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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber at City Hall, 1100 Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/MtVernonIL>.

Mayor John Lewis opened the meeting.

Pastor Mark Wells with the Waltonville Freewill Baptist Church led the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

The roll call showed present: Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Jay Tate, Council Member Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis.

PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS

The Journal for the January 5, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting was presented for approval.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to approve the Journal as presented. Seconded by Council Member Jay Tate. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ms. Jody Brookman-Girvan was present with the Casey Jr. High Beta Club and introduced Holden Burge and MaLenna Mays to speak on behalf of the Beta Club. Holden Burge spoke first and stated that the goal of the Beta Club is to participate in community services and learn to be leaders for the future. This year they are thanking our Veterans and pursuing having the City of Mt. Vernon designated as a Purple Heart City. They ask that our community show how proud they are of these Veterans by having our City designated as a Purple Heart City. MaLenna Mays stated that by being a Purple Heart City, we are thanking these Veterans and their families for their service and showing them gratitude for their service. Their hope is that the Mayor and Council will proclaim Mt. Vernon as a Purple Heart City. She thanked the Council for their time and consideration.

Mayor Lewis thanked them and asked them to come forward to receive the Proclamation from the City of Mt. Vernon and the Council. He then read the Proclamation stating that the City of Mt. Vernon is now a Purple Heart City and that he encourages the residents of Mt. Vernon to show their appreciation for the sacrifices of all of the Purple Heart recipients. He then signed the Proclamation and presented it to the Casey Jr. High Beta Club members present at the meeting.

Council Member Donte Moore stated he knew several members of our community that are Purple Heart recipients and he is sure that they will appreciate this.

APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable were presented to the Council for approval.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$2,540,739.85. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

BIDS/QUOTES

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented the Bid Results for the Late Fall Demolition Project. The City received three bids for this round of demolitions. Two bids came in under our internal estimates. Dadd's Excavating & Demolition submitted a bid of \$100,000.00, Hails Excavating submitted a bid of \$71,000.00, and Heck's Excavating submitted the lowest bid, with a bid of \$62,500.00. The City had estimated \$76,000 for this project. Staff recommendation is to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Heck's Excavating.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the Late Fall Demolition Project from Heck's Excavating in the amount of \$62,500.00. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented the Bid Results for the Demolition of the Municipal West Building. There were three bids received for this project. Hails Excavating submitted a bid of \$78,894.00, Dadd's Excavating & Demolition submitted a bid of \$35,000.00, and Heck's Excavating submitted the lowest bid, with a bid of \$18,750.00. The City had estimated \$75,000.00 for this project. Staff recommendation is to award the bid to Heck's Excavating.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the Demolition of the Municipal West Building from Heck's Excavating in the amount of 18,750.00. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented a Street Closure Request for North Street between 10th Street and 11th Street on March 14, 2026, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Central Christian Church Women's Conference.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure Request for North Street between 10th Street and 11th Street on March 14, 2026, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Central Christian Church Women's Conference. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna requested permission to Seek Bids for Fireworks for the July 4th Salute to Freedom. The City had a three-year agreement and last July 4th Salute to Freedom was the last year on that agreement. The City is asking for permission to seek bids for another three-year contract.

Council Member Joe Giosci motioned to grant permission to Seek Bids for Fireworks for the July 4th Salute to Freedom. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna requested approval of a Quote from Legacy Fire for Engine Replacement on Firetruck #5131. This truck was purchased in 2013. Originally, it was the truck that was going to be sent off to be refurbished. However, the frame rails were in such bad condition that refurbishing the truck would've been cost prohibitive. The truck now has a knock in the motor and if the motor is replaced, we hope to get another 5 years out of the truck. This is not the truck we intend to replace next. The estimate is \$96,599.73.

Council Member Donte Moore asked Fire Chief Yenne if this truck is out for repair, is the City still good on fire trucks. Chief Yenne stated that #5134 is coming back at the end of January/end of February. The new Sutphen is working out and on schedule.

Council Member Joe Giosci motioned to grant permission to approve a Quote from Legacy Fire for Engine Replacement on Firetruck #5131. Seconded by Council Member Jay Tate. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna requested approval of a Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat. Petitioning Party: Robby and Kristin Tate. They are dividing the property to allow construction of a couple of homes. It was recommended for approval 4-0 by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant approval of a Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat. Petitioning Party: Robby and Kristin Tate. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna introduced Finance Director Dan Plumb for the Presentation and Approval of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit.

Finance Director Plumb presented the following information:

This is the City's 3rd year with Roth & Company performing the audit and my first-year being part of it. The city has again received an unqualified audit opinion with no findings. It is a "clean" audit. The government wide financial statements are broken down into two categories, governmental activities, and business type activities (public utilities and sanitation)

Governmental Activities - Governmental activities increased the City's net position by \$5.4 million during the year.

Revenues - The City's governmental activities had total revenues of \$41.3 million in fiscal year 2025. The largest revenue category is taxes, which totaled \$34.6 million. 67% of all taxes collected came from sales tax. \$4M of the total revenue was derived from program revenue, which consists of charges for services, federal and state grants, and other contributions.

Expenditures - Total governmental activities expenses amounted to \$31.8 million. The City's two largest program expenditures were general government at 44% and public safety at 32%.

Business-type Activities - Business-type activities increased the City's net position by \$3.6 million.

Revenues - Overall revenues from business-type activities increased by \$2.2 million (19%). The increase comes from the program-related revenues as well as an increase in grants and contributions.

