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**CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 4, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rolland W. Lewis Community Building, Veterans Park, 800 South 27th Street, Mt. Vernon, IL.

The invocation was given by Rev. Don Bigham of the Jefferson County Ministerial Association.

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 April 13, 2015 City Council Workshop Meeting, April 20, 2015 City Council Meeting, and the April 21, 2015 City Council Workshop Meeting were 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, 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 Interim City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel for additional information on the following items: Item #4-Doug Eubanks-\$61,107.75-South 42nd Street sidewalks (Broadway to Veterans). Item #5-HD Supply Waterworks-\$39,949.13-Ambassador Road. Item #6-Illinois EPA-\$21,233.99-Principal and interest payment Illinois EPA Loan for Lift Station 15. Item #9-Landers Automotive Corporation-\$3,346.00-Fire Department body damage repair on vehicle #5131. Item #17-Rollie Excavating-\$31,236.21-Richview Road Sidewalks (24th to Wilshire). Item #18-Round Table Design-\$10,650.00-Broadway and Main water main replacement design. Item #19-Santander Leasing LLC-\$55,189.73-Principal and interest loan payment on jet truck. Item #24-Vermont Systems, Inc.-\$4,024.50-Scheduling Module. City Manager Bechtel provided information on each item.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$648,760.07. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

BIDS & QUOTES

No bids and quotes were presented.

CITY MANAGER

No business to discuss.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration Second Reading of an Ordinance Granting a Franchise to Rifkin Acquisition Partners, LLC dba Charter Communication to Erect, Maintain and Operate a Cable System in the City of Mt. Vernon. This franchise agreement is for five years with five year renewables that allows Charter to use the City's rights-of-way for their services. It is non-exclusive which means another cable company may come into the City to ask for a franchise agreement as well.

Council Member Piper made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-14 Granting a Franchise to Rifkin Acquisition Partners, LLC dba Charter Communication to Erect, Maintain and Operate a Cable System in the City of Mt. Vernon. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Howard presented for Council consideration Second Reading of an Ordinance Terminating the Designation of the Homestead Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area, as Created by Ordinance No. 2007-47, Ordinance No. 2007-08, and Ordinance No. 2007-49 Adopted September 4, 2007, as a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area and Dissolving the Tax Increment Allocation Fund. There was a developer who had plans to build residential housing. Unfortunately, due to financial difficulties, no development was ever built. Since no building project was completed within the 8 year limitation, the municipality is required to decertify the TIF district. The TIF Board recommended that the district be decertified.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-15 Terminating the Designation of the Homestead Tax Increment Redevelopment Project Area, as Created by Ordinance No. 2007-47, Ordinance No. 2007-08, and Ordinance No. 2007-49 Adopted September 4, 2007, as a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area and Dissolving the Tax Increment Allocation Fund. Seconded by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Departing Council Members Ron Lash and David Wood were thanked for their service to the community, given the opportunity to speak then vacated their seats at the City Council table.

New City Council Members Jeff May and Donte Moore were sworn into office by City Attorney Bill Howard.

The Regular City Council Meeting proceeded with the remaining items on the agenda.

City Attorney Howard presented for Council consideration First Reading of an Ordinance Fixing the Salaries and Benefits of Certain Employees of the City of Mt. Vernon. **FIRST READING.**

City Attorney Howard presented for Council consideration an Ordinance Approving a Tax Increment Finance Redevelopment Agreement between the City of Mt. Vernon and Community First Bank of the Heartland. Bank President Jo David Cummins appeared.

After discussion, Council Member Piper made a motion to approve the Ordinance Approving a Tax Increment Finance Redevelopment Agreement as stated. The motion died for lack of a second. Council Member Jeff May requested additional time so that he could more thoroughly review the Agreement before voting on same. Council Member McEnaney made a motion to table the item until the next regular City Council Meeting. Seconded by Council Member May. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore, Piper and Chesley.

City Attorney Howard presented for Council consideration a Resolution approving Maintenance of Streets and Highways. The resolution has to be passed each year in order to use the Motor Fuel Tax money. Council Member McEnaney requested that no overlay be placed over cast iron water mains.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Resolution approving Maintenance of Streets and Highways. Seconded by Council Member Piper. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore, Piper and Chesley.

MAYOR

Mayor Chesley presented for Council Consideration the following Boards and Commission Appointments and Reappointments:

Mary Ellen Bechtel (Appointments)	- Fire Pension - Minority Affairs - Greater Egypt Planning Commission - 911 Board - Revolving Loan Committee
Mary Jo Pemberton (Appointment)	- Fire Pension Board (Standing Member)
Rolland Mays (Reappointment)	- Minority Affairs
Brenda Cain (Reappointment)	- Minority Affairs
Brishanta Lee (Reappointment)	- Minority Affairs

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve and reappoint members of Boards and Commissions as presented. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore, Piper and Chesley.

Mayor Chesley shared information on the Illinois Department of Transportation's Listening Tour hosted by the City of Mt. Vernon.

CITY COUNCIL

Council Member McEnaney would like to schedule a workshop in the future to discuss the Fire and Police Pension funds.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

John Menke received a notification from Ameren Illinois regarding the update to the electric meters. He is opposing the update due to potential health concerns related to the meters.

Richard Acklin, 23 Country Club Road, congratulated and welcomed Donte Moore and Jeff May to the Board wishing them the very best. He congratulated the City on finishing the Summersville School sidewalk project, but mentioned that the completion cost was overkill.

Ron Moyer, 16850 Country Club Road, congratulated the new Councilmen and others serving. He appreciated the Mayors reference to the highway workshop held that day and the projects being completed. He presented a letter to the City Council expressing his dissatisfaction with how the workshop meeting to discuss the sale of the City's water system was handled and the closing of 7th street. Mayor Chesley explained the reasoning for the closing and invited Mr. Moyer to City Hall for additional background information on the subject.

Executive Director, Jonathon Hallberg, of Jefferson County Development Corporation will be reviewing the study on the railway transfer, and if possible, making it available to Mr. Acklin and Mr. Moyer.

Bobby Farris addressed the Council regarding the basketball season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore, Piper and Chesley.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins
City Clerk