use of 25,000 gallons of water per quarter, in-town users of the system will see their bills increase from \$31 to \$89.75 every three months. In an effort to reduce the effect of the rate increase, the Town will no longer charge a sewer fee on water that is subject to the excess use charge. Therefore, customers whose water use increases drastically during the summer due to watering of lawns and gardens will see a reduction in the sewer portion of their bills. For example, if the average user of 25,000 gallons per quarter used 40,000 during the summer, he would have paid \$145.80 under the old system that charged sewer fees on all consumption. Under the new system that does not charge a sewer fee for water used at the excess use rate, that bill will now be \$120.41.

A summary of this year's budget is given on the front page of this *Newsletter*. Complete copies of the adopted budget are available for public review in the Human Resources Office at Town Hall.

Community Band Summer Concerts

Spend a summer evening with your Vienna Community Band! The 45-member ensemble will perform at 8 p.m. on July 4, just before the fireworks display at the Town of Vienna's annual July 4th celebration on the grounds of the Vienna Community Center. Traditional marches and patriotic tunes will highlight the concert.

A "summer-in-the-park" concert will take place at 7 p.m. Sunday, July 17, at the Community Center. Bring a picnic supper and a blanket, and enjoy an evening of show tunes and concert pieces.

Town of Vienna JULY 4th CELEBRATION!

Monday, July 4, 1988

Community Center Grounds

12 noon - 6 p.m. – Flea Market, Food & Drink for Sale

ENTERTAINMENT ON MAIN STAGE

12 noon Dave Arnold & His One-man Band

1 p.m. The Smith Sisters (bluegrass & Celtic)

2 p.m. Dash (rock)

3 p.m. The James Brothers (country)

3:30 p.m. Chili Cook-off Awards Presented

4 p.m. Sugar Bear (rock)

CHILDREN'S STAGE

1 p.m. Hal Diamond & Company Magic Show

MID-FIELD

2 - 4 p.m. Family Games & Races

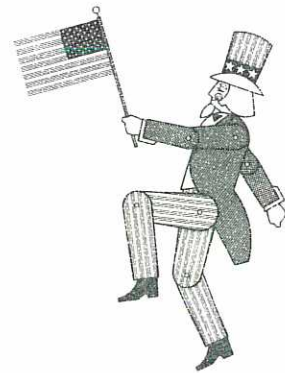
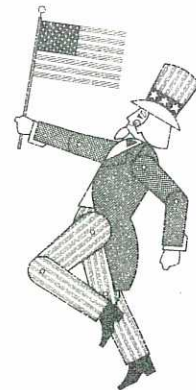
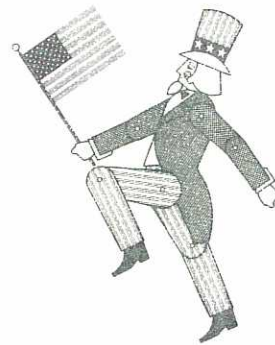
EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

6 p.m. Street Dance (square dancing & clogging)

8 p.m. Vienna Community Band & Vienna Choral Society

9:15 p.m. Fireworks Display

Rain date FOR FIREWORKS ONLY – Tuesday evening, July 5.



JULY 4TH ALL AMERICAN CHILI COOK-OFF

Sponsored by the CASINOVA Pod
of the Chili Appreciation Society, Inc.
to benefit the OPTIMIST CLUB OF VIENNA

Prizes Awarded for Chili, Showmanship & "People's Choice"

– Vote for YOUR favorite !!!

10 a.m. PREPARATION BEGINS

2 p.m. JUDGING

3:30 p.m. WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Town of Vienna's
July 4th Celebration
Community Center Grounds

