

The Mount Vernon City Council met October 20, 2025, at City Hall, 213 1st Street NW, Mount Vernon, IA. A Zoom option was available. The following Council members were present: Tuerler, Engel, West, Rose and Andresen.

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

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

Communications

Receipt of Petition Establishing City Emergency Medical Service District

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

Approval of City Council Minutes – October 6, 2025, Regular Council Meeting

Ordinance Approval/Amendment

Ordinance #10-6-2025A: Providing that General Property Taxes Levied and Collected Each on Certain Property Located within the Stonebrook Urban Renewal Area, in the City of Mount Vernon, County of Linn, State of Iowa, by and for the Benefit of the State of Iowa, City of Mount Vernon, County of Linn, Mount Vernon Community School District, and Other Taxing Districts, be Paid to a Special Fund for Payment of Principal and Interest on Loans, Monies Advance to and Indebtedness, Including Bonds Issued or to be Issued, Incurred by the City in Connection with the Stonebrook Urban Renewal Area (Phase 5 Parcels). There have been no comments regarding this ordinance since the first reading. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Engel to approve the second reading of Ordinance #10-6-2025A. Roll call all yes. Ordinance passes its second reading.

Resolutions for Approval

Resolution #10-20-2025A: Approving the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2025. The Annual Financial Report details the revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Andresen to approve Resolution #10-20-2025A. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #10-20-2025B: Disposing of City Owned Property. Staff is seeking permission to advertise and dispose of the existing street sweeper. This item could be sold for scrap should we not receive any interest from a GovDeals posting. Motion made by Andresen, seconded by West to approve Resolution #10-20-2025B. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #10-20-2025C Approving Final Plat of the Spring Meadow Heights 4th Addition to the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa. The public improvements have been completed and the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed for compliance with the preliminary plat. The Commission voted to recommend approval of the plat with one minor modification to the termination point for street names. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #10-20-2025C. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Resolution #10-20-2025D: Establishing a Public Hearing Date for Petition Establishing a City Emergency Medical Service District Under 357G of the Iowa Code. Jacob Lindauer with the Lisbon-Mount Vernon Ambulance Service was in attendance to explain the establishment of an Emergency Medical Service District under 357G of the Iowa Code. A district may be formed within City limits following a petition signed by at least 25% of resident property owners, a public hearing and approval by City ordinance and voter election. Establishing an Emergency Medical Services District under Iowa Code 357G enables the creation of a sustainable, voter-approved funding mechanism that ensures reliable ambulance coverage, local control, and long-term service stability for rural Iowa communities. This will be the first step into creating a joint district operated ambulance between two cities and portions of five townships in two counties. This will allow access to additional federal funding to continue to offset the expense of operating an ambulance service. The current plan with funds is to ensure consistent staffing of the ambulance service to ensure a timely response to our community members. As the response demand for ambulance service has increased, our volunteer force has become stretched thin along with volunteering changing. By adding three full time positions, we will be able to provide a paramedic response 24/7, reduce the demand on our volunteers to improve retainment, improve community resilience through community education and harness additional federal and state funding to provide community health services. The current levy is estimated to be \$0.6667/\$1000 taxable value. This would be approximately \$94.00 per year on a \$300,000 home. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #10-20-2025D, which sets the public hearing date for November 3, 2025. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Motions for Approval

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

NELSON ELECTRIC	PAY APP #2-UPTOWN LIGHTING	141,578.16
PAYROLL	CLAIMS	109,182.19
HAWKEYE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS	PAY APP #2-LBC GENERATOR	77,421.80
MUNICIPAL PIPE TOOL CO. INC	PAY APP #6-2024 SEWER REHAB	68,653.38
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	GROUP INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	36,736.81
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	HWY 1 RECONSTRUCTION	35,180.50
REPUBLIC SERVICES #897	GB,RECYL-SW RESIDENTIAL	25,181.70
MIDWEST INJECTION INC	SLUDGE REMOVAL-SEW	18,000.00
REPUBLIC SERVICES #897	GB,RECYL-SW COMMERCIAL	16,031.29
TOTAL TREE CARE OF IOWA CITY	TREE MAINT-RUT	6,000.00
FIRE DEPT TRAINING NETWORK	TRAINING-FD	4,990.00
IOWA ASSOC OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	SGEI MEMBERSHIP-PW	3,879.94
SUNSET LAW ENFORCEMENT	TRAINING-PD	2,920.20
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	2,661.21
STATE HYGIENIC LAB	TESTING-SEW	2,560.50
GLOBAL SOFTWARE	TAC 10 SERVER MIGRATION-PD	2,000.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	1,847.72
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	MONTHLY MAINT-ALL DEPTS	1,793.08
ROTO-ROOTER	HYDROVAC-ARPA SEW	1,710.00
MARTIN GARDNER ARCHITECTURE	CDBG DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION	1,342.50
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	NEW SOFTWARE UPGRADE-ALL DEPTS	1,332.50
PAYROLL	CLAIMS	1,065.35
ROTO-ROOTER	SEWER INSPECTION-ARPA SEW	1,023.75
CUMMINS SALES AND SERVICE	EQUIP REPAIR-SEW	922.86
BANKCARD 8076	CREDIT CARD FEES-LBC,POOL,P&REC	894.66
NIGHT SHIFT LLC	CLEANING SERVICE-PD	893.88
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	ACH RETURNS-WAT,SEW,SW	806.07

