

JERILEE HOPKINS

City Clerk



CITY OF MT. VERNON

1100 Main PO Box 1708

Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

618-242-5000

FAX 618-242-6867

**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
City Council Public Hearing
Rolland W. Lewis Community Building — Veterans Park
Monday, May 21, 2012
6:30 p.m.**

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley called the City Council Public Hearing of Monday, May 21, 2012 to order. The purpose of the hearing was to present and discuss the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP), #3 Streetscape application for 10th Street & Broadway and the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) application for the Bike Trail.

City Manager Ron Neibert asked for the representative providing information on the Downtown Street Scape Project to step forward. Laura Thacker, President of Downtown Development, came forward and introduced Devon DeJournett from Henry, Meisenheimer and Gende (HMG) who would be speaking on the proposed Street Scape Grant Approval. Ms. Thacker noted that this was the third phase of the Downtown Streetscape they have been working on. Those areas already completed include the north side of the Square and the east side would hopefully soon be finished on 9th Street. Mr. DeJournett stated that the project itself would be funded with the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Fund (ITEP) from the State of Illinois which would be phase three of a multiphase project. He stated that this was a streetscape type program that the City is thinking about proposing. HMG would be adding items such as decorative brick, trees, lighting and multiple enhancements. This funding is primarily 80/20; eighty percent coming from the State Government and twenty percent from a local match, though portions such as Right-of-Way would be paid for at 50/50.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked for clarification on the location of the project. Mr. DeJournett stated that Phase 3 would be on Broadway, beginning at 12th street and running to 10th street including all four quadrants of each intersection. It would also include 10th street on Broadway and head south for a total of three blocks.

Council member McEnaney asked the total cost of the project. Mr. DeJournett stated between \$1.2 and \$1.3 million. City Manager Neibert stated that the City would have that number finalized when the application is submitted on the 29th. The City would be responsible for \$260,000.00 give or take a little.

Mayor Chesley asked for comparison of Phase 3 with the first streetscape as far as green space, landscaping, and benching is concerned. Mr. DeJournett stated that as he recalled the landscaping features of the decorations and plants would not be a part of this phase, beyond that it should be essentially the same. He stated that there was no mention of benches yet, but benches are typically not

an eligible item and must be funded at one-hundred percent. City Manager Neibert, stated that there was a change and somewhere between the first phase and after the second phase the grant was awarded, IDOT changed their policy and the benches have to be funded one-hundred percent locally now.

Council Member McEnaney asked the timing on the approval of the grant. Mr. DeJournett stated they were in the preliminary stages and were looking at some rough estimates to get the funding secured. He noted that there were three or four phases and the first two would take roughly a year and a half.

Council Member Wood asked if there would be any areas east of 10th street on Broadway approved. Mr. DeJournett stated the only areas east of 10th street on Broadway would be the adjacent crosswalks due to ADA standards. The other brick enhancements east of 10th street would not be a part of this phase.

Councilmen Wood asked if there would be any areas north of Broadway at any point, for instance, opposite the Courthouse and next to the US Bank building. Mr. DeJournett stated that at this time it was just within the right-of-ways of Broadway including the area adjacent to the Courthouse, decorative portions of the streetscape portion of the project up to the right-of-way limits completing that radius on the northwest quadrant of Broadway.

City Manager Neibert asked for clarification that there would not be any brick enhancements further north on 10th street north of Broadway as part of this phase. Mr. DeJournett stated that was correct.

Council Member Wood asked for clarification that there were no enhancements other than the intersections around the Courthouse itself. Mr. DeJournett agreed. Wood asked for clarification that the benches were not included in this \$260,000.00 because the \$1.25 million does not include the benches. City Manager Neibert stated that was correct. The real cost of this, Wood stated, is about \$1.5 million plus whatever else the City should decide to do. City Manager Neibert agreed. Council Member Wood went on to state that potentially this could be a substantially more expensive project if the City decided to take the sidewalks north to Broadway or further east. City Manager went on to clarify that this was the recommendation of Phase 3 alone. Mr. DeJournett added there is a recommendation of a one-million dollar project and beyond that they reduce/cancel your chances of being awarded the grant. Council Member Wood asked if any of the \$1.2 million in estimated costs are of a non-capital nature to maintain maintenance on the project once it is completed. Mr. DeJournett stated that amount was just for the actual construction costs and that actual maintenance costs would be the responsibility of the City.

