

The Mount Vernon City Council met April 7, 2025, at City Hall, 213 1st Street NW, Mount Vernon, IA. A Zoom option was available. The following Council members were present: Tuerler, Rose and West (via Zoom). Absent: Andresen and Engel.

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

Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the Agenda. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Consent Agenda. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Approval of City Council Minutes – March 17, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

Approval of Liquor License – Casey’s General Store #1599

Approval of Liquor License – Chameleon’s Pub and Grub

Resolutions for Approval

Resolution #4-7-2025A: Approving Budget Amendment #1 to the FY 2025 City of Mount Vernon Budget. The budget amendment gives the appearance of significant overspending this fiscal year. This is due to the time discrepancy between the receipt of bond proceeds and when the capital projects for those bonds are spent. Budgeted expenses increased due to timing of capital project expenditures, developer agreement payments and overall rising costs. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution #4-7-2025A. Roll call all yes. Andresen and Engel absent. Resolution passes.

Resolution #4-7-2025B: Fixing Date for a Meeting on the Proposition to Authorize a Loan Agreement and the Issuance of Notes to Evidence the Obligations of the City Thereunder (\$500,000). This resolution will establish a public hearing on May 5, 2025 for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$500,000. The borrowing will be used to complete the electric work necessary to facilitate the Uptown Lighting Improvements. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #4-7-2025B. Roll call all yes. Andresen and Engel absent. Resolution passes.

Resolution #4-7-2025C: Fixing Date for a Meeting on the Proposition to Authorize a Loan Agreement and the Issuance of Notes to Evidence the Obligations of the City Thereunder (\$2,250,000). This resolution will establish a public hearing on May 5, 2025 for the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$2,250,000. The borrowing will be used to complete the Rachel Street Improvements. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve Resolution #4-7-2025C. Roll call all yes. Andresen and Engel absent. Resolution passes.

Resolution #4-7-2025D: Adopting the Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025-2030. ECICOG, along with the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, has prepared the 2025-2030 Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025-2030. The plan will be available at City Hall or the ECICOG website. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution #4-7-2025D. Roll call all yes. Andresen and Engel absent. Resolution passes.

Mayoral Proclamation

Proclamation Recognizing Friday, April 25, 2025, as Arbor Day in the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa.

Motions for Approval

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

PAYROLL	CLAIMS	223,524.62
REPUBLIC SERVICES #897	GB,RECYL-SW RESIDENTIAL	24,854.03
CORNELL COLLEGE	USAGE CORRECTION-WAT,SEW	17,949.52
FERGUSON WATERWORKS	SUPPLIES-REMOTE METER PROJECT	16,614.49
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC	BODY CAMERAS-PD	13,755.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	6,368.50
US BANK	CREDIT CARD PURCHASES-ALL DEPTS	6,214.34
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	INTELLISTREETS LIGHTING IMPROV	5,642.44
TOTAL TREE CARE OF IOWA CITY	SANI SEWER TREE REMOVAL	5,500.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	5,065.25
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER EQUIP-LBC	5,011.83
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	4,432.43
CARRICO AQUATIC RESOURCES INC	CHEMICALS-POOL	4,375.00
OPN ARCHITECTS	EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER STUDY	4,303.61
IOWA ASSOC OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	SGEI MEMBERSHIP-PW	4,206.66
MOUNT VERNON ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	4,139.22
IRON LEAF PRESS	CHALK-P&REC	4,085.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-LBC	3,550.32
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER EQUIP-ALL DEPTS	3,533.45
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	SALES TAX	3,128.13
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PW STORAGE BLDGS	2,805.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	2024 SANITARY SEWER REHAB	2,511.00
LINN CO-OP OIL CO	FUEL-PW	2,408.01
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	WET TAX	2,222.95
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	2,155.71
BARNYARD SCREEN PRINTER LLC	TSHIRTS-P&REC	2,061.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	HWY 1 RECONSTRUCTION	1,996.00
VERMEER SALES & SERVICE INC	CHIPPER SERVICE-SW	1,893.32
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PW LIFT STATION	1,852.50
KONE INC	ELEVATOR MAINT-LBC	1,803.96
MENARDS	ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES-PW FACILITIES	1,794.43
RED LION RENEWABLES	SOLAR ELECTRIC-P&A,PD,LBC	1,736.45
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-RUT,WAT,SEW	1,684.92
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	DAVIS PARK IMPROVEMENTS	1,667.50
LISBON, CITY OF	AMB DIRECTOR CONTRACTED SALARY	1,643.49
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	RACHEL STREET PREL DESIGN	1,453.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL	1,309.00
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	MAINTHLY MAINT-ALL DEPTS	1,285.00
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INC	ADS/PUBLICATIONS-ALL DEPTS	1,259.22
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC	SOFTWARE-PD	1,212.16
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL FEES-P&A	1,165.70
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	1,128.78
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS INC	VIDEO CLOUD STORAGE-PD	1,118.75
RED LION RENEWABLES	SOLAR ELECTRIC-P&A,PD,LBC	1,081.62
BRADLEY HAUGE CPA	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-ALL DEPTS	1,080.00
W.S. DARLEY & CO.	EQUIP MAINT-FD	1,078.69
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-FD	1,049.65

IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	MONTHLY MAINT-PD	995.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-PD	950.76
CATERPILLAR FINANCIAL SERVICES	GENERATOR-PD	949.39
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER MAINT-PD	932.96
NIGHT SHIFT LLC	CLEANING SERVICE-CITY HALL	931.27
NIGHT SHIFT LLC	CLEANING SERVICE-PD	893.88
HAWKINS INC	CHEMICALS-WAT	851.00
DE NOVO MARKETING	WEBSITE/HUBSPOT SUPPORT-ALL DEPTS	825.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	NPDES COMPLIANCE	748.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-CITY HALL	741.81
POSTMASTER	UTIL BILL POSTAGE-WAT,SEW,SW	637.11
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	4TH ST NW RECONSTRUCTION	605.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	603.39
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	ACH RETURN-WAT,SEW,SW	547.28
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	CITY ENGINEERING GENERAL	539.10
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	531.60
KIRBY BUILT LLC	INFO CENTER SUPPLIES-P&REC	505.12
THOMAS M WIESELER	MILEAGE/TRAINING/BEE CITY-P&A	494.50
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE	PHONE/INTERNET-LBC	447.07
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-CITY HALL	435.68
CLAREYS SAFETY EQUIPMENT	EQUIP MAINT-FD	413.20
AMANDA HAMER	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	400.00
JACOB SEE	CELL PHONE STIPEND/UNIFORMS-PW	389.99
VERMEER SALES & SERVICE INC	CHIPPER MAINT-SW	380.45
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE	PHONE/INTERNET-PD	378.62
SPEER FINANCIAL INC	TIF REPORTING-P&A	375.00
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-SEW	350.44
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&REC	342.50
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	LBC GENERATOR	334.50
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	331.50
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-P&A	331.02
DE NOVO MARKETING	WEBSITE SUPPORT-LBC	325.00
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INC	ADS/PUBLICATIONS-LBC	325.00
CARQUEST OF LISBON	VEHICLE/EQUIP MAINT-ALL DEPTS	323.97
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-PW	322.76
MENARDS	SUPPLIES-PW	318.13
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-PW	315.81
AHLERS & COONEY P.C.	LEGAL FEES-P&A	315.00
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-FD	304.19
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-LBC	303.54
DIAMOND DOCTORS OF IOWA LLC	EQUIP REPAIR-P&REC	300.00
GABRIELLE MOEHLMAN	SERVICES-LBC,P&REC,POOL	280.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	2024 SANITARY SEWER REHAB	280.00
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-CITY HALL	275.22
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-LBC	251.00
FROSTED HOMEMADE CUPCAKES	MARKETING-LBC	250.00
DANIEL DAUBS	MEAL STIPEND-PD	225.00
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INC	ADS/PUBLICATIONS-PD	214.23
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	GLENN STREET EXTENSION	208.70
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-PD	205.31
JASON BLINKS	FITNESS MEMBERSHIP-PD,FD	200.00
RC TECH	CAMERA SERVICE-SW	186.50
ROUNDAABOUT REPAIR SHOP LLC	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	180.24
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	4TH ST NW RECONSTRUCTION	180.00

ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-RUT,WAT,SEW,SW	171.87
US CELLULAR	PHONE/INTERNET-P&REC,WAT,SEW	169.84
PITNEY BOWES	METER LEASE-ALL DEPTS	165.33
AMERICAN RED CROSS	TRAINING-LBC	160.00
HAWKEYE COMMUNICATIONS INC	FIRE SYSTEM MONITORING-PD	147.00
TECH SOLUTIONS	FIRE ALARM MONITORING-LBC	136.35
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SIRENS	132.06
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-POOL	131.24
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-LBC	130.38
AIRGAS INC	CYLINDER RENTAL-PW	126.92
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-LBC	124.17
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	ACH RETURN-WAT,SEW,SW	113.25
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-PD	110.00
BANKCARD 8076	REFUNDS-P&REC	109.00
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE	PHONE/INTERNET-POOL	108.77
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS INC	ADS/PUBLICATIONS-P&REC	107.73
HDC PRINTED PRODUCTS	STAMPS-ALL DEPTS	105.10
MIDWEST WHEEL CO	VEHICLE MAINT-FD	104.44
GARY'S FOODS	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	101.46
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	TRAINING-FD	100.00
BREEDLOVE SPORTING GOODS	EQUIPMENT-LBC	96.00
VESTIS	RUGS,SERVICES-FD	88.20
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-RUT,P&A,WAT,SEW	84.68
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES	INTERPRETATION SERVICES-PD	84.00
PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING	WINDOW CLEANING-PD,CITY HALL	80.00
CHRISTOPHER BROWN	CLEANING SERVICES-FD	78.75
SUE RIPKE	UNIFORMS-ALL DEPTS	74.94
TERMINIX PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-FD	73.81
ST LUKE'S WORK WELL SOLUTIONS	DRUG TESTING-ALL DEPTS	70.00
TERMINIX PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-PD	68.20
TERMINIX PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-CITY HALL	63.80
LYNCH FORD-LYNCH CHEVROLET	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	63.68
LINN COUNTY TREASURER	STONEBROOK 7,PH 2- OUTLOT A&B	56.30
BANACOM SIGNS & MORE	SILVERADO OUTFITTING-FD LEVY	56.25
TERMINIX PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-VC	55.00
TEMP VENDOR	TOBACCO COMPLIANCE-PD	50.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&REC	48.74
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-CITY HALL	47.00
BANKCARD 8076	REFUND-P&REC	45.00
CR LC SOLID WASTE AGENCY	WASTE DISPOSAL	45.00
JULIA KARKOW	REFUND-P&REC	45.00
MELISSA DEAN	REFUND-P&REC	45.00
KIECKS	UNIFORMS-FD	43.95
MENARDS	SUPPLIES-RUT	42.99
UNITYPOINT CLINIC-OCCUPATIONAL	DRUG TESTING-PW	42.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&A	41.09
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-PW	35.00
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES-WAT,SEW	28.80
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-SW	28.09
MOUNT VERNON ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-FD	24.15
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-CEM	21.17
BETH HLAS	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	20.00
CHARLOTTE MCDERMOTT	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	20.00
HETHER STAUFFACHER	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	20.00

TODD GEHRKE	POSTAGE-PD	18.55
AUTHNET GATEWAY BILLING	CREDIT CARD SERVICES-LBC	8.00
TOTAL		439,361.44

FUND EXPENSE TOTALS

PAYROLL		223,524.62
GENERAL FUND		58,890.53
SOLID WASTE		31,869.54
SEWER FUND		25,188.12
WATER FUND		25,043.68
LBC		19,901.86
REMOTE READ METER PROJECT		15,550.19
ROAD USE TAX FUND		9,549.33
ARPA LINN COUNTY GRANT		8,291.00
LOST III UR & STREETScape		5,642.44
PW FACILITIES		5,252.52
LOST III COMM CENTER		4,303.61
2024 INFRASTRUCTURE		2,781.00
DAVIS PARK IMPROVEMENTS		1,667.50
RACHEL STREET/KWIK STAR		1,453.00
GLENN STREET/COTTONWOOD		208.70
STORM WATER FUND		187.55
CIP/FIRE DEPT/TAX LEVY		56.25
TOTAL		439,361.44

FY25 MARCH REVENUE

GENERAL GOVERNMENT		424,269.10
PUBLIC WORKS		273,780.11
CULTURE-RECREATION		51,571.40
PUBLIC SAFETY		16,395.72
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV		3,326.58
TOTAL		769,342.91

