

The Mount Vernon City Council met November 20, 2023, at City Hall, 213 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW, Mount Vernon, IA. A Zoom option was available. The following Council members were present: Tuerler, Rose, Engel, Herrmann and West.

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

**Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval.** Motion made by Herrmann, seconded by Rose to approve the amended Agenda posted on November 19, 2023. Motion carries. Herrmann and West absent.

**Consent Agenda.** Motion made by West, seconded by Engel to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carries.

Approval of City Council Minutes – November 6, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

### **Resolutions for Approval**

Resolution #11-20-2023A: Certifying to County Auditor, TIF Debt Incurred in CY2023 for FY 2025. The city is required to certify the amount of TIF (tax increment finance) dollars it is requesting for the next fiscal year by December 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. Mt. Vernon's request will consist of three submittals. Spring Meadow Heights and Stonebrook subdivisions account for the residential development agreements already in place. The third document itemizes the TIF monies that are used to repay bonds (streets, LBC, etc). Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Herrmann to approve Resolution #11-20-2023A. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #11-20-2023B: Approving Fiscal Year 2024 Transfers. Staff is seeking to make two transfers with this resolution to cover capital projects that are currently complete or underway. The Business 30 culvert project was considered an emergency repair and the Candlestick curb and gutter improvements were in the CIP plan for the past three years. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve Resolution #11-20-2023B. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #11-20-2023C: Setting Dates of a Consultation and Public Hearing on a Proposed Amendment No. 8 to the City of Mount Vernon Urban Renewal Plan in the City of Mount Vernon, State of Iowa. This urban renewal plan amendment is necessary to facilitate the CHI low to moderate income housing development. CHI will receive \$395,000 of LMI funds for the housing units construction, and another \$750,000 will be used for the extension of Glenn Street to the east. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Herrmann to approve Resolution #11-20-2023C. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #11-20-2023D: Approving Pre-Annexation Agreement Between Louwagie and the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa. The next two resolutions have been adopted previously but the pre-development agreements were not signed by the applicants at the time that they were passed. Motion made by Engel, seconded by West to approve Resolution #11-20-2023D. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #11-20-2023E: Preliminarily Approving Application for Annexation and Scheduling Public Hearing on Proposed Annexation of Property as Set Forth Within Voluntary Application for Annexation. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution #11-20-2023E. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

## Motions for Approval

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

PAYROLL	CLAIMS	108,325.69
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	GROUP INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	36,514.91
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	4,648.03
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	3,642.48
CEDAR RAPIDS METRO ECON ALLIANCE	MEMBERSHIP-ECON DEV	3,500.00
DE NOVO MARKETING	COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORM-ALL DEPTS	3,500.00
GRONEWOLD, BELL, KYHNN & CO	AUDIT-ALL DEPTS	3,088.48
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	SUPPLIES-PW COLD STORAGE	2,969.72
STATE HYGIENIC LAB	TESTING-SEW	2,686.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	2,551.25
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST	GO SERIES 2020 INTEREST	2,520.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-LBC	2,394.07
MARTIN GARDNER ARCHITECTURE	CONSTRUCTION ADMIN-PD CONST	1,960.12
PNP	FUEL-PD	1,873.53
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	1,696.04
BRADLEY HAUGE CPA	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-ALL DEPT	1,610.00
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER MAINT-PD	1,426.50
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL FEES-P&A	1,054.50
LYNCH FORD	VEHICLE MAINT-PW	975.95
HENDERSON PRODUCTS INC	VEHICLE MAINT-RUT	916.21
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	SUPPLIES-WAT	816.95
REC DESK LLC	CREDIT CARD FEES-LBC,P&REC,POOL	794.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-FD	749.99
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-RUT	636.85
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	604.79
TEAM SERVICES INC	CONST TESTING SERVICES-PD CONST	596.03
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	590.48
BANKCARD 8076	CREDIT CARD FEES-LBC,P&REC	589.88
RED LION RENEWABLES	SOLAR ELECTRIC PROD-P&A,PD	560.45
METROPOLITAN COMPOUNDS	PAINT-RUT	545.57
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	518.77
CARROT-TOP INDUSTRIES INC	FLAGS-FD	459.13
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	422.98
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&A	421.92
KIECKS	UNIFORMS-PD	412.83
DAN'S OVERHEAD DOORS	DOOR REPAIRS-PD	385.20
CAUSE TEAM	UNIFORMS-PD	375.00
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-RUT	322.46
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-PD	261.76
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-PD	247.51
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS LINE REPAIR-RUT	243.03
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-LBC	234.55
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD	229.99
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-PD	217.68
CHRIS NOSBISCH	MILEAGE-P&A	191.91
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	TRAINING-FD	150.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	135.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&REC	124.82
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	116.45

