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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Monday, March 17, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, March 17, 2014, 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 Father Gene Tucker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS

The Journals for the February 24, 2014 City Council Workshop Meeting and the March 3, 2014 Regular City Council Meeting were presented to Council for any additions, deletions or corrections. **Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Journals as presented. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.**

APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable were presented to Council for approval. Council Member McEnaney asked City Manager Ron Neibert to clarify the following items: Item #9 GreenTrac - \$17,098.00 — retention money released on the Horace Mann School Demolition authorized by the bond company. Item #11 Henry, Meisenheimer & Gende - \$29,097.20 — west elevated tank. Neibert will inquire and forward this information to the Council. Item #16 Kunce Computers - \$6,938.00 — computer equipment setup and installation at the Aquatic Zoo including the use of credit cards.

Council Member Wood made a motion to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,041,759.22. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

BIDS & QUOTES

City Manager Neibert presented for Council's consideration the following bid results for the 34th Street Roadway Project, including the realignment of 34th Street at the Veterans and 34th intersection, improvement of the roadway from Veterans to Harlan, a curb and gutter road running east and west from 34th Street to the Good Samaritan Regional Hospital property, widening and turn lanes on Veterans at the east and west approaches to 34th Street, relocation of power lines by Ameren IP, and storm water improvements south of Harlan Rd. Sidewalks will be installed on the west side of 34th Street and eventually a trail will be located on the east side:

Guinzy Construction, Inc., Ashley	\$1,999,984.03
Sierra Bravo Contractors, LLC, Sesser	\$2,028,454.82
E.T. Simonds Const. Co., Carbondale	\$2,063,750.00
Baxmeyer Construction, Inc., Waterloo	\$2,175,936.28
George Jones Excavating, LLC, Marion	\$2,410,173.60
DMS Contracting, Inc., Mascoutah	\$2,458,271.40

The Engineer's estimate was for \$2,429,874.00. Neibert recommended that the contract be awarded to the low bidder, Guinzy Construction, Inc. of Ashley, IL, in the amount of \$1,999,984.03.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve the award of the 34th St. Roadway Project to the low bidder, Guinzy Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,999,984.03. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

CITY MANAGER

Neibert introduced Assistant Police Chief Chris Deichman who presented the Officer of the Year Award to Patrolman Matt Hoelscher. Mayor Chesley thanked Hoelscher and the entire Mt. Vernon Police Department for their good work.

Neibert presented for Council's consideration a request for Reallocation of Funds for the 2013/2014 Budget which are expenses that have been offset by unanticipated revenues.

Council Member Lash made a motion to approve the Reallocation of Funds for the 2013/2014 Budget. Seconded by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Neibert presented for Council's consideration a request for Permission to Seek Proposals for a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract. This grant, through the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, will allow the City to replace the lighting systems in City Hall, Public Works building and Rolland W. Lewis Community building to allow for energy savings. The project is estimated to cost \$85,000.00 and the grant application is for \$44,000.00. The cost savings on saved electricity should be recovered in about five years.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve a request for Permission to Seek Proposals for a Guaranteed Energy Savings Contract. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Neibert presented for Council's consideration a request for Permission to Seek Bids for Uniforms/Floor Mat Service for Fleet Services, Public Works, Public Utilities and City Hall Departments.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve a request for Permission to Seek Bids for Uniforms/Floor Mat Service for Fleet Services, Public Works, Public Utilities and City Hall Departments. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney David Leggans presented for Council's consideration the Second Reading on an Ordinance Approving Revision of Article 6, Section 6.9 of the Revised Code of Ordinances regarding the Number of Liquor Licenses. Mayor Chesley noted that Mike LeVangie, owner of Mama Dee's Cajun Restaurant to be located at 119 S. 9th St., is requesting a Restaurant with Lounge liquor license. The addition of this license brings the total number of Restaurant with Lounge liquor licenses to 11.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2014-06 Approving a Revision of Article 6, Section 6.9 of the Revised Code of Ordinances regarding the Number of Liquor Licenses. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Leggans presented for Council's consideration the First Reading on an Ordinance Rezoning Property located at 1714 North Street from the Zoning Classification R-3 to I-1. Petitioning Party: Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity. Rick Griffith appeared on behalf of Jefferson County Habitat for Humanity. He stated that Habitat for Humanity would like to build a fenced in 30' x 48' storage building on the property to store their equipment, supplies, tools and donations, as well as a conference room for monthly meetings. At this time they do not intend to store any equipment or supplies outside. City Attorney Leggans provided to Nathan McKenna, prior to the Zoning and Planning Commission meeting, a letter highlighting a couple of concerns about this particular rezoning application. Specifically, is there adjacent property with the Zoning Classification I-1 to eliminate the "spot" zoning concern? Is there concern about outside storage in the neighborhood? There were no objectors at the Zoning and Planning Commission meeting. The Commission unanimously approved the zoning change. Neibert will provide Council with a zoning map of the adjacent properties. **FIRST READ ONLY**