Expenses - Total expenses from business-type activities increased by \$900,000 (8%). Expenses in the Sewer Fund increased by \$800,000 as a result of the increase in distribution and administration and general expenses. Water Fund and Sanitation Fund expenses increased by \$400,000 and \$600,000, respectively, a minimal increase from prior year.

Fund Financial Statements - At April 30, 2025, the City's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$41.9 million, an increase of \$5.0 million (14%). Of the total fund balance amount, \$18.3 million constitutes unassigned fund balance, which is an increase of \$1.0 million over the prior year. The remainder of the fund balance is for a variety of restricted and committed purposes and is not available for new spending.

Major Governmental Funds (General Fund and Home Rule Tax Fund) - The City's overall General Fund revenues increased by \$1.7 million (8%) in fiscal year 2025. The increase in revenue comes from the increased taxes collected. In addition, expenditures from the General Fund increased

by \$600,000 (4%). The increase was attributable to the increase in general government and public safety expenses. The fund balance for the Home Rule Tax fund increased by \$1.4 million (26%).

Proprietary Funds - The City's Water Fund net position increased by \$4.2 million, which was due to increased charges for services and the debt forgiven during fiscal year 2025. Revenues increased by \$1.7 million and expenses increased by \$40,000. The City's Sewer Fund net position decreased by \$600,000. Revenues decreased by \$80,000 while expenditures increased by \$800,000 during the fiscal year. The City's Sanitation Fund net position increased by \$20,000 which is a minimal movement from the prior year's net position. The City's self-insured Health Insurance Fund had a decrease in net position of \$1.1 million, which is due to increases in administrative and general expenses.

Long Term Liabilities - The City's combined long-term obligations increased by 2% during the year due to proceeds from new loans in fiscal year 2025. The City issued \$8.2 million debt and paid \$6.1 million of the outstanding debt during the year. Outstanding general obligation bonds \$33M; Outstanding loans \$12M; Outstanding leases \$0.8M

City's Pension Liabilities - IMRF is 101.36% funded; Police Pension is 59.09% funded; Fire Pension is 55.02% funded. The May 1, 2025 required minimum contribution for police pension is \$1.18M. \$84,000 increase over last year. The required minimum contribution for the fire pension is \$1.5M. \$225,000 increase over last year. Both police and fire pensions are on track to be 90% funded by 2040.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Audit. Seconded by Council Member Jay Tate. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 2611 Benton Road from B-2, Secondary Business to R-1, Low Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Elijah Francis. The property is a residential home that was zoned B-2 years ago. The owner is in the process of selling the property as residential. He cannot complete the sell until it is rezoned. It was recommended for approval 4-0 by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve Ordinance #2026-01, an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 2611 Benton Road from B-2, Secondary Business to R-1, Low-Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Elijah Francis. Seconded by Council Member Jay Tate. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 9867 N. IL Hwy 148 from A-G, General Agricultural to R-1, Low Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Robby and Kristin Tate. This is tied to the subdivision discussed above. The lots are under the 5-acre

minimum for AG zoning. It was recommended for approval 4-0 by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Council Member Jay Tate motioned to approve Ordinance #2026-02, an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 9867 N. IL Hwy 148 from A-G, General Agricultural to R-1, Low Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Robby and Kristin Tate. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 2604 Veterans Memorial Drive from I-1, Light Industrial to R-3, High Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Steve and Valerie Shields. The owner is selling the property to a residential development company called Eye Solutions. They are wanting to build a 20-unit apartment complex on the property. Planning and Zoning recommended for approval 4-0.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve Ordinance #2026-03, an Ordinance Rezoning Property at 2604 Veterans Memorial Drive from I-1, Light Industrial to R-3, High Density Residential. Petitioning Party: Steve and Valerie Shields. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented a Resolution Updating the Personnel Policy for the City of Mt. Vernon, which includes changes required to the policy by State and Federal laws.

Council Member Joe Gliosci made a motion to approve the Resolution Updating the Personnel Policy for the City of Mt. Vernon. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis. Resolution #2026-02.

City Manager Nathan McKenna presented a Resolution Accepting a Proposal with Sutphen Fire Apparatus to Purchase a New Fire Truck. The build time for new firetrucks can take a couple of years. This truck would be replacing one of the 20-year-old trucks. There is no money due at this time, this just commits the City to purchasing the truck once completed. In two years, the City will have the newest ladder truck loan paid and the thought is to roll the payment into a new loan for this truck.

Council Member Jay Tate made a motion to approve the Resolution Accepting a Proposal with Sutphen Fire Apparatus to Purchase a New Fire Truck. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis. Resolution #2026-03.

MAYOR

Mayor Lewis wanted to add that he appreciates the schools getting involved in city government and coming before the City Council to request something be done. He said he hopes more schools will participate in matters that are important to them.

CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Donte Moore wanted to commend Chief Brands and Chief Yenne and personnel for participating in a program that the NAACP started, and having breakfast with K-3rd graders. Parents had contacted him to say that they appreciated it, and this kind of program creates relationships with kids that they will not forget.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:31 p.m., Mayor John Lewis requested an Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) – The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the City.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to go into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) – The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the City. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

At 7:48 p.m., Mayor John Lewis reconvened the Regular City Council Meeting. Roll call showed present: Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Jay Tate, Council Member Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Jay Tate motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Gliosci, Moore, Tate, Young, and Lewis.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Barbour, City Clerk