

**CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, June 1, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, June 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rolland W. Lewis Community Building, Veterans Park, 800 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Mt. Vernon, IL.

The invocation was given by Rachel Helgeson of the First Presbyterian Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed present: Council Members Jeff May, Dennis McEnaney, Donte Moore and Mayor Mary Jane Chesley. Absent: Council Member Todd Piper

**PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS**

The Journal for the May 18, 2015 Regular City Council Meeting was presented to Council for any additions, deletions or corrections. Mayor Chesley noted the Invocation by Brad Henson was omitted from the May 18, 2015 minutes and could be added upon Council approval. **Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Journal as amended. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

**APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

The Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable were presented to Council for approval. Council Member McEnaney asked for updates on the following items: #1 Baxmeyer Construction-\$122,578.70-Construction of North 42nds Street, Victoria to Richview. #4 Downtown Development Corporation-\$57,500.00-1<sup>st</sup> Distribution of funds per 15/16 budget. #9 Jefferson County Treasurer-\$10,586.34-City share of the Animal Shelter expenses less 50% of the fuel costs (\$10,259.34) City share of the Community Service Coordinator salary. #16 R & R The Crossing-\$9,462.00-Tif Tax reimbursement per Downtown TIF Agreement. #20 Televent DTN-\$2,748.00-Annual maintenance on storm/weather alerting system. #21 UMB Bank-\$610,821.88-Principle costs on the 2012 Bonds. The special check to Guinzy Construction in the amount of \$319,048.82 for South 34<sup>th</sup> Road reconstruction. Interim City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel provided information on each accordingly.

**Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,617,451.15. Seconded by Council Member May. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

**BIDS & QUOTES**

Police Chief, Chris Deichman, stepped forward and presented to Council the Bid Results for Three New Squad Cars. The bid results were as follows:

<b>Thomas Dodge</b>	<b>2014 Dodge Chargers</b>	<b>\$23,147.00/car</b>
<b>*Bid rejected due to it not being a 2015</b>		
<b>Pulmen Motors</b>	<b>2015 Dodge Chargers-Rear Wheel Drive</b>	<b>\$25,750.00/car</b>
<b>Pulmen Motors</b>	<b>2015 Dodge Chargers-All Wheel Drive</b>	<b>\$26,500.00/car</b>
<b>*Both bids had a notation that May 29 2015 was the last date to order 2015 Dodge Chargers</b>		
<b>King City Chrysler</b>	<b>2015 Dodge Chargers-Rear Wheel Drive</b>	<b>\$26,967.00/car</b>
<b>Ford Square</b>	<b>Ford Taurus-All Wheel Drive V-6</b>	<b>\$27,044.00/car</b>

King City Chrysler could have three 2015 Dodge Chargers delivered by August 26, 2015. Deichman's recommendation was King City Chrysler's bid in the total amount of \$80,901.00.

**Council Member Moore made a motion to accept the bid from King City Chrysler in the amount of \$26, 967.00/car. Seconded by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

Interim City Manager Bechtel presented to Council Permission to Seek Bids for New Landscaping of Four Downtown Parking Lots. The parking lots include the Jordan Street parking lot, City Hall parking lot, the parking lot next to Holtz Tool Supply and Parking Lot F in between Main Street and Broadway. Council Member McEnaney asked for maps of the parking lots sent to them via Drop Box.

Mayor Chesley complimented the Public Works Department for the color and beauty of the flowers downtown.

**Council Member McEnaney made a motion for Permission to Seek Bids for New Landscaping of Four Downtown Parking Lots. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

Mayor Chesley presented to Council Permission to Seek Quotes for City Hall Postage Machine. Bechtel stated that the postage machine was nine years old. The machines are supposed to last five or six years and it was getting really hard to get parts for it, she explained. The postage machine is budgeted.

**Council Member May made a motion to Seek Quotes for City Hall Postage Machine. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

**CITY MANAGER**

Interim City Manager Bechtel introduced Jeff Haarmann, Affordable Gas and Electric. He welcomed the new Council and provided the update on the Electrical Aggregation. As of June 1, 2015 the city would be switching from Homefield Energy to Constellation Energy. Constellation's rates would be roughly 10 percent lower than Ameren Illinois. Anyone with questions could contact Mr. Haarmann at (618) 203-8328.