Council Member Piper asked the number of phases total of the entire ITEP plan. Ms. Thacker stated that in the original Master Plan developed in 2005-2006 there were a total of five stages they were working on. She stated that they have adjusted them according to what grants became available. She stated that they do not see this as the final phase by any means. She stated there has been talk of another phase which would include just around the Courthouse, developing some of the green space available both on 9th and 10th street as well as what might become possible around the Courthouse itself as another phase. This area within Phase 3 was the area of greatest need because of its location at the entrance of

town for a lot of people coming off the interstate. The sidewalks are fairly dilapidated as well and currently no cohesive lighting or beautification plan had been put into place in those areas.

Council Member Wood asked for a rough estimate of how much the City contribution was on Phase 1, Main Street ITEP and a status on Phase 2, the 9th street ITEP. City Manager Neibert stated that he couldn't provide the figures right then but could have them available first thing in the morning. For the Phase 2 project, the City was waiting for permission from IDOT to do a local bid letting. As soon as the City received approval from IDOT they would be asking Council to authorize that project to go out to bid stated Neibert.

Council Member Lash asked for confirmation that Phase 2 had not been completed. City Manager stated that we are waiting to go out to bid on Phase 2 and hoping to have it completed in October.

Council Member Wood asked what the hold-up was on Phase 2. City Manager Neibert stated that there were some changes in the policies from IDOT, causing the DMDC to have to re-scope the project. The City had some difficulty with the engineering firm that was handling the project in getting documentation to the City in order to change the scope and get the approval from IDOT.

Council Member McEnaney expressed his thanks to the Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation at being aggressive and going after those grant dollars. He appreciated that they had a plan in place and were moving ahead with the plan and improving our downtown area.

Mayor Chesley commented that what she sees in the downtown area is the heart of the community. The heart of Mt. Vernon is in the downtown area and each year that heartbeat gets stronger and stronger which is due to a partnership that has been established by the business owners in the downtown area, the DMDC, the City of Mt. Vernon; both partnering and willing to commit monies to this area. Mayor Chesley asked City Manager Neibert how much had been put into the Downtown area since starting the TIF. Neibert stated about \$1.2 million. Mayor Chesley commented that the City has partnered with and has faith in the downtown businesses and in their enthusiasm and energy, which proves that it is a leading quality community of Southern Illinois and she appreciates all its' efforts.

City Manager Neibert moved forward with the ITEP application for the Bike Trail portion of the program. Devon DeJournett with HMG stepped forward and spoke regarding the Shared Use Trail on Davidson Avenue, north and south of 15 or Broadway. This is another category that the State has put together an application for through the ITEP and it is an enhancement type project. One requirement they prefer with these trails is that it be a mode of transportation and focused towards employers getting from one place to another and not just for recreation which is why this location has been selected as a potential candidate for this project. What HMG has in construction at this time is the south Davidson and Veterans Avenue Extension. There is a proposed sidewalk that will be constructed 12-foot wide on the west side of Davidson and along Veterans, tying onto the bike trail that is currently going over the interstate. This project would be an extension of that trail system, taking it north along Davidson across Broadway and all the way up to Walgreens. The Trail System does have a spur off to the east that will connect Potomac and part of the application also includes a loop around the lake that is in the Industrial Park. Walgreens, Wal-Mart, Lowe's, the hospital and the potential sight for the new high school are the

reason for tying these specific locations together. This trail is intended to connect the public with an ultimate mode of transportation. City Manager Neibert asked the total project cost. Mr. DeJournett estimated between \$1.2 and \$1.4 million.

Council Member McEnaney asked for clarification that the trail would be 12-foot wide. Mr. DeJournett stated that the portion was at 10-foot which still applied for the conditions to meet a Shared Use Trail. Veterans Parkway's Trail is 12-foot, but only 10-foot of that is useable, reason being, if you don't do that you have a small grass strip that most communities do not want to mow and have trouble with maintenance on. IDOT will allow the City to go to the back of the curb on the roadway, but will not allow them to claim that part as useable trail. City Manager Neibert noted that the City has to have a two-foot strip from the back of the curb to the quote beginning of the side of the trail. IDOT chose to instead of leaving a grassy area to put in two-foot of concrete. Council Member McEnaney asked for clarification of the location of the trail system with regards to the scope of the project and which side of Davidson the Trail would be located. Mr. DeJournett stated that they are favoring the west side which had less restriction, but that had not yet been finalized. He added that portions around the lake, considered a recreational loop, is within the scope of work, but would likely not be an eligible item by the state due to the recreational only aspect.

