

The Mount Vernon City Council met July 20, 2026, at City Hall, 213 1st Street NW, Mount Vernon, IA. A Zoom option was available. The following Council members were present: Engel, Rose, Andresen, Tuerler and Hansen-Player.

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

Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval. Item #J6 (Modern Concrete invoice) will be tabled. After the first public hearing, the first three resolutions will be approved before moving on to the second public hearing. The remaining resolutions will be approved after that. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Hansen-Player to approve the Agenda as noted. Motion carries.

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

Approval of City Council Minutes – July 6, 2026

Appoint Jeff Schwiebert – Board of Adjustment

Public Hearing

Public Hearing on Accepting the Engineer's Report, Preliminary Plat and Engineer Compensation, and Setting the Election for the EMS Election as Defined in Chapter 357G of the State Code of Iowa and Giving Notice Thereof. Wieseler opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. Jacob Lindauer, Lisbon-Mount Vernon Ambulance Director, explained that this would be a single issue election with Johnson County, Linn County, City of Lisbon and the City of Mount Vernon that would approve the levy of an EMS District as well as nomination of trustees for each district. Wieseler closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m. Council then moved on to Resolution #7-20-2026A.

Public Hearing for Consideration of a Grant Application for the Commercial Building Facades Improvements Project, Adopting Findings Required in Association with Approval of a Downtown Revitalization Application Through the Community Development Block Grant Program of the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Wieseler opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m. Tom Gruis, Senior Planner with ECICOG, has been working on the grant application and provided Council with an overview of the project. The Commercial Building Facades (CBF) Program, formerly Downtown Revitalization (DTR) Program, provides funding to cities to rehabilitate blighted downtown buildings. The project must meet the US Dept of Housing and Urban Developments (HUD) CDBG national objective of reducing slum and blight. The City would receive the grant and hold the architecture and construction contracts. Generally, only fronts and readily visible sides of buildings would qualify. Mount Vernon has enough participating building owners to be eligible for the full grant amount of \$650,000.00.

The City's proposed application for commercial building façade improvements through the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, requires that the following topics be identified for consideration:

"A." through "I." were read aloud during the subject Public Hearing.

- A. As concerned with how the need for proposed activities was identified, it is noted that a building survey determined 66.7% of properties within a targeted downtown area qualify as “fair” or “poor” condition and are in need of façade improvements.
- B. As concerned with how proposed activities will be funded and the source of funds, it is noted that with proposed project cost presently estimated to total \$1,182,844.00, grant assistance of \$650,000.00 is being requested from the CDBG Program with local match to be provided by the City of Mount Vernon in the amount of \$230,000.00 plus property owner participation for the residual balance of cost, \$302,844.00.
- C. As concerned with the date the application will be submitted, it is noted that the CDBG Program funding application will be submitted to the Iowa Department of Economic Development for receipt by August 17, 2026.
- D. As concerned with the requested amount of federal funds, it is noted that \$650,000.00 is being requested from the CDBG Program.
- E. As concerned with benefit from federal funding, it is noted that a target area survey has determined the project qualifies for CDBG Program funding with a predominance of “slum and blighting” conditions.
- F. As concerned with where proposed activities will be conducted, it is noted that commercial building façade improvement is targeted to an area within the 100 East and West blocks of 1st Street.
- G&H. As concerned with plans to minimize the displacement of persons or businesses as a result of funded activities, and plans to assist persons actually displaced, it is noted that, because no property acquisition or permanent loss of use of a property is proposed, there will be no displacement of persons or businesses as a result of funded activities. Temporary relocation of residential tenants may be required for some buildings, and a housing stipend will be provided if relocation is not waived.
- I. As concerned with the nature of the proposed activities, it is noted that Mount Vernon’s Commercial Building Façade project will principally comprise building façade improvement.

Two comments supporting the project were received. Approximately 13 members of the public were present for the meeting.

Gruis conducted a community development and housing needs assessment within the hearing. Several community needs were identified, with an emphasis on housing for the low- to moderate-income population.

Joe Jennison noted that in applying for and receiving funds for Phase I of this project, it opens additional grant opportunities for a Phase 2, for property owners not included in the first phase. Wieseler closed the public hearing at 7:17 p.m. Council then moved on to Resolution #7-20-2026D.

Resolutions for Approval

Resolution #7-20-2026A: Approving the Plat of the City of Mount Vernon Emergency Medical Services District and Setting the Election on the Question of a Special Levy for September 1, 2026. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #7-20-2026A. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes. Council then moved on to Resolution #7-20-2026B.

