

Mary Jo Pemberton
City Clerk



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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
City Council Public Hearing
PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS DETERMINATION (PEID)
Monday, January 7, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

Mayor John Lewis called the January 7, 2019 Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Rolland W. Lewis Community Building at Veterans Park.

Present at the Public Hearing were Mayor John Lewis, Council Member Jim Rippy, Council Member Mike Young, City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel, Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna, City Clerk Mary Jo Pemberton, City Engineer Brad Ruble, and Kevin Phillips from Round Table Design. Absent Council Member Jeff May and Council Member Donte Moore. Council Member Donte Moore arrived at the meeting after roll call.

PUBLIC HEARING

Kevin Phillips of Round Table Design reported the Public Hearing involves the City's EPA loan applications for EPA's Public Water Supply Loan Program. The proposed project will be broken into six (6) different phases. The first phase will include the removal and replacement of both exterior and interior paint surfaces of the Opdyke Water Tower, upgrades to the safety measures located within and on the water tower, and changes in the location of antennas located on the water tower. Phases two (2) through five (5) involve the replacement of water main located throughout the City. Phase three (3) also includes the replacement of the 150,000-gallon L & N Elevated Water Tank located North of the downtown area of Mount Vernon with a new 500,000-gallon elevated storage tank.

These projects have been reviewed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to determinate compliance with the Illinois Endangered Species Act, Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act, and the Illinois Wetlands Act. IDNR's review indicated that adverse effects are unlikely as a result of these projects. No other adverse effects requiring IDNR sign-off were found within the proposed project areas.

The projects have also been reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106. SHPO's review indicated that the L & N Elevated Water Storage Tank is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, the proposal to demolish the water storage tank constitutes an adverse effect as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5. Mount Vernon will need to consult with the

SHPO to develop a plan to mitigate this adverse effect. In addition, planning approval for this phase of the project will not be able to be obtained until this adverse effect is resolved. All other phases of the above-mentioned project had no historic properties being affected.

Phillips stated that SHPO has been contacted, but no reply has been sent regarding the requirements to mitigate the adverse effect.

The above-mentioned project has also been reviewed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a Section 404 Permit will not be needed as a result of this project.

Phillips asked if there were any questions. No comments were heard.

Phillips reported that the first loan application has been submitted for the Opdyke Water Tank project. The other loan applications will be submitted on an annual basis. The first application can be approved before L & N Tower's adverse effect is completed. Phillips stated that the City will have three years to figure out what to do with the tower.

A copy of the PEID may be obtained from Brad Ruble, City of Mt. Vernon Engineering Department, 1100 Main Street, Mt. Vernon between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Citizens wishing to make comments via writing may do so until January 18, 2019 by writing to the City of Mt. Vernon, City Clerk's Office, 1100 Main Street, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864 or Hedi Allen, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, IL 62794-9276.

Mayor Lewis closed the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m. Roll Call: Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Jim Rippy, Council Member Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis. Absent: Council Member Jeff May.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Jo Pemberton
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