Mayor Chesley asked the length of the trail. DeJournett replied roughly 2.5 miles which included the mile long loop around the lake along with the spur off to the side to Potomac.

Council Member Wood asked for the timeframe of the grant as opposed to the others. Mr. DeJournett replied that it would follow the same schedule as the others with the May 29th deadline for the application. Mr. DeJournett replied a year and a half with construction likely in 2014, though this could vary depending on State review times.

Council Member Lash asked the length of the spur. Mr. DeJournett believed it was 1300 feet and would be located between Buffalo Wild Wings and the Rend Lake College Market Place entering Potomac.

Public Hearing of May 21, 2012 was closed at 7:00 PM.

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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Rolland W. Lewis Community Building — Veterans Park
Monday, May 21, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rolland W. Lewis Community Building, Veterans Park, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by David Eadie.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ROLL CALL

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

JOURNAL

The Journals for the April 26, 2012 Joint City Council and Mt. Vernon Convention and Visitors Bureau Advisory Board Workshop Meeting, the April 30, 2012 City Council Public Budget Hearing, the April 30th, 2012 Special City Council Meeting and the May 7, 2012 Regular City Council meeting were presented to Council for any additions, deletions or corrections. **Motion by Council Member Lash to approve the Journals as presented. Second by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.**

CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable were presented for Council's consideration. Council Member McEnaney asked City Manager Neibert for a briefing of where the monies have gone in item #5; CB & I in the amount of \$140,890.50 for work in April 2012 on the West Elevated Tank and the status of the project. City Manager Neibert stated that the project is well under way and the painting of the interior is almost complete and hopefully will begin the exterior painting later this week, weather permitting. The completion date is still set for the end of this month. City Manager Neibert clarified that the payment was an interim payment and will include two or three more payments until completed. McEnaney asked if the completion would include the outside painting. City Manager Neibert concluded

that it would include the exterior base coat, but would not include the addition of the logo which would be added at a later date pending the outcome of the Branding Study.

Council Member Piper asked when the old water tower would be coming down. City Manager Neibert stated that it would be coming down shortly after the new one was put up and the City received the EPA permit for operation.

Council Member McEnaney, asked for an update on Item #7; the Destination Development in the amount of \$22,500.00 for the Assessment Study for Tourism Department. City Manager Neibert, noted that was the payment to Destination Development for the portion of the Branding Study. The committee, Neibert believes, had selected the task force. He will be sending out the names of what they are calling the "BLT" selected and will be working with Mary Ellen Bechtel on that. The work will begin tomorrow. June will be the date for the final branding assessment study results.

Council Member McEnaney, asked for an update on Item #10; FGM Architects in the amount of \$159,316.59 to Schematic Design for Aquatics Facility at the Parks and Recreation Department. City Manager Neibert stated that was a partial payment for designing of the City's aquatics facility of which the City is still on target for a July bid letting.

Council Member McEnaney, asked the status on Item #12; Heneghan & Associates in the amount of \$14,425.80 for Engineering services for Shared Use Trail (\$2,746.60) and South 34th Street Construction (\$11,679.20). City Manager Neibert stated that was a partial payment on the engineering services, preparing the project reports and issues regarding the Cedarhurst Shared Use Trail project and a partial payment on the 34th Street project on the design engineering. The City will be approving bids at the June 4th meeting. Council Member McEnaney asked when to expect the opening of 34th street. City Manager Neibert replied if there is great weather, it could be opened by the end of this construction season.

Council Member McEnaney asked the status on Item #15; IPT Power Systems in the amount of \$48,000.00 for the Portable generator for the Lift Stations. City Manager Neibert stated that was an upgrade of the generator for the waste water treatment plant and to supply the lift stations in the event of a power outage which replaces the 1940 army surplus generator.

Council Member McEnaney asked the status on Item #16; Jefferson County Development in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the first distribution of funds per 2012/2013 budget. City Manager Neibert noted that was the first payment to the Jefferson County Development Corporation of the City's \$150,000.00 annual commitment to JCDC to promote the City of Mt. Vernon in Jefferson County for economic development.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked when the Director, Mary Ellen Bechtel, would give a presentation. City Manager Neibert thought they were waiting on some final results on a report and she would present the speech shortly thereafter, sometime at one of the council meetings in June.