ICMA	MEMBERSHIP-ALL DEPTS	776.31
BANKCARD 8076	REFUND-LBC	770.40
MOUNT VERNON, CITY OF	LBC MEMBERSHIP/TRAINING-ALL DEPTS	709.75
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-FD	620.87
RAY ALLEN MANUFACTURING	SUPPLIES-K9	560.00
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY	FIRST AID/AED'S-ALL DEPTS	473.00
ALTORFER INC	EQUIP REPAIR-WAT	458.72
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-PD	399.20
CAUSE TEAM	UNIFORMS/SAFETY SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	363.00
INTERMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE SERVICES-CITY HALL	352.88
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-SEW	350.96
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-PW	323.26
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-FD	315.02
BANKCARD 8076	REFUND-LBC	309.95
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-LBC	301.82
USA BLUE BOOK	SUPPLIES-WAT	290.26
STEVE MOEL	MEALS-K9 TRAINING	275.00
ASCENDANCE TRUCKS CENTERS	VEHICLE MAINT-FD	273.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	264.01
WENDLING QUARRIES	ROADSTONE-RUT	256.35
P&K MIDWEST INC	SUPPLIES-SEW	253.31
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD	249.71
COPYWORKS	BROCHURES-LBC	244.50
ALLIED GLASS PRODUCTS INC	LOCK REPAIRS-CITY HALL	244.37
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-LBC	230.58
MARSHA DEWELL	MILEAGE-ALL DEPTS	211.40
LUKE RUSHFORD	REFEREE-P&REC	200.00
CULVERS GARDEN CENTER	TREES-RUT	174.99
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-PW	159.57
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	138.99
TECH SOLUTIONS	FIRE ALARM MONITOR-LBC	136.35
AIRGAS INC	CYLINDER RENTAL-PW	130.35
BRADY WEAVER	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
GABRIEL GRAFFT	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
JAKOB A YOCK	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
JAMISON W BILLINGSLEY	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
JAXSON J BILLINGSLEY	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
MAXWELL SIDERS	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
TRAE DAVID BIELEFELD	REFEREE-P&REC	120.00
PRICE ELECTRIC	EQUIP REPAIR-SEW	112.35
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-CITY HALL	90.35
P&K MIDWEST INC	EQUIP MAINT-P&REC	89.34
P&K MIDWEST INC	EQUIP MAINT-P&REC	89.34
LYNCH FORD-LYNCH CHEVROLET	VEHICLE MAINT-FD	84.21
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER MAINT-PD	48.00
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-PD	47.89
KIECKS	UNIFORMS-PD	44.75
US CELLULAR	INTERNET-WAT,SEW	42.54
HANNAH GANZEL	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	42.50
KELLI MARIE KENNON-LANE	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	42.50
SARAH L FITZGERALD	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	42.50
HAWKINS INC	CHEMICALS-WAT	20.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-WAT	19.39
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&REC	13.88

NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING	WATER/SALT-PD	13.50
TOTAL		579,110.97
FUND EXPENSE TOTALS		
2025 UPTOWN LIGHTING		141,578.16
PAYROLL		110,247.54
LBC		83,669.53
ARPA LINN COUNTY GRANT		71,387.13
SOLID WASTE		44,185.98
GENERAL FUND		40,112.77
2024 INFRASTRUCTURE		35,180.50
SEWER FUND		29,951.19
ROAD USE TAX FUND		10889.56
WATER FUND		9,168.25
STORM WATER FUND		1,397.86
LOST III UR/STREETSCAPE		1,342.50
TOTAL		579,110.97

