



Mary Jo Pemberton
City Clerk
Rebecca Barbour
Deputy City Clerk

City of Mt. Vernon
1100 Main PO Box 1708
cityclerk@mtvernon.com

Creativity Redefined!

618-242-6815
FAX 618-242-6867
www.mtvernon.com

**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Monday, April 17, 2023
7:00 p.m.**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023 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 Brian Fuller with First Baptist Church of Woodlawn led the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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.

PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS

The Journals for the March 23, 2023 City Council Workshop and the April 3, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting were presented for approval.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to approve the Journals as presented. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

Hal Cross spoke to the Council regarding the donation of the building located at 809 Main Street (formerly the Downtown Mount Vernon Development Corporation office). He said the building would be used for a new not-for-profit animal placement organization. He stated it would be used as a phone networking office. No animals would be kept in the building. He has contacted local businesses regarding donating supplies to repair the building. Council Members asked Mr. Cross questions regarding the organization. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel stated that this matter will be discussed in Executive Session.

Resident Francine McKinney addressed the City Council regarding safety in her neighborhood in the 1100 block of South 12th Street. She stated there are wild parties late into the night and loud music all night. Someone has totaled her car leaving one of the parties. She also had shots fired into her other car in her driveway. Ms. McKinney stated that someone should buy her a car. The police have been called multiple times. Police Chief Trent Page was in attendance at the Council Meeting and addressed the issue with Ms. McKinney. Police Chief Page stated they send extra patrols to that location, and they do investigate the offenses that occur in that area. He stated that the problem is when the Police respond to the house, no witnesses will cooperate. Mayor Lewis stated that the Police Department has made the Mayor and Council aware of the problems in that area and he said they are trying to address the issue with extra patrolling in that area. Police Chief Page stated he will meet with Ms. McKinney and her daughter, Felicia McKinney, who was also present at the meeting, to see what can be done to resolve the issue.

Ms. McKinney also stated that the sidewalk in front of her house needs to be replaced. She thanked the Council for their time.

APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED VOUCHERS FOR ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

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

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to approve the Consolidated Vouchers for Accounts Payable in the amount of \$2,720,606,65. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

BIDS AND QUOTES

None.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel introduced Jacob Sanabia, Project Manager with Holland Construction, for the monthly update on the new Police Facility. Mr. Sanabia presented Council Members with a current book showing a progress report, schedules, contingency log and photos of progress. The completion date has been moved to June 30, 2023. Council Members asked questions and were updated on the new Police Facility. Assistant City Manager Nathan McKenna stated that the Open House is planned for July 7 and 8, with a move in date of July 10.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented for approval of a Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat for J.F. Grahlherr Addition to the Fountain Place South Industrial Park. Petitioning Party: Fred Grahlherr Trust. This is a simple subdivision to divide about 87 acres into two parcels for future development. This property is located in back of Fountain Place Industrial Park along the UP Railroad. Kyle Landsdowne with Round Table Design spoke to the Council regarding the plans for

the subdivision. City Manager Bechtel stated that this did go to Planning and Zoning and it was approved. Staff recommendation is to approve the subdivision.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve the Subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat for J.F. Grahlherr Addition to the Fountain Place South Industrial Park. Petitioning Party: Fred Grahlherr Trust. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel requested permission for a Street Closure on 9th Street between Main Street and Harrison Street on April 22, 2023 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for Webber High School Prom. Requesting Party: Webber High School.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure on 9th Street between Main Street and Harrison Street on April 22, 2023 from 3 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for Webber High School Prom. Requesting Party: Webber High School. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney David Leggans presented for Public Hearing and Second Reading of an Ordinance to Approve the Proposed Budget for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel stated there are no changes from the last workshop. She spoke of the increase in the sanitation fee to \$23.00 and the 5% increase in the sewer rates. She highlighted some of the projects planned for this next fiscal year that were previously discussed in the workshop. The projects total \$56,356,533.07 for the next fiscal year.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to approve Ordinance #2023-17, an Ordinance to Approve the Proposed Budget for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

City Attorney David Leggans presented for First Reading of an Ordinance Approving an Assignment and Quit Claim Deed to Continental Tire of the Americas LLC. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel explained that several years ago the City was the sponsor of a grant to construct a rail spur for Continental Tire. A requirement of the grant was that the City own the property on which the spur was built. After five years, the property could be transferred back to Continental Tire. The grant was closed out more than five years ago and the City is transferring ownership back to Continental Tire.

Council Member Ray Botch made the motion to suspend the rules and take action on the Ordinance, an Ordinance Approving an Assignment and Quit Claim Deed to Continental Tire of the Americas LLC. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve Ordinance #2023-18, an Ordinance Approving an Assignment and Quit Claim Deed to Continental Tire of the Americas LLC. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

City Attorney David Leggans presented for First Reading of an Ordinance to Increase Sewer Rates. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel stated that this ordinance is to increase the sewer rates by 5%. The monthly bill for 3,000 gallons would increase by \$2.18. This increase will be on the June 2023 bills.

Council Member Joe Gliosci made the motion to suspend the rules and take action on the Ordinance, an Ordinance to Increase Sewer Rates. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to approve Ordinance #2023-19, an Ordinance to Increase Sewer Rates. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

City Attorney David Leggans presented for First Reading of an Ordinance to Increase Garbage Rates. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel stated this ordinance increases the monthly rate for trash collection by \$1.50 to \$23.00 per month beginning May 1st. This includes the increase in the contract cost, the fuel surcharge, as well as the cost of an electronic recycling event.

Council Member Donte Moore made the motion to suspend the rules and take action on the Ordinance, an Ordinance to Increase Garbage Rates. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

Council Member Donte Moore motioned to approve Ordinance #2023-20, an Ordinance to Increase Garbage Rates. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

MAYOR

None.

CITY COUNCIL

None.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:59 p.m., Mayor John Lewis requested an Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)(6) - Purchase, Lease, or Sale of Real Property.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to go into Executive Session 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)(6) – Purchase, Lease or Sale of Real Property. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

At 8:17 p.m., Mayor John Lewis reconvened the Regular City Council Meeting.

Roll call showed present: Council Member Ray Botch, Council Member Joe Gliosci, Council Member Donte Moore, Council Member Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Council Member Donte Moore. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Moore, Young, and Lewis.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Barbour, Deputy City Clerk