Council Member McEnaney asked for an update on Item #26; Rhutasel & Associates in the amount of \$14,430.50 for South Davidson/VMD 12" water main project. City Manager Neibert asked for a contingent approval on that bill which was misquoted as to what that payment was for. He asked the Council approve bill pending his review of what he believes it was for; Safe Routes to School, not a water main project. He believes it was just mislabeled.

Council Member McEnaney asked for the status on Item #30; Towers Fire Apparatus in the amount of \$62,519.03 for Hose sections and MSA air packs for Fire Department. City Manager Neibert reported that payment was for replacement hoses and air packs for the Fire Department, which was a budgeted item. Periodically, he mentioned, the City has to replace the air canisters.

Council Member McEnaney asked if Item #34; White & Borgognoni in the amount of \$3,957.25 for 9th Street Streetscape project was to conclude dealings with them. City Manager Neibert, stated that he could not answer that, but would find out.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Consolidated Vouchers as presented in the amount of \$926,572.41. Second by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

BIDS & QUOTES

No bids and quotes to report

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Ron Neibert presented for Council's consideration a Request for Permission to Seek Bids for Three Police Vehicles. This is a capital budgeted item for the new fiscal year.

Council Member Lash asked the age of the vehicles that are being replaced. Police Chief Chris Mendenhall stated the vehicles are in the 120,000 mile range and are frequently in the garage for repairs.

Council Member Piper made a motion to approve the Request for Permission to Seek Bids for Three Police Vehicles. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Manager Neibert Requested to Bypass the Formal Bid Process to Purchase via State Bid 5 Mobile Data Terminals for Police Vehicles. These are specialized pieces of equipment.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked why the need to bypass the formal bid process. City Manager Neibert stated the City could bid them out, but the state would get a better price through their bidding process. They purchase thousands at a time.

Council Member Wood made a motion to approve a Request to Bypass the Formal Bid Process to Purchase via State Bid 5 Mobile Data Terminals for Police Vehicles. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Manager Neibert presented a Request for Authorization to Seek Quotes for Large Format Printer/Copier/Scanner for Engineering Department. This will allow the City to better store, print out and evaluate plans; reducing storage and allowing the Department to review projects much more efficiently. This will replace two of the older machines that are not very efficient and will save the City a lot of money in the long run. It is a budgeted capital item.

Council Member McEnaney asked what size of mats the department would be able to print out with the new machine. City Engineer Scot Prindiville stated that it is a 36" wide printer.

Council Member Wood made a motion to approve the Authorization to Seek Quotes for Large Format Printer/Copier/Scanner for Engineering Department. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley

City Manager Neibert presented for the Council's consideration a Request to Bypass the Formal Bid Process to Purchase Ball Field Finisher via State of Illinois Bid Program. The State had already done the bidding for the City and the City receives a much better price due to large volume purchases.

Council Member McEnaney asked for clarification on what a ball field finisher was. Parks and Recreation Director George Bryant stated that it was a 3-wheeled vehicle that will allow them to be able to drag the ball fields without having to use attachments. It included hydraulics and would be more efficient in preparing the ball fields for people to play on. Council Member McEnaney asked how many ball fields the Parks and Recreation Department has to prepare. Bryant stated at times up to six fields.

Council Member Piper made a motion to Bypass the Formal Bid Process to Purchase Ball Field Finisher via State of Illinois Bid Program. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Manager Neibert presented for the council's consideration a Request to Bypass the Formal Bid Process to Purchase Zero Turn Mower via Illinois Association of County Board Members & Commissioners Bid Program. There is an organization in the Chicago area that gets together for all the Park Districts and Parks Departments and do a similar bid process like the State does allowing the City to receive a much better price.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked how the department heads finds out about these programs. City Manager Neibert stated through networking with other communities.

Council Member Wood made a motion to Bypass the formal Bid Process to Purchase Zero Turn Mower via Illinois Association of County Board Members & Commissioners Bid Program. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Manager Neibert presented Consideration of Preliminary and Final Plat for Skinner Subdivision. This is the parceling of one piece of property into two.

