

The Mount Vernon City Council met April 3, 2023, at City Hall, 213 1st Street NW. For those planning to attend via Zoom the following information was needed: Telephone #: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 874 2494 2217, Password: 316773. If assistance was needed before the meeting, they could contact City Administrator Chris Nosbisch at 319-359-8613. The following Council members were present: Rose, West, Engel, Tuerler, and Herrmann (via Zoom).

Call to Order. At 6:30 p.m. Mayor Thomas M. Wieseler called the meeting to order.

Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval. West noted a typo in the Mayoral Proclamation description that should be corrected to say “Commitment to Building an Environment” instead of “Commitment to Building and Environment”. Nosbisch noted that the Pay Application for Septagon Construction should be #3 instead of #2. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Engel to approve the agenda with these changes. Motion carries.

Consent Agenda. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve Consent Agenda. Motion carries.

Approval of City Council Minutes – March 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting
Approval of Liquor License – Casey’s General Store #1599

Public Hearing

Public Hearing for Budget Amendment #1 to the City of Mt. Vernon’s Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. Mayor Wieseler declared the Public Hearing open. Hearing no comments from the public, motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to close the public hearing. Motion carries.

Ordinance Approval/Amendment

Ordinance #3-20-2023A: Amending Chapter 70 Traffic Code Enforcement Procedures to the Mt. Vernon Municipal Code. Staff has not received any new oral or written communication regarding this ordinance since the first reading. Motion made by West, seconded by Rose to approve the second reading of Ordinance #3-20-2023A. Roll call all yes. Motion carries.

Resolutions for Approval

Resolution #4-3-2023A: Approving Budget Amendment #1 to the City of Mt. Vernon’s Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. Nosbisch explained that there were a number of capital projects that were budgeted for but not started this fiscal year and increased expenses, the biggest being salaries. Overall this is a net zero budget amendment. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Herrmann to approve Resolution #4-3-2023A. Roll call all yes. Motion carries.

Resolution #4-3-2023B: Approving the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Transfers. This transfer resolution covers expenses for City Hall renovations from Franchise Fees and the revenue from the sale of the 2007 F-150 into the RUT Depreciation fund. Motion made by West, seconded by Herrmann to approve Resolution #4-3-2023B. Roll call all yes. Motion carries.

Mayoral Proclamation

Proclamation Affirming the City of Mount Vernon's Commitment to Shared Values of Compassion, Inclusion, Respect, and Dignity, and our Commitment to Building an Environment, and a Community, in Which Everyone is Valued and Everyone has the Opportunity to Thrive. Mayor Wieseler read the proclamation for the record. The entire proclamation can be found on the City website under the April 3, 2023 Council packet or at City Hall.

Motions for Approval

Consideration of Claims List – Motion to Approve. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve the claims list. Motion carries.

PAYROLL	CLAIMS	99,077.44
WELLMARK	INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	25,126.19
PIGOTT INC	FURNITURE-CHAMBER RENOVATIONS	17,867.95
LSC FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS	EQUIP LEASE-LBC	6,999.08
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-LBC	3,900.71
STREICHERS	TRAINING-PD	2,990.00
SARGENT ART INC	CHALK-CHALK THE WALK	2,358.60
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	2,086.52
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY	INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	2,040.39
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PW STORAGE BUILDINGS	1,862.99
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	DAVIS PARK IMPROVEMENTS	1,674.01
EBS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	1,466.07
LISBON, CITY OF	AMB DIRECTOR CONTRACTED SALARY	1,454.37
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY	AIR PACK TESTING-FD	1,076.75
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PW STORAGE BUILDINGS	978.00
CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL SERVICES	GENERATOR-PD	949.39
EBS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	934.24
BRADY LANHAM	CITY HALL IMPROVEMENTS	789.00
EBS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	657.00
AUDITOR OF STATE	AUDIT FILING FEE-P&A	625.00
MT VERNON ROAD TIRE CO	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	552.36
POSTMASTER	UTILITY BILL POSTAGE-WAT,SEW,SW	523.56
CAUSE TEAM	UNIFORMS-ALL DEPTS	513.40
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PALISADES ROAD OVERLAY	480.45
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-FD	472.28
CURTIS ENGLISH	PORTABLE RENTALS-P&REC	460.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	434.93
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&A	431.22
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY	PHONE/INTERNET-LBC	426.22
RELIANT FIRE APPARATUS INC	EQUIPMENT-FD	386.65
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-P&A	362.57
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-FD	361.32
W.S. DARLEY & CO.	EQUIPMENT-FD	294.79
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD,P&A	292.02
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-SEW	288.80
AMERICAN RED CROSS	CPR TRAINING-LBC	288.00
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-P&A	284.15
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-P&A	273.41
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-RUT	261.83
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-P&A	258.81
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-POOL	254.88
IMFOA	SPRING MEETING-P&A	250.00

