

**CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS
CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION
Monday, December 6, 2021**

The Mt. Vernon City Council met in Executive Session on Monday, December 6, 2021 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 public body and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (6) – The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

Mayor John Lewis opened the Executive Session.

ROLL CALL

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 City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel, Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna, City Attorney David Leggans, Executive Director of the Jefferson County Development Corporation Tony Iriti, and Deputy City Clerk Becky Barbour.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel advised the City Council that there is twenty acres in the Rolland W. Lewis Industrial Park, which is adjacent to Pepsi Distribution on Davidson. The City would have to move their burn pile and put a fence around the lift station, which would be at the city's expense. Thrive has a Craft Grow License and they are looking for a place in Mt. Vernon. They are looking at buildings that already exist and also considering property for new construction. This is a site they would consider, and staff is proposing to the council that the price be set at \$20,000.00 per acre. The Mayor and Council established a purchase price of \$20,000.00 per acre and directed City Manager Bechtel to move forward with negotiations with Thrive.

City Manager Bechtel stated the second issue for Executive Session is the Council has approved a grant application for downtown revitalization, and as part of that grant, the City would like to include the acquisition of the Register News Building. The owners of the building have established a price of \$589,000.00. The Council would have to agree to enter a sales contract to purchase the building for \$589,000.00, contingent on receiving the full amount of the grant, which is three million dollars. The grant money would pay for the purchase of the building. The City would not exercise the agreement unless the grant money was received. The Mayor and

the Council directed City Manager Bechtel to move forward with an agreement regarding the Register News Building contingent on the City receiving the grant.

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

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Becky Barbour, Deputy City Clerk