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**City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois
Regular City Council Meeting
Monday, August 5, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

The Mt. Vernon City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on Monday, August 5, 2024 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>.

Pastor Craig Smith with the 1st Free Will Baptist Church 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 Mike Young, and Mayor John Lewis. Absent: Council Member Donte Moore.

PRESENTATION OF JOURNALS

The Journals from July 15, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting, November 20, 2023 Executive Session Council Meeting and January 16, 2024 Executive Session Council Meeting were presented for approval.

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

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

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 \$2,171,066.36. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

BIDS AND QUOTES

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented the Bid Results for the 2024 Sidewalk Replacement Project. There were eight bidders. Rollie Excavating was the low bidder with a bid in the amount of \$107,971.50. Staff recommendation is to accept the bid from Rollie Excavating.

Rollie Excavating	Woodlawn, IL	\$107,971.50
May Excavating	Carterville, IL	\$115,367.00
Bevis Construction	Mt. Vernon, IL	\$121,972.75
Groundworks	Breese, IL	\$159,500.00
C-Hill Civil Contractors	Campbell Hill, IL	\$170,888.00
Shores Builders	Centralia, IL	\$219,785.30
AR Martin Construction	Stonefort, IL	\$235,456.00
Guinzy Construction	Ashley, IL	\$305,009.04

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the 2024 Sidewalk Replacement Project from Rollie Excavating in the amount of \$107,971.50. Seconded by Council Member Ray Botch. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented the Bid Results for a Sidearm Mower. There was only one bid. Woody’s Municipal Supply Co. submitted a bid in the amount of \$198,037.00. Staff recommendation is to accept the bid from Woody’s Municipal Supply Co.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for a Sidearm Mower from Woody’s Municipal Supply Co. in the amount of \$198,037.00. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented the Bid Results for the Demolition of 10 Properties Containing Asbestos. There were two bidders. Kenneth A. Hails Excavating was the low bidder with a bid in the amount of \$109,000.00. Staff recommendation is to accept the bid from Kenneth A. Hails Excavating.

Heck’s Excavating	Mt. Vernon, IL	\$138,150.00
Kenneth A. Hails Excavating	Texico, IL	\$109,000.00

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the Demolition of 10 Properties Containing Asbestos from Kenneth A. Hails Excavating in the amount of \$109,000.00. Seconded by Council Member Ray Botch. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented the Bid Results for the Demolition of 8 Properties (Non Asbestos Containing Properties). There were two bidders. Heck’s Excavating was the low bidder with a bid in the amount of \$57,625.00. Staff recommendation is to accept the bid from Heck’s Excavating.

Heck’s Excavating	Mt. Vernon, IL	\$57,625.00
Kenneth A. Hails Excavating	Texico, IL	\$59,000.00

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the Demolition of 8 Properties (Non Asbestos Containing Properties) from Heck’s Excavating in the amount of \$57,625.00. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented the Bid Results for the Engineering of Traffic Lights at 34th and Veteran’s Memorial Drive. There were two bidders for this project. MAS Engineering was the low bidder with a bid in the amount of \$38,342.00. Staff recommendation is to accept the bid from MAS Engineering.

MAS Engineering	Paris, IL	\$38,342.00
HMG Engineers	Breese, IL	\$42,000.00

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission to accept the Bid Results for the Engineering of Traffic Lights at 34th and Veteran’s Memorial Drive from MAS Engineering in the amount of \$38,342.00. Seconded by Council Member Ray Botch. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Street Closure for Logan Street from Beverly Heights Avenue to 26th Street on August 10, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the Hands Up Summit. Requesting Party: 1st Free Will Baptist Church. Staff recommendation is to approve the request.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure for Logan Street from Beverly Heights Avenue to 26th Street on August 10, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for the Hands Up Summit. Requesting Party: 1st Free Will Baptist Church. Seconded by Council Member Ray Botch. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Street Closure for 9th Street from Jordan Street to Casey Avenue on September 21, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the Daisy Fresh Downtown Showcase. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Staff recommendation is to approve the request.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure for 9th Street from Jordan Street to Casey Avenue on September 21, 2024 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the Daisy Fresh Downtown Showcase. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Seconded by Council Member Ray Botch. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Street Closure for 7th Street from Main Street to Casey Avenue on December 7, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the Christmas Parade Lineup. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Staff recommendation is to approve the request.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure for 7th Street from Main Street to Casey Avenue on December 7, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the Christmas Parade Lineup. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Street Closure for 9th Street from Broadway to just before La Fuente on December 7, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Christmas Activities. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Staff recommendation is to approve the request.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to grant permission for a Street Closure for 9th Street from Broadway to just before La Fuente on December 7, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Christmas Activities. Requesting Party: Mt. Vernon Festivals. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel requested permission to Waive Bidding and Purchase a One-Ton Truck Through the State Contract for Public Works. This is a 2025 Ford F550 at a cost of \$86,508.00.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to grant permission to Waive Bidding and Purchase a One-Ton Truck Through the State Contract for Public Works at a Cost of \$86,508.00. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel requested permission to Seek Bids for the Replacement of the Garage Roof at the Fleet Services Building. This was discussed last fiscal year; however, the project was never started.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to grant permission to Seek Bids for the Replacement of the Garage Roof at the Fleet Services Building. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel brought for discussion and to seek permission to Resubmit the Application for a Brownfields Grant. The City was not awarded this grant last year and would like to reapply for this grant. This grant is for up to \$500,000.00 with no match. Public and private properties may be eligible for the funds for Phase 1 and Phase II environmental studies as needed. There are city properties and privately owned parcels that might benefit from this grant. Completing the Phase 1 and Phase 11 studies does NOT initiate remediation with EPA. This program does not force remediation if some type of contamination is found. This is strictly to understand the condition of the property. Council Member Gliosci asked if there is a time limit that the funds would need to be expended. Bechtel stated the time limit is two years. The City will be working on getting community letters of support to send with the grant application.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to grant permission to Resubmit the Application for the Brownfields Grant. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented for First Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement for the Purchase of Property at Zachery and State Route 15. This is for the 19 +- acres that are adjacent to the Chesley Industrial Park. This property could be used for industrial, commercial or residential projects. The cost is \$285,000. The City has 90 days for due diligence for environmental study, survey, and title work.

