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CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS
CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION
Tuesday, February 17, 2026

The Mt. Vernon City Council met in Executive Session on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 8:27 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)(1) – The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees.

Mayor John Lewis opened the Executive Session.

The roll call showed present: Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Jay Tate, and Mayor John Lewis. Also, present were City Manager Nathan McKenna, City Clerk Becky Barbour, and Attorney Courtney Cox. Absent: Council Member Mike Young.

Mayor John Lewis stated the evaluations received regarding City Manager Nathan McKenna were all favorable. There was additional discussion regarding City Manager McKenna with Council Members stating he is exceeding goals and expectations. Mayor John Lewis stated that McKenna is doing a great job but needs to be able to delegate and consider hiring an Assistant City Manager.

City Manager McKenna stated that he has considered two different options regarding hiring someone to assist in City Manager's office. There was discussion regarding the options of hiring an Assistant City Manager or filling the position of Assistant to the City Manager. Council Members agreed that City Manager McKenna should move forward with filling the position of Assistant to the City Manager.

City Manager McKenna said another position that needs to be discussed is that of the Public Works Director. Stephen Talley has served as Interim Public Works Director for most of the past year. Talley does not have an engineering degree, however he is great with the day-to-day and managing the employees. There are several options to consider: 1. Hire a new engineer as Public Works Director and keep Talley as the Assistant Public Works Director or 2. Keep Talley in that position and fill the Assistant Public Works position with someone that has an engineering background that can fill that portion of it.

City Manager McKenna stated that Dan Beranik has been added as a Field Supervisor for the Parks Department. This position was added because of the rec center, and this gives Beranik the

opportunity to be there as the City gets into the construction of the rec center. McKenna replied that Parks Director McKenzie May will be overseeing the programming and operational aspects.

City Manager McKenna stated that he has had vacation time rolled over and is up to about 10 weeks. He is asking the City to buy out 6 weeks which will put him back on a 4 week timeline. He stated he will take a vacation and use his time so that he is not rolling over any time in the future.

Mayor Lewis stated that City Manager McKenna is approaching a year in that position and discussed his raise. City Manager McKenna stated that his contract does not state that his raise is consistent with City's other contracts. City Council Member Moore stated that the contract states his raises are based off of his performance to be given at any time as the Council sees fit. Raises for employees are done in May and a raise for McKenna can be discussed before that time.

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

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Barbour

Becky Barbour, City Clerk