Discussion and Consideration of Temporary Special Event Permit Application – Nitty Gritty Committee – Council Action as Needed. The Nitty Gritty Antiques festival that has typically taken place on 1st Street is being moved to the Elliott Park parking lot. The festival has seen a reduction in vendors since Covid and less space is needed for the event. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve the permit application for the Nitty Gritty Antiques Festival. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Appointing Officer Blinks to the Temporary Interim Police Chief Position commencing on July 1, 2025, and Running Through December 31, 2025 – Council Action as Needed. The Mayor has discussed the Police Chief hiring process with the MV/L Police Advisory Board and is recommending the appointment of Jason Blinks as Temporary Interim Police Chief from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve the appointment of Jason Blinks as Temporary Interim Police Chief. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Approving the Engagement Letter with Ahlers Cooney Attorneys on the Proposed \$2,750,000 Bond Sale – Council Action as Needed. Staff is recommending the city hire Ahlers Cooney for the proposed \$2,750,000 general obligation debt issuance. The estimated fee for this borrowing is \$17,200.00. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the engagement letter with Ahlers Cooney Attorneys. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #7 – 2024 Pool Renovations – Council Action as Needed. Pay application #7 is in the amount of \$313,500. The various slides, diving boards, and play structures have been delivered to the site. Over 80% of the concrete deck is complete and the slide footings are being poured today. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve Pay Application #7. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of OPN Architects Invoice #24426000-4 – LBC Childcare Study – Council Action as Needed. The Mount Vernon Early Childhood Center study is complete. This will be the second to last invoice for this project. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve OPN invoice #24426000-4 in the amount of \$4,333.40. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of JEO Consulting Group #159456 – Uptown Streetscape Plan – Council Action as Needed. This invoice is in the amount of \$3,068.80. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve Invoice #159456-Uptown Streetscape. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of JEO Consulting Group #158187 – Uptown Streetscape Plan – Council Action as Needed. This invoice is in the amount of \$20,501.00. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Invoice #158187-Uptown Streetscape. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of JMT Invoice 1-256362 – Historic Preservation Design Guidelines – Council Action as Needed. JMT is working to create the updated historic preservation design guidelines for the City of Mount Vernon. The invoice is in the amount of \$4,193.23. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by West to approve JMT Invoice 1-256362. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Fire Department Training Apparatus Construction on the Bryant Road Public Works Site – Council Action as Needed. Fire Department personnel have been working with the PW department to locate an area of the Bryant Rd PW site to construct a training facility. Two shipping containers and a building will be placed at the site; the shipping containers will be used for burns and clean trainings and the building will house training props, equipment and serve as a shelter and training area. Total estimated cost for the facilities is \$140,635.00. Funding sources that will be used for the project are: Mount Vernon Volunteer Firefighters Association, \$40,000; Rural Trustees, \$50,000; Single donation of \$40,000 from a private donor and roughly \$30,000 over the next three years expected from fundraising activities. There will be no cost to the City, just the use of the land. Motion made by West, seconded by Tuerler to approve the construction of the Fire Department training apparatus on the Bryant Road Public Works side. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Street Closure Request – Chalk the Walk – Council Action as Needed. Chalk the Walk is scheduled for May 3-4, 2025. The street closure request will begin on the afternoon of Friday, May 2, 2025. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the street closure for Chalk the Walk. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion And Consideration Setting a Public Hearing Date for the Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to set the public

hearing for the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for April 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Mt. Vernon Cemetery Mowing Contract for the 2025 Calendar Year – Council Action as Needed. Staff received three bids for the 2025 Mount Vernon Cemetery mowing season. Jordan's Property Care, Inc. submitted the lowest responsible bid at \$34,500.00 for the season. Jordan's Property Care currently maintains the Lisbon Cemetery and receives high praise for their service according to Lisbon staff. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve the mowing contract with Jordan's Property Care, Inc. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of Gas Service Installation – New Public Works Site – Council Action as Needed. Public Works staff has received a quote from Alliant Energy to run natural gas to the new shop building on Bryant Road. The estimate for the new service is \$12,781.73. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the quote from Alliant Energy for natural gas to the new shop building on Bryant Road. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion and Consideration of City of Mount Vernon Wellness Program for Fiscal Year 26 – Council Action as Needed. Staff has been working with MercyCare Business Health Solutions to design a wellness program for full-time city employees and is seeking approval from the Council on two items: Approve the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$6,000 for MercyCare Business Health Solutions to design and administer the wellness program and requirements of participants. LBC staff would also be involved in tracking the program to ensure compliance; The second item for approval would be to grant full-time staff members a one-year membership to the LBC for participating in the program. The membership would be paid monthly to the LBC and would not go directly to the employee. LBC staff would submit a monthly reimbursement request to the finance department for payment directly from the department budget. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve the City of Mount Vernon Wellness Program for Fiscal Year 2026. Motion carries. Andresen and Engel absent.

Discussion Items (No Action)

Budget Discussion. There are potential changes coming with more property tax reform. The Fiscal Year 2026 budget will be certified at the April 21, 2025 Council meeting.

Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

Mayor's Report. The City received a Tree City USA award at a ceremony held in Des Moines that was attended by the Mayor, Public Works Director and City Planner. Mayor Wieseler continues to work on fundraising options for childcare.

City Administrator's Report. Full report available on the City website in the April 7, 2025 Council packet.

As there was no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned, the time being 7:33 p.m., April 15, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Dewell
City Clerk