Council Member McEnaney encouraged those who had dropped off of the City's aggregated rate to reconsider because it would be at least a 10 percent savings to them. He thanked Mr. Haarmann and his company for the good job they were doing and for keeping them informed.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Bill Howard presented for Council's consideration a Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Language in Article 32 Downtown Sidewalk Dining. Interim City Manager Bechtel clarified that they wanted to change the meaning of the word "Restaurant" take out the word "Kitchen" and now a restaurant meant a place kept, used, maintained, advertised and held out as a place to the public where food and/or beverages were prepared for consumption on premises and then served on premises. This would help some of the small businesses and potential businesses in the downtown area that may want to have outdoor dining or coffee outside.

**Council Member May made a motion to approve Ordinance #2015-19 Amending Language in Article 32 Downtown Sidewalk Dining. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

City Attorney Howard presented for Council's consideration a Second Reading of an Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Prairie Avenue. Bechtel explained that the City had reserved an easement across the area in front of the building just for the water and sewer in case the mains would happen to break they could get in there and fix them. National Railway was present at the meeting.

**Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve Ordinance #2015-20 Vacating a Portion of Prairie Avenue. Seconded by Council Member May. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

City Attorney Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Approving a Local Agency Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of Part of Wells Bypass Route FAS 2829 and FAU 8747. (Items 9-C & 9-D combined) Interim City Manager Bechtel provided information on the process of transfer of Wells Bypass from Jefferson County to the City of Mt. Vernon. The transfer would go to the State of Illinois for approval. This would allow the City to have the right-of-way for ease of construction for the new Mt. Vernon Township High School. The area covers the southern portion of Wells Bypass to State Rt. 148, approximately 1.41 miles of road.

City Engineer, Brad Ruble, explained that Ambassador Road would be reconstructed with concrete, three lanes wide with curb and gutter on each side and a sidewalk on the high school side. The Jurisdictional Transfer of Wells Bypass would allow the City to put in a third lane for a turning lane into the new high school.

**Council Member McEnaney made a motion to combine Items 9-C and 9-D and approve the Resolution Approving a Local Agency Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of Part of Wells Bypass Route FAS 2829 and FAU 8747. Seconded by Council Member May. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

City Attorney Howard presented for Council's consideration a Resolution Approving an Agreement Pipeline Crossing with Union Pacific Railroad. Bechtel explained that the City was asking for their permission to put water lines under their railroad. This was the \$2.9 million water main project funded from the 2012 bonds.

City Engineer, Brad Ruble, explained the reason for the delay in the project and noted that it was officially submitted to IDOT last meeting and the City would hopefully be receiving the permit in the next couple of weeks. They would then be able to go out for bid on the project.

**Council Member Moore made a motion to approve the Resolution Approving an Agreement Pipeline Crossing with Union Pacific Railroad. Seconded by Council Member McEnaney. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

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 East Edge of Mt. Vernon for Purpose of "Salute to Freedom" Fireworks Display on July 4, 2015.

**Council Member McEnaney made a motion to approve the 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 Purpose of "Salute to Freedom" Fireworks Display on July 4, 2015. Seconded by Council Member Moore. Yeas: May, McEnaney, Moore and Chesley. Absent: Piper**

**MAYOR**

Mayor Chesley had the opportunity to attend the Friday's Food and Art event at the Armory. She noted they had really good food, entertainment and nice art and craft vendors. She encouraged the public to attend. The events are from 2-7pm.

Market Days are the first Saturdays of the month by the Armory. There are outstanding vendors, including antiques, food, entertainment and a lot of local organizations with booths.

She appreciates all the people who work on the events. It takes time, but is worthwhile.

The third annual "Stepping out for Fitness" program will be starting up and is part of the city summer fitness activity. The event is 30 miles in 30 days for young people ages 6-17 and is held at Veterans Memorial Park. The program is highly successful. Council Member, Donte Moore, is volunteering his time and service heading up the program this year. He requested that parents of students from District 80 check in their children's backpacks for the Stepping out for Fitness pamphlet.

**CITY COUNCIL**

Councilman Moore asked all the residents of Mt. Vernon to be patient with the City regarding the tall grass on the city lots, they are working hard to get those lots mowed.

**VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Steven Casper stepped forward and inquired as to what the 15 percent increase in the water bill was being set aside for and if it was being set aside for water mains. Bechtel would get that information sent to him.

Mr. Casper also had concerns regarding the Electrical Aggregation peak rates. Mayor Chesley advised Mr. Casper that Jeff Haarmann had a number to be reached at for questions.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilee Hopkins  
City Clerk