Aaron Dauby representing Round Table Design stepped forward on behalf of the Skinners. Mr. Dauby stated that this subdivision is 1.86 total acreage. The Skinners want to cut out .54 acres of the 1.86 to put a house on. City Manager Neibert stated that this did go before Planning and Zoning and received unanimous approval.

Council Member Wood asked what the existing building was on Lot 1. Mr. Dauby replied, a house. This property is located within a mile and a half planning jurisdiction confirmed Neibert.

Council Member Lash made a motion to approve the Preliminary and Final Plat for Skinner Subdivision. Second by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a First Reading on Ordinance Rezoning Property Located at 1314 North 11th Street from Class R-2 to RM-2. Petitioning Party: Travis Davis. Travis Davis was not present. City Manager Neibert stated this was an application to rezone property not within the City limits. Mr. Davis requested this rezoning for the placement of a mobile home. The application came in prior to the effective date of the Council's ordinance prohibiting new mobile homes in RM-2 locations and should be considered. It was passed at the Zoning and Planning commission. A First Read only was suggested due to the applicant's absence.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a First Reading on Ordinance Rezoning Property Located at North Old Union Lane from Class AG to R-1. Petitioning Party: Travis and Kimberly Thacker. Mr. Thacker stepped forward and stated that he wanted to rezone 14525 North Old Union Lane from AG to R-1 for the purpose of building a house.

Council Member Piper, stated that it was a great area of town.

Council Member Wood made a motion to Suspend the Rules to take action on the Ordinance Rezoning Property Located at North Old Union Lane from Class AG to R-1. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Council Member Wood made a motion to Approve Ordinance #2012-17 Rezoning Property Located at North Old Union Lane from Class AG to R-1. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a First Reading on Ordinance Rezoning Property Located at 17298 East Angling Road from Class AG to R-1. Petitioning Party: William and Deborah Skinner.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked the City Manager if there was a way to produce a synopsis of what is contained in the 30 page packets for Mr. Thacker and the Skinners. City Manager Neibert stated that he would have to refer to the City Engineer as to why the packet is so lengthy. Scot confirmed that the Soil and Water Conservation District requested a lot of the information. He stated that it is State Statute in how you rezone something to or from Agriculture. Applicants have to get this report from the Soil and Water Conservation District. City Manager Neibert stated that if legal council could find a way to summarize and put the pertinent information under the statutory requirement he would welcome it. City Attorney Howard stated that the bottom line is to find out whether anything moving from agriculture to something else would cause an endangerment to the public and that paperwork would support the findings.

Council Member Wood asked to have the packets emailed in a PDF format. Neibert agreed to do that.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to Suspend the Rules to take action on the Ordinance Rezoning Property Located at 17298 East Angling Road from Class AG to R-1. Second by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to Approve Ordinance #2012-18 Rezoning Property Located at 17298 East Angling Road from Class AG to R-1. Second by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a First Reading on Ordinance Amending AG and IA Zoning Districts to Permit Municipally Owned Park and Recreational Areas. City Manager Neibert stated the City is working on the design engineering for the aquatics facility which under current zoning ordinance would not be permitted.

Council Member Piper made a motion to Suspend the Rules to take action on the First Reading on Ordinance Amending AG and IA Zoning Districts to Permit Municipally Owned Park and Recreational Areas. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Council Member Piper made a motion to Approve Ordinance #2012-19 Amending AG and IA Zoning Districts to Permit Municipally Owned Park and Recreational Areas. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a First Reading on Ordinance Amending the Salary Ordinance. City Manager Neibert stated this ordinance is done annually when salaries are increased based on the bargaining unit contracts. Several of the salaries in that Ordinance include individuals holding certain positions, exceed the authorized level and because of the passage of the Police Department contract the City needs to amend the Ordinance to authorize their salary increases based on our bargaining unit contract. In addition this authorizes a new position with the City of a Capital Projects Manager. This position has been discussed individually and the Council supports given the large amount of capital projects and capitally funded projects.

Council Member Wood made a motion to Suspend the Rules to take action on the First Reading on Ordinance Amending Salary Ordinance. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

Council Member Wood made a motion to Approve Ordinance #2012-20 Amending Salary Ordinance. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Approving Permitted Signs within B-PL District for Property at 8 Doctors Park Road; Petitioning Party is Crossroads Community Hospital. City Engineer Scot Prindiville stepped forward and stated this was a request for three signs for emergency room, ambulance and one for the main entrance. Crossroads is currently zoned Planned Business (B-PL). The City's sign ordinance does not allow any permitted signs in B-PL without permission from the City Council. City Manager added that the sign package being submitted would conform with the proposed sign ordinance under consideration.