CURTIS ENGLISH	PORTABLE RR RENTALS-P&REC	115.00
CUMMINS SALES AND SERVICE	EQUIP REPAIR-WAT	111.06
TODD WEAVER	FITNESS MEMBERSHIP-FD	100.00
AIRGAS INC	CYLINDER RENTAL FEE-PW	98.68
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-RUT,P&A,WAT,SEW	84.31
ARAMARK	RUGS,SERVICES-FD	80.57
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-POOL	78.07
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST	NSF CHECK-WAT,SEW,GB	74.25
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-P&A	69.33
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-P&A	69.33
PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-FD	67.10
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHARGES-PD	64.66
MOUNT VERNON CAR WASH	CAR WASH-PD	64.00
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY	EXTINGUISHER RECHARGE-FD	48.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-FD SIRENS	45.70
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	37.98
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	32.71
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	30.00
HAWKINS INC	CHEMICALS-WAT	30.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SW	26.18
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	25.42
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD	21.82
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-CEM	20.38
SUPER SEVEN LLC	DEPOSIT REFUND-WAT	19.84
MENARDS	COMPUTER EQUIP-PD	14.97
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>201,238.82</b>

**FUND EXPENSE TOTALS**

PAYROLL	108,325.69
GENERAL FUND	36,228.42
ROAD USE TAX FUND	15,407.22
SEWER FUND	13,322.34
WATER FUND	12,511.40
LBC	7,195.71
ARP POLICE STATION CONSTRUCTION	2,556.15
DEBT SERVICE	2,520.00
SOLID WASTE	1,936.45
STORM WATER FUND	1,235.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>201,238.82</b>

Discussion and Consideration of Bunker Gear and Other PPE – Fire Department – Council Action as Needed. The Fire Department is seeking approval to spend no more than \$12,000 on updated bunker/PPE gear. This is a budgeted expense from their operating fund. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to approve the purchase of updated bunker/PPE gear for the Fire Department. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Grinding and Trommel Services – Compost Site – Council Action as Needed. This is more of an FYI for the City Council. The City does not have the equipment necessary to sift our compost pile and grind the tree debris collected throughout the year. Given the nice weather, the contractor requested to complete the work the week of November 13, 2023. The expected costs of completing both projects is estimated to be between \$8,000 and \$10,000. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Herrmann to approve grinding and trommel services not to exceed \$10,000.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Downtown Streetscape Design Services – Council Action as Needed. The Mount Vernon Streetscape Improvements Project firm interviews took place the week of November 6<sup>th</sup> with six firms being interviewed. The interviewing committee is recommending that JEO be hired for this project. One of the most crucial components to the success of this project is public engagement. In addition to an in-house public engagement team, JEO has a number of engineers who focus on streetscape design in historical districts as well as all the other aspects of design and engineering that are essential to this project. Motion made by West, seconded by Herrmann to hire JEO for the Downtown Streetscape Project. Motion carries. Council will approve a contract with JEO at a separate meeting.

Discussion and Consideration of Pollinator Plantings on City Property – Council Action as Needed. Councilperson Rose provided Council with a pollinator planting description from the Monarch Research Project in the hopes of adopting a City sponsored planting program. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to direct Parks and Recreation to begin the process of looking into pollinator plantings on City property. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of an Alternative Meeting Date for January 1, 2024 – Council Action as Needed. The first meeting in January would fall on the New Year's holiday. Motion made by West, seconded by Engel to set the first Council meeting in January 2024 for January 2, 2024. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Street Closure Request for Magical Night – Council Action as Needed. The Magical Night committee is seeking to close 1<sup>st</sup> Street on the evening of Thursday, November 30, 2023. The street closure will begin around 2 p.m. and end around 10 p.m. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Herrmann to approve the street closure for Magical Night on November 30, 2023. Motion carries.

**Reports to be Received/Filed.** Full reports can be found on the City website under the November 20, 2023 Council Packet.

Mt. Vernon/Lisbon Police Report. Chief Shannon added that Officer Gutierrez was chosen to have his picture in a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder calendar being done by Cedar Rapids based company Honor and Respect as a fundraiser for Cedar Rapids Critter Crusaders and Cedar Rapids Animal Control. A squad car that was ordered in 2022 is not due to be built until February of 2024 due to supply chain issues. In order to get a squad vehicle back in service, Chief Shannon will be purchasing a Dodge Durango from Galena Chrysler that is in stock and available now.

Mt. Vernon Public Works Report  
Mt. Vernon Parks and Rec Report  
LMVAS Report  
Cole Library Report

#### **Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator**

Mayor's Report. Mayor Wieseler gave an update on City board vacancies that need to be filled. There are currently the following vacancies: Parks and Recreation (1), Historic Preservation (1), Board of Adjustment (2), Planning and Zoning (1).

City Administrator's Report. Full report can be found on the City website under the November 20, 2023 Council Packet.

As there was no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned, the time being 7:33 p.m., November 20, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Dewell  
City Clerk