MOUNT VERNON, CITY OF	START UP CASH-POOL	250.00
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-LBC	237.00
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST	NSF CHECK-WAT	235.71
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY	SUPPLIES-PD	207.50
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-PD	207.31
CHRIS NOSBISCH	MILEAGE-P&A	190.61
CUSTOM HOSE & SUPPLIES INC	HOSES-FD	188.72
MIDWEST WHEEL CO	VEHICLE MAINT-FD	184.50
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-P&REC,WAT,SEW	178.97
LYNCH FORD	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	153.97
CREATIVE PRODUCT SOURCING	DARE-PD	150.16
AHLERS & COONEY P.C.	LEGAL FEES-P&A	132.00
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-LBC	130.38
IOWA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION	MEMBERSHIP-FD	75.00
TECHNICOM COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE MAINT-P&A	72.00
ARAMARK	RUGS,SERVICES-FD	70.97
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-P&A	64.77
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD	52.67
AMY FORD	DARE SUPPLIES-PD	43.45
JOE'S QUALITY WINDOW CLEANING	WINDOW CLEANING-PD	40.00
LYNCH FORD	VEHICLE MAINT-SEW	35.00
KELLI MARIE KENNON-LANE	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	25.00
P&K MIDWEST INC	EQUIPMENT-RUT	11.16
TOTAL		186,002.20

PAYROLL	99,077.44
GENERAL FUND	34,841.79
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS	18,656.95
LBC	13,421.32
SEWER FUND	4,854.62
WATER FUND	4,798.83
PW COLD STORAGE	2,840.99
ROAD USE TAX FUND	2,312.22
DAVIS PARK IMPROVEMENTS	1,674.01
SOLID WASTE	1,286.43
ARP POLICE STATION CONST	949.39
STORM WATER FUND	807.76
PALISADES ROAD OVERLAY	480.45
TOTAL	186,002.20

Discussion and Consideration of Historic Preservation Commission Correspondence with Shane Amundson Regarding 724 5th NW – Council Action as Needed. Mr. Amundson addressed Council regarding an application that he submitted for vinyl replacement windows at his home in the Ash Park Historic District. The building permit application was submitted to Linn County in October 2022 but Historic Preservation has not officially acted on the application. Amundson attended a meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission on November 5, 2022 where a pre-review of the project was discussed and he was given various options by the commission for materials that would be appropriate. In order for Historic Preservation to officially act on a permit application, a completed Application for Certificate of Appropriateness is needed from the applicant. Suzette Astley, chairperson for Historic Preservation, said the Commission did not receive this application until January 2023. Discussion and review of this item was

added to the February 4, 2023 Historic Preservation agenda. Amundson was not available to attend this meeting to answer questions from the Commission so a decision was deferred until the board received additional information, as they did not feel that there was sufficient information to act on the application. At this same meeting, the Commission did approve vinyl windows on another historic property. City Administrator Nosbisch explained that there is nothing in the code that requires an applicant to be present at these meetings and each application should be reviewed and acted upon based on its merits. If Historic Preservation makes a decision that the applicant does not agree with, it can be appealed to City Council, but must be acted on officially by Historic Preservation first within a certain timeframe. This will go back to Historic Preservation to act on before the next Council meeting.

Discussion and Consideration of Pool Feasibility Report – Water's Edge Consultants – Council Action as Needed. Lauren Ozburn with Waters Edge was in attendance to give Council a summary of the findings from the Swimming Pool Feasibility Study. During the process there were two rounds of public input meetings that focused on the need for aquatics in the community, indoor vs outdoor, location and operating costs. Other factors that were determined during the process were the need for features and amenities, classes and programs offered and fees. The entire study, as well as tonight's presentation can be found on the City website or at City Hall. Council will begin the process of deciding on the concept and what the potential next steps are to move forward on the project.

Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #2 – Public Works Cold Storage Buildings – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Herrmann to approve Pay Application #2, Public Works Cold Storage Buildings, in the amount of \$103,773.25. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Committee and Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation Establishing the Mount Vernon Community Family of Named Community Betterment Funds. The next three agenda items are a Memorandum of Understanding as well as funding agreements between the City of Mount Vernon and the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation will administer and provide guidance to the Mt. Vernon Community Betterment Today Fund and the Mt. Vernon Community Tomorrow Fund. Funds will be used to provide support for eligible nonprofits in Mount Vernon. The announcement of the dollars donated and the creation of a committee will occur at a later date but the adoption of these three items needs to occur first. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Engel to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Committee and Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of a Fund Agreement for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Tomorrow Fund a Community Betterment Endowed Fund. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve the Fund Agreement for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Tomorrow Fund, a Community Betterment Endowed Fund. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of a Fund Agreement for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Today Fund a Community Betterment Non-Endowed Fund. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to approve the Fund Agreement for the Mount Vernon Community Betterment Today Fund, a Community Betterment Non-Endowed Fund. Motion Carries.

Discussion and Consideration of the Chalk the Walk Street Closure Request – Council Action as Needed. Chalk the Walk is scheduled for May 6-7, 2023. Street closures will begin on Friday afternoon, May 5, 2023 and will open again on Sunday, May 7, 2023. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve the street closures for Chalk the Walk. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of “No Mow May” Recognition Request – City Council Action as Needed. The City has received a number of requests from both citizens and members of the Mt. Vernon Sustainability Committee to formally recognize “No Mow May”. Nobsisch said given the timeframe, his recommendation is that the City does not actively enforce the nuisance requirements for weed and grass-based nuisances through the entire month of May. Moving forward, if the City is going to truly recognize “No Mow May”, there should be a formal registration process. No formal action taken by Council but an understanding that nuisance requirements will not be enforced for this particular nuisance in the month of May.

Discussion and Consideration of LBC Fee Waiver for the Mount Vernon Community Blood Drive – Impact Life - Council Action as Needed. Both this request and the fee waiver request for the Mount Vernon Child Care Group are non-profits that meet the requirements for a fee waiver that have been established. There was a question from Council as to whether these types of items would need to come before Council for approval, given the amount of the request. Nobsisch said he is comfortable with that if Council agrees. Council felt that this was something that could be handled by staff. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve the LBC Fee Waiver for the Mount Vernon Community Blood Drive. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #3 for the Police Station Renovation Project-Septagon Construction-Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to approve Pay Application #3 for the Police Station Renovation Project, Septagon Construction, in the amount of \$58,011.75.

Discussion and Consideration of the LBC Fee Waiver for the Mount Vernon Child Care Group - Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve the LBC Fee Waiver for the Mount Vernon Child Care Group. Motion carries.

Reports to be Received/Filed. Full reports can be found on the City website under the April 3, 2023 Council packet.

LMVAS Annual Report

Mt. Vernon/Lisbon Annual Report

Discussion Items (No Action)

CIP/Budget. The FY2024 budget presentation will be on the next Council agenda.

Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

Mayor’s Report. Saturday, April 8th, there will be a “Meet the Mayor” at Fuel at 9:00 a.m. Wieseler did a “Welcome to Mount Vernon” last week for Linn County Sustainability at the LBC. Council members will be receiving a survey from Cornell College seeking input about the next 10 year strategic plan for the college. Mount Vernon has been offered rain barrels for City and resident use.

Council Reports. Tuerler reported that the Gazette had an article in yesterday’s issue regarding alternative dwelling units and recommended reading it. Rose complimented the volunteers and Public Works employees for their efforts after last week’s storms and also reminded everyone of the pancake breakfast at the Fire Department on Saturday as well as the Easter Egg hunt. Hermann reported that the CDG has started the process of developing a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement.

City Administrator’s Report. Full report available on the City website under the April 3, 2023 Council packet.

As there was no further business to attend to the meeting adjourned the time being 9:28 p.m., April 3, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Dewell
City Clerk