Council Member Wood made a motion to adopt a Resolution Approving Permitted Signs within B-PL District for Property at 8 Doctors Park Road. Second by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Granting a Conditional Sign Permit for Property at 4201 Broadway; Petitioning Party is Panda Express. City Engineer Prindiville stated this was a continuation of the conditional sign permit that was granted for them previously. Panda

Express is zoned B-2. There will be three tenants in the building and they want to erect directory signs; one free-standing sign that has three businesses on it. According to the City's Ordinance that is not allowed under B-2 zoning. There is a provision that states B-2 can conform with a B-3 sign package, which includes a directory sign. In order to do this the applicant has to file for a conditional sign permit.

Council Member Wood made a motion to adopt a Resolution Granting a Conditional Sign Permit for Property at 4201 Broadway. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Granting a Conditional Sign Permit for Property at 318 South 10th Street; Petitioning Party is One Stop Flooring America. City Attorney Howard stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission stated one of the requests is for a permitted sign that does not need conditional use. They recommended against the east sign and recommended approval of the north, south and west signs. City Engineer Prindiville stated that the north sign by itself exceeds the size threshold of a permitted sign but, since they are seeking a conditional sign permit, the council can approve whatever sign size they want. City Manager Neibert stated that recommendation at this point is wall signs only be allowed on building fronts that have frontage on the right-of-way so the sign on the west would conform to the proposed new sign language, the other three would not, but under the current ordinances in the past they are allowed.

Mayor Mary Jane Chesley asked the reasoning of the Planning and Zoning Commission not recommending the east sign. City Engineer Prindiville stated that he believed it was a combination of not wanting a sign on all four sides and thinking that the east side was the least visible side.

Council Member Wood stated that the Council suggests the Planning and Zoning Commissions recommendation and stated the he would be comfortable with just the three signs being approved.

Council Member Wood made a motion to adopt a Resolution Granting a Conditional Sign Permit for Property at 318 South 10th Street. Second by Council Member Piper. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney, Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Approving Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) #3 Streetscape Application for 10th Street and Broadway. City Manager noted this was just for the submission of the application; it does not commit to Council any expenditure of funds. Bids should be awarded 18-24 months from this time if the Council should decide to go out for bid at that time.

Council Member Wood stated that he intends to support the application process, but can't say that he would support the completion of the ITEP Grant due to the fact that the City's share of what was spent on the project thus far; approximately \$1 million has not been taken care of properly as far as maintenance of plants, litter and other areas is concerned. He stated until there is a maintenance program put into place that takes care of the money the City has spent including the money received from the State of Illinois he could not and would not support it going forward.

Downtown Mt. Vernon Development Corporation Director Cindy Mitchell stepped forward and stated that they have one maintenance person and quality depends on the individual. The position is 1,000 hours a year and the salary is rather low at \$10.33/hr. She stated that right now they have an excellent person working in that position that cuts weeds, mows, plants and waters flowers, fertilizes and picks up

the trash daily and maintains some building maintenance. Their goal is to maintain and keep downtown as clean as possible.

Mary Jane Chesley asked if Mantra-con would be supplying workers again this year to aid in the upkeep of downtown. Director Mitchell stated she has contacted them, but has not yet heard anything from them.

President Thacker of DMDC stepped forward and noted that downtown cleanup day will be coming up on June 2nd for those who are interested and stated that she agreed with Council Member Wood regarding a planned maintenance schedule and moving forward with that with additional raw material to work with.

Council Member Wood stated that his comments had nothing to do with the old containers mentioned and he realized that was a problem. This has been a disaster on 9th street and should have been accomplished already. He reiterated that if the City can't do a better job of taking the State's money and matching it with their own then he doesn't see how the City could take another step down this program. He stated that he participates in the one-day cleanup within the downtown area and it is not enough. He stated that Downtown Development cannot do the maintenance alone; the budget is not sufficient. He also noted that he knows the maintenance man well and he takes great pride in what he is doing and deserves to be complimented. The issue is that the City does not have enough driving this program to make sure that DMDC is making requests. He challenges the organization to come to Council and work with the City Manager and the various departments and put together a plan. He would like to see the plan in force this summer.