Council Member Joe Gliosci made the motion to suspend the rules and take action on the Ordinance, an Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement for the Purchase of Property at Zachery and State Route 15. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to approve Ordinance #2024-27, an Ordinance Authorizing an Agreement for the Purchase of Property at Zachery and State Route 15. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Emergency Telephone System Board (911). There was conflicting language in the Agreement, and this will update and clear up the purchasing guidelines. This Agreement makes the 911 Board (which consists of City and County appointments) responsible for approving the expenditures.

Council Member Mike Young motioned to approve the Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Emergency Telephone System Board (911). Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore. Resolution #2024-31.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Resolution Appointing an Authorized IMRF Agent for the City of Mt. Vernon. The City's Human Resources Director Cheryl Conner is retiring at the end of August. Sascha Traxler will be the new HR Director, and she will be the IMRF Agent for the City. This Resolution will appoint Sascha Traxler to the position.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to approve the Resolution Appointing an Authorized IMRF Agent for the City of Mt. Vernon. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore. Resolution #2024-32.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Resolution in Support of an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Grant Application for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Veterans Memorial Drive. This is in support of an ITEP grant application to extend the multipurpose bicycle/pedestrian path on Veterans from 34th Street to 28th Street, North on 28th Street to Jones, East on Jones to a point on city property (new public works building) and then North to connect to the Forest Avenue parking lot. This will connect that parking lot to Veterans Park, then all the way down to Lincoln Park. The construction cost is estimated at \$1,735,000. The match, without forgiveness, is about \$347,000. The City does believe it will qualify for forgiveness and in that case, it would be a 100% grant.

Council Member Joe Gliosci motioned to approve the Resolution in Support of an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Grant Application for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements on Veterans Memorial Drive. Seconded by Council Member Mike Young. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore. Resolution #2024-33.

City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel presented a Resolution in Support of an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant Application for Streetscape Improvements on Broadway and State Route 37. This is a grant to improve the sidewalks and lighting on Broadway from 11th Street to 9th Street and on 10th Street from Main Street to Jordan. This would be for sidewalks, pavers, decorative lighting, and traffic signal improvement. The total estimated cost of this project is \$3,207,346. The match for this project is estimated at \$1,175,204.80. If the City would receive match forgiveness, the City's part would be \$217,147. If the City would receive the award, but not the forgiveness, it is possible to reduce the scope of the improvements to fit the amount that the City would be able to match.

Council Member Ray Botch motioned to approve the Resolution in Support of an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant Application for Streetscape Improvements on Broadway and State Route 37. Seconded by Council Member Joe Gliosci. Yeas: Botch, Gliosci, Young, and Lewis. Absent: Moore. Resolution #2024-34.

MAYOR

Mayor John Lewis wanted to inform the public of the City's new App that can be downloaded to their telephones. It will take you directly to the City's website and all of the information available there. City Manager Mary Ellen Bechtel explained that water bills can be paid through the App, there is contact information for all of the different departments, notifications for boil water orders, etc., and the Tourism Department has a calendar of events on the App. It is a great way to see what is going on and make suggestions, compliments, complaints, etc. This is a way to keep citizens more informed.

CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Ray Botch wanted to wish Mayor John Lewis a Happy Birthday.

VISITORS/CITIZENS REQUESTS/ADDRESSES FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Barbour, Deputy City Clerk