Discussion and Consideration of TIF/Debt Report for the City of Mount Vernon – Council Action as Needed. Speer Financial has provided a letter of explanation and the final TIF/Debt report for the City of Mount Vernon. This is an important tool for Council as we prepare for the upcoming budget season. The City will retire another note this fiscal year as the 2020 issuance will be paid off in June. The statutory debt limit for this fiscal year is \$21,227,572 and the remaining debt capacity for the city sits at \$8,653,543. Once the contingency reserve is removed, there is \$4,408,029 in usable debt capacity for this fiscal year. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Engel to accept the TIF/Debt Report as presented. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Approving a Water Bill Credit for Colonial Estates – Council Action as Needed. Colonial Estates utilizes one master meter for the entire property. The City's water service goes to that master meter and from there it is distributed to each individual manufactured home through a network of private lines. All meters in town are read at different rates, depending on the size. There is a multiplier that the system puts in to ensure they are paying the correct amount based upon how many gallons are going through the meter. For quite some time, that meter was being read at the 100 multiplier. During a routine maintenance staff noticed that it was actually rated at a 500 multiplier. Due to this error, the property had been overbilled by approximately \$116,370.68. Because of a water leak the property did receive a credit of \$14,734.60, which was based on the higher multiplier but the credit should have only been \$2,839.25 based upon what they should have been billed with the correct multiplier being used. The property owner had disputed the charges so no money had been paid on the amount that was overbilled so any credits would be placed back on their account. Based on correct calculations of the usage, the amount that should be credited back to the account is \$104,475.33. Motion made by Rose, seconded by West to approve this credit. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Purchasing a Used Street Sweeper – Council Action as Needed. The Public Works Department has located a used Street Sweeper for approximately \$30,000-\$35,000. The cost of a new sweeper is approximately \$225,000. Staff is recommending the purchase of the used model given the amount of usage the equipment sees throughout the year. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to approve the purchase of a used street sweeper, not to exceed \$40,000.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Setting a Public Hearing Date for Cemetery Corrective Actions on Cemetery Markers – Council Action as Needed. The Cemetery Commission has identified several older

gravestones that have been neglected over the years and need maintenance. This notice is designed to give family members of the deceased an opportunity to reject the volunteer work from being conducted. Motion made by West, seconded by Andresen to set the public hearing date for November 3, 2025. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Blower Motor for the Wastewater Treatment Facility – Council Action as Needed. A blower motor at the wastewater treatment plant has failed and needs to be repaired. The repair cost of the motor is estimated to be \$4,755, while a replacement is listed at \$10,114. Staff is recommending the repair but notes that additional electric work may be required to complete the reinstall (estimated to be \$2,000-\$3,000). This electric work would be required for both the repair and/or replacement. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the repair cost of the motor in the amount of \$4755.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of JMT Invoice #4-271116 – HPC Design Guidelines – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Andresen to approve the JMT Invoice #4-271116 – HPC Design Guidelines Project in the amount of \$3,916.63. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Media Replacement for Pool Filters – Council Action as Needed. The pool filters are dated and sand replacement has not been done for several years. Carrico has presented the City with two options to remove and replace the sand media in the pool filters. The first is a pea gravel and sand mixture that reduces the cost by \$13,000.00. Staff is recommending, given the age of the filters, that we stick with the sand media. Motion made by West, seconded by Engel to approve the replacement of the pool filters sand media in the amount of \$50,600.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Swimming Pool Gutter Pipe Replacement – Council Action as Needed. This project is already underway as it was time sensitive for this fall. The City requested a quote from Pleva Mechanical to complete the replacement of piping in the gutter system. The cracked and leaking pipes were causing significant inflow to the system. Motion made by Engel, seconded by West to approve the pool gutter pipe replacement at a cost of \$16,006.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Replacement Firearms Purchase – Mt. Vernon/Lisbon Police Department – Council Action as Needed. It is time to replace 10 duty firearms for the Police Department. The old firearms will either be bought back by Kiesler or the officers will have the opportunity to purchase them. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Andresen to approve the purchase of new firearms in the amount of \$6,664.40. Motion carries.

Reports to be Received/Filed. Full reports available on the City website in the October 20, 2025 Council Packet.

Mount Vernon/Lisbon Police Report
Mount Vernon Public Works Report
Mount Vernon Parks and Rec report

Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

September Reconciliation Report- Full report available on the City website in the October 20, 2025 Council Packet.

Mayor's Report. The League of Women Voters will hold a candidates forum at City Hall on Wednesday night. The Iowa League of Cities and Secretary of State would like to know about any suspicious election information received by the City or Council. Iowa League of Cities Executive Director, Alan Kemp, will be in town on October 30, 2025.

Council Reports. West reported that in the current issue of Cityscape magazine there is an article about free evaluations being offered by Iowa Cyber Resilience Initiative and would like to see the City receive more information about this.

City Administrator's Report: Full report available on the City website in the October 20, 2025 Council Packet.

As there was no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned, the time being 7:36 p.m., October 20, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Dewell
City Clerk