City Attorney Leggans presented for Council's consideration the First Reading on an Ordinance Authorizing the Ceding of Private Activity Bonding Authority. Neibert commented that the Illinois Private Activity Bond Allocation Act provides that any home rule unit may reallocate to a state agency any portion of its unused allocation of volume cap. The City desires to utilize this cap in cooperation with the Southeastern Illinois Economic Development Authority (SIEDA), a five county agency, to support projects that will create jobs and expand the City's tax base in the amount of \$1,521,800.00. Council Member Wood requested that Neibert draft a document listing SIEDA projects in the last few years. **FIRST READ ONLY**

City Attorney Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Requesting IDOT Approval for Temporary Closure of IL 15 Westbound from Marlow Rd. (FAS 789) to Junction of IL 15 & Old Rt. 15 at the East Edge of Mt. Vernon for Purposes of "Salute to Freedom" fireworks display on July 4, 2014.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve a Resolution Requesting IDOT Approval for Temporary Closure of IL 15 Westbound from Marlow Rd. (FAS 789) to Junction of IL 15 & Old Rt. 15 at East Edge of Mt. Vernon for Purposes of "Salute to Freedom" Fireworks Display on July 4, 2014. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

MAYOR

Mayor Chesley noted that a new website, www.enjoymtvernon.com, is now online. This new website features *Things To Do* --- *Where To Go* --- *Where To Stay* --- *Calendar of events* in the City of Mt. Vernon and is maintained by the Tourism Department.

CITY COUNCIL

Mt. Vernon Festivals, Inc. will begin their second annual Market Days at the old Armory commencing on the first Saturday in April (April 5, 2014) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and running until October. Please contact Bonnie Jerdon or Rachel Hunsell at the Tourism Department at 242-3151 to volunteer. Thank you to the high school for the use of their adjoining property during Market Days.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

Dave Bass and Larry Henn, residents of the Wood Glen subdivision, appeared to voice their concern about cars being parked in the neighbors' yards and mud holes in the neighbors' yards giving the entrance to the subdivision a dilapidated appearance. Photographs were given to the Council. Neibert explained that the City has no ordinance addressing the parking of a properly licensed operating vehicle on a non-improved surface by a home owner. Mr. Bass and Mr. Henn stated there are restrictive covenants prohibiting parking in yards but the covenants haven't been enforced for many years. According to City Attorney Leggans, the City has no jurisdiction to enforce any kind of subdivision restrictive covenant. Typically, the subdivision has a committee of residents to enforce the covenants. No such committee exists in Wood Glen. The subdivision residents also have the option to bring action against the neighbors in civil court. Mr. Henn will forward the restrictive covenants to the Council.

Neibert will research the issue and make recommendations to the Council of possible solutions to address the issue City-wide. He will also consult with Joe Zanola of Zanola Company LLC for recommendations in terms of housing developments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Neibert requested an Executive Session to discuss land acquisition. **Council Member Wood made a motion to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.**

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Lash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins
City Clerk