Council Member McEnaney asked what department would be best suited to aid in the maintenance of Downtown. City Manager Neibert stated the Parks and Recreation Department for the plantings because of their expertise in that area. It is ultimately a matter of DMDC putting together a checklist of what all needed to be done and seeing which departments are better able to perform certain functions and have the required resources such as equipment for maintaining certain aspects of the checklist. That is something that the City should work out together and come up with a plan to present to Council, if additional funding is required then that would be something for the Council to consider at that time, stated Niebert.

DMDC Director, Mitchell stated the City in the past has done an excellent job at working with and helping the organization. She stated that maintenance has slipped this year and she doesn't want it to happen again. She thinks the idea of scheduling is a really great idea and they would go forward with that.

Council Member McEnaney stated that he appreciated the efforts of Downtown Development and recognized that there is a limited budget. He stated that now is the time to kick it up and make improvements and support Downtown Development. He asked the timeframe of that plan. City Manager Neibert stated a recommendation could be presented at the June Retreat.

President Thacker expressed her thanks to the City for the cleanup of the bricks at the parking lot on 10th and Jordan Street.

Council Member Wood made a motion to adopt a Resolution Approving Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) #3 Streetscape Application for 10th Street & Broadway. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Approving Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) for Bicycle Transportation System Expansion. City Manager stated again this is for authorization of the application, not a commitment to the project.

Council Member Piper made the motion to adopt the Resolution Approving Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) for Bicycle Transportation System Expansion. Second by Council Member Wood. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Accepting Lease Quote with EJ Equipment for Vac-Con Vacuum Truck. City Manager Neibert stated this was a lease purchase agreement with EJ Equipment as you recall from a previous meeting the authorization of the purchase of this vehicle. The City is getting a very exceptional financing rate from EJ at 3.47 percent for a period of five years. At the end of the five years it will be owned by the City.

Council Member McEnaney asked the location of the company. City Manager Neibert stated that he could not answer that at this time, but stated that it is not a local company.

Mayor Chesley asked if this company was one that we had purchased equipment from in the past. City Manager replied that yes it was. It was the same company that the City had purchased the previous truck from 15 plus years ago.

Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Resolution Accepting Lease Quote with EJ Equipment for Vac-Con Vacuum Truck. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

MAYOR

No report.

CITY COUNCIL

Council Member McEnaney made the comment that he appreciated the City Manager and the Fire Department with all they have done to maintain the City's high ISO rating. He also wanted to thank the City Manager and Public Works on moving ahead on the street striping.

Council Member Wood expressed his concern to keep moving ahead on the street striping project and reiterated the importance of quality striping. He went on to thank the City Manager for the exceptional job he has done in the collective bargaining process.

VISITORS/CITIZEN REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

Cindy Bevis with Bevis Real Estate stepped forward and asked for an update on the number of homes that had been inspected, and if the City was finding and correcting the problems that it thought it would. She stated that she had two that passed and was thrilled. Mayor Mary Jane Chesley stated she

was unaware of the number, but stated the inspections appear to be going well. There have been some concerns, but have maintained an open mind and sought additional expertise on some of those problems and situations and have worked through a lot of them. City Manager Neibert elaborated that the City knew going into the process that there would be some problems that were anticipated along with some that were not. There will be some forth coming code amendments to some of the issues that have been addressed to try to keep with the intent of the Ordinance for Public Safety without putting a burden on the homeowner. Overall, he stated, it has been going well and is a learning process all around. He stated that he has not heard too many complaints. He also noted the City had worked with individuals when more than 30 days was needed to rectify certain violations which were found.

Mayor Chesley asked if the owner of the property is given a Certificate of Completion when the home passes the inspection. City Engineer Prindiville stated they receive a Certificate of Occupancy valid for three years. On average, the Inspection Department is doing four inspections per day in order to inspect every property within the three-year period.

Council Member McEnaney thanked Cindy Bevis for coming forward for the status on the Inspection of the rental properties, for being part of the committee and for her interest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Neibert requested an Executive Session in order to discuss collective bargaining. Council Member Piper made a motion to go into Executive Session in order to discuss collective bargaining. Second by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion for adjournment was made by Council Member Wood. Second by Council Member Lash. Yeas: Lash, McEnaney, Piper, Wood and Chesley. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins/lb
City Clerk