

**CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS
CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION
Monday, April 7, 2025**

The Mt. Vernon City Council met in Executive Session on Monday April 7, 2025 at 7:47 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at City Hall, 1100 Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Mayor John Lewis requested an Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) – The Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the City.

Mayor John Lewis opened the Executive Session.

The roll call showed present: Council Member Ray Botch, Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis. Also present were Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna and Deputy City Clerk Becky Barbour.

Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna presented an update on the three properties that the City is trying to acquire.

Assistant City Manager McKenna reported that the owners of the 27th Street Property across from the Police Department accepted the offer of \$201,000.00. The City has agreed to give the owners ninety days after closing to remove any contents they wanted from the home. This does not prevent moving forward on building a parking lot on the property north of the house. This is a budgeted item.

The second property is located on N. 8th Street. The homeowners have accepted the offer of \$70,000.00.

The third property is the 12th Street property that is owned by the Michels family. Their attorney has confirmed that they can cure the title issues that were outstanding. The City will be able to start moving forward on this property. This will open up discussion on the Public Works facility and what the Council wants to do. This budget item has been held for several years awaiting resolution of this property.

The next item is regarding the location on the Rec Center. Regardless of what property is decided on, an appraisal of the property would need to be done. Option one was the northeast corner which was the property identified in the park plan. Option two is south of the Aquatic Zoo and option three as the Harlan Road property.

Assistant City Manager McKenna discussed exploring grant options to acquire property. The Lincoln Park Foundation is open to selling it outright if there is no grant available and that is the direction that the City would need to go. A price has not been set for the property. The City is estimating bonds in the amount of \$26 million for this project.

Information was given to council members regarding plans from the consulting firm. There is concern about there not being enough space north of the Aquatic Zoo to build the new facility. There was additional discussion regarding the proposed location of the Rec Center, including the property north of the Aquatic Zoo, acreage south of the Aquatic Zoo, and 69 acres on Harlan Road. There is no water, sewer, or roadway to the Harlan Road property and that would be an extra expense.

Mayor Lewis made a suggestion to have appraisals done of the Harlan Road and the foundation property. The Council was in agreement that Assistant City Manager McKenna should move forward with obtaining appraisals on the properties.

Council Member Joe Gliosci made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Becky Barbour".

Becky Barbour, Deputy City Clerk