

Jerilee Hopkins
City Clerk



City of Mt. Vernon
1100 Main PO Box 1708
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
cityclerk@mvn.net

618-242-5000
FAX 618-242-6867
www.mtvernon.com

**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2013
MINUTES**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, February 4, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rolland W. Lewis Community Building, Veterans Park, 800 South 27th Street, Mt. Vernon, IL.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Brad Henson of the Jefferson County Ministerial Association.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed present: Council Members Ron Lash, Todd Piper, David Wood and Mayor Mary Jane Chesley. Council Member Dennis McEnaney was absent.

PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS

The Journal for the January 22, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting was presented to Council for any additions, deletions or corrections. **Council Member Lash made a motion to approve the Journals as presented. Seconded by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. Council Member McEnaney was absent.**

APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Approval of Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable was presented to Council for Approval. Council Member Wood asked City Manager Ron Neibert for an update on the following: Item #1 C B & I - \$100,149.86 — Work on West Elevated Tank. Neibert noted that the elevated tank is complete. Item #4 Henry, Meisenheimer & Gende - \$45,092.24 — Lift station 14 force main replacement (\$890.33) is in the final phase of design; Veterans and Davidson roadway extension (\$11,423.10) sidewalks are being completed and still on target for a late spring opening; 42nd Street road reconstruction (\$3,874.29) is still in the design phase and targeting a 2014 construction period; South 34th Street Veterans/Harlan road reconstruction (\$23,557.01) is in the design phase and will have a status meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2013 with Engineers. The intersection design study is complete and decisions will be made as to the reconfiguration of the intersection. North 27th Street and Old Union road reconstruction (\$2,725.22) is in the design phase and Engineers will be meeting with property owners in the area. Water distribution modeling (\$1,547.67) for the entire City is close to completion. Council Member Wood added that the

water distribution modeling will hopefully address the City's water pressure issues and develop solutions for the issues. Item #6 Illinois Electric Works - \$93,418.86 — Variable frequency drives for Lift Stations (\$28,846.00) and variable frequency drives for waste water treatment plant (\$64,572.86). This represents replacement pumps that were in this year's budget. These are single drive pumps that are less efficient and replaced with the variable pumps. Item #16 Rhutasel & Associates, Inc. - \$1,680.50 North 34th Street and Central project. The initial surveying is being completed. The City is drafting a communication notice to the property owners and residents in the area will be notified by mail of projects in their neighborhood. Item #17 Round Table Design - \$2,572.50 — Holiday Inn sidewalk design. The bid has been awarded and work will begin as soon as the weather permits. Council Member Piper inquired about Item #11 Kohl's - \$41,308.50 — Reimbursement of ½% sales tax collected in 2012. The reimbursement will continue until the amount is reached as negotiated in the redevelopment agreement with Kohl's. Neibert stated this is a portion of the City's regular 1% sales tax.

Council Member Wood made a motion to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,530,971.43. Seconded by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. Council Member McEnaney was absent.

BIDS & QUOTES

No bids and quotes were presented for Council's consideration.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Neibert presented no information for Council's consideration.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney David Leggans presented for Council's consideration the Second Reading on an Ordinance Declaring Certain City Owned Property as Surplus. City Manager Neibert noted that the list of auction items is available in the City's Clerk's office. An auction to sell the City's surplus property will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at the I64 Auction House in Woodlawn, Illinois, at 9:00 a.m.

Council Member Piper made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2013-4 Declaring Certain City Owned Property as Surplus. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. McEnaney was absent.

City Attorney Leggans presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Authorizing Application for an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Building Improvement Grant to Make Improvements to the Armory Building for the Police Department. City Manager Neibert stated this \$20,000.00 grant is being applied for by the Police Department so that certain repairs can be made to the cinder block building on the Armory property (not the Armory). This grant, along with another proposed grant on this meeting's agenda, are 100% grants from the representative agencies and will be sufficient to make improvements and upgrades to the cinder block building to be used as a storage facility for the Police Department.

City Attorney Leggans presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Authorizing Application with the U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Emergency Response Initiative for Security Improvements to the Armory Building for the Police Department. City Manager Neibert stated this \$30,000.00 grant is being applied for by the Police Department so that certain repairs can be made to the cinder block building on the Armory property (not the Armory). This grant, along with another proposed grant on this meeting's

agenda, are 100% grants from the representative agencies and will be sufficient to make improvements and upgrades to the cinder block building to be used as a storage facility for the Police Department.

Council Member Lash made a motion to adopt both Resolutions – Authorizing Application for an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Building Improvement Grant and Authorizing Application for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Emergency Response Initiative for Security Improvements grant. Seconded by Wood. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. McEnaney was absent.

City Attorney Leggans presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Accepting Warranty Deed from the Board of Education of the Mt. Vernon Township High School, District 201 and Hodge Enterprises, LLC. The Warranty Deed covers a small strip of property that is south of Ambassador Drive and owned by the Hodge family. This small strip of land is separated from the other Hodge family property by the road. Acquiring the property will provide the City with the necessary right-of-way when improvements are made on Ambassador.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve the Resolution Accepting Warranty Deed from the Board of Education of the Mt. Vernon Township High School, District 201 and Hodge Enterprises, LLC. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. McEnaney was absent.

MAYOR

The monthly City Update for February 2013 is available at the City Clerk's Office. The latest happenings in the City include Good Samaritan Regional Health Center's \$278 million state-of-the-art Health Center and medical offices; Continental Tire's \$129 million expansion; the Veterans/Davidson road extension; the new scholarship program established by the Parks and Recreation Department; the housing development plan; the latest form of communication to residents regarding future projects in their neighborhood; and the City surplus items auction to be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at I-64 Auto Auction in Woodlawn. Mayor Chesley asked City Manager Neibert to explain electrical aggregation and recent inquiries from residents. The electrical aggregation that is allowed with deregulation allows residential customers who are not on Tri-County Electric to buy from any supplier they choose. Those companies contacting residents are not part of the aggregation group; they are seeking customers one household at a time. He added that any resident is free to enter into any agreements they wish, however, he and the city council want to clarify the issue for residents. Neibert released a press release, titled "Door to door electrical solicitors are not part of the city of Mt. Vernon's electrical aggregation process," the release states: "The City's consultant in this process is Affordable Gas and Electric, who will not be going door-to-door to sell you electricity. While you are free to sign a contract with any company you wish, these companies are not endorsed by the City and are not part of the aggregation program." Council Member Wood said he has received several phone calls from those wanting him to change electricity supplier. He reminded residents that aggregation is not available until after the April election if the referendum vote passes.

The 25th Annual Midwestern Herb & Garden show will be held at Times Square Mall on February 7, 8, & 9. Admission is free.

The Mt. Vernon Home Show will be held at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport on February 9 & 10, 2013. Admission is free. The Small Business Council of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce is the sponsor.

The Granada Theater will present the movie, Rugrats in Paris, on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

GenKota Jamz at GenKota Winery will be held on Sunday, February 10, 2013 at noon with live music and free admission.

Mayor Chesley encouraged City residents to read the brochure, Destination Mt. Vernon, received by mail and published by the Mt. Vernon Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The Parks and Recreation Department will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, February 6, 7:00 p.m., at the Rolland W. Lewis Center. This meeting is the first step in creating a conceptual design plan for Lincoln and Woodglen Parks. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting and give their input on what they want to see in their parks.

CITY COUNCIL

No information was shared by the Council

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

No Visitors addressed the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Wood made a motion to Adjourn the Meeting. Seconded by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, Piper, Wood and Chesley. Council Member McEnaney was absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins
City Clerk