Resolution #7-20-2026B: Designating a Portion of the Central Business District a “Slum/Blighted” Area with Rehabilitation, Conservation, Redevelopment, Development, or a Combination Thereof, Being Necessary in the Interest of the Public Health, Safety or Welfare of the Residents. City Administrator Nosbisch explained that anytime the City does an Urban Renewal Plan, the slum/blighted area is a part of that, but CDBG requires reaffirmation every two years. This resolution will need to be adopted before the CDBG Façade Improvements Project application is submitted. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Engel to approve Resolution #7-20-2026B. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes. Council then moved on to Resolution #7-20-2026C.

Resolution #7-20-2026C: Committing a Local Match from the City up to \$260,000 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Commercial Building Façade Grant. Likely funding for this will be TIF. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution #7-20-2026C. Roll call all yes. Council then moved on to the second public hearing.

Resolution #7-20-2026D: Approving a Grant Application for the Commercial Building Facades Improvements Project, Adopting Findings Required in Association with Approval of a Downtown Revitalization Application Through the Community Development Block Grant Program of the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Motion made by Andresen, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution #7-20-2026D. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes. Council then moved on to Resolution #7-20-2026E.

Resolution #7-20-2026E: Approving Iowa Code Chapter 28E Agreement Between the City of Marion, Iowa and the City of Mount Vernon for Line Striping. The City of Marion has been completing our line striping for the last few years and have asked to memorialize this with a 28E agreement for insurance purposes. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Hansen-Player to approve Resolution #7-20-2026E. Roll call all yes. Resolution passes.

Motions for Approval

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

PAYROLL	CLAIMS	195,045.08
RATHJE CONSTRUCTION	PAY ESTIMATE #8-RACHEL STREET	130,380.24
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	GROUP INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	39,215.31
MODERN CONCRETE INC	PAY ESTIMATE #4-2025 SIDEWALK IMPR	38,260.82
REPUBLIC SERVICES #897	GB,RECYL-SW RESIDENTIAL	26,093.93
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	HWY 1 RECONSTRUCTION	20,455.00
REPUBLIC SERVICES #897	GB,RECYL-SW COMMERCIAL	16,642.91
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	RACHEL STREET IMPROVEMENTS	10,319.40
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	SALES TAX	6,654.63
LEXIPOL LLC	POLICY MANUALS-PD	5,835.72
DIX LAWN CARE	CEMETERY MAINT	5,316.66
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	WET TAX	4,011.48
IOWA ASSOC OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	SGEI MEMBERSHIP-PW	4,005.71
RC TECH	CELL BOOSTER-PW	3,735.28
RED LION RENEWABLES	SOLAR ELECTRIC-P&A,PD,LBC	3,486.85
MARTIN GARDNER ARCHITECTURE	CDBG DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION	2,643.75
POWER DMS INC	SOFTWARE-PD	2,415.85
STATE HYGIENIC LAB	TESTING-SEW	2,296.50
KIECKS	UNIFORMS-PD	2,258.71
ROSSCO AUTO SALES	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	2,162.47
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL FEES-P&A	2,116.64

BANKCARD 8076 ACH DEBIT MTOT	CREDIT CARD FEES-LBC,POOL,P&REC	1,827.34
EXPRESS PRINTING & DESIGN LLC	RIBBONS-SWIM TEAM	1,774.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS	INSURANCE CLAIMS-ALL DEPTS	1,538.66
TRI-CITY ELECTRIC CO OF IOWA	KEY CARDS-LBC	1,179.00
APPARATUS TESTING SERVICES LLC	PUMP TESTING-FD	1,106.75
WHKS & COMPANY	CEMETERY GIS MAPPING	1,049.68
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	NEW SOFTWARE UPGRADE-ALL DEPTS	969.00
CARDIO PARTNERS	EQUIPMENT-PD	939.96
DE NOVO MARKETING	WEBSITE/HUB SUPPORT-ALL DEPTS	825.00
HAWKINS INC	CHEMICALS-WAT	821.00
MENARDS	EQUIP, UNIFORMS-WAT,SEW	706.14
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-LBC	689.78
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-PW	563.30
PAUL F SCHWIEBERT JR	MARKETING-LBC	500.00
IOWA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY FEE-WAT	487.31
HDC PRINTED PRODUCTS	ENVELOPES-ALL DEPTS	467.96
P&K MIDWEST INC	EQUIP MAINT-P&REC	423.40
LYNCH FORD-LYNCH CHEVROLET	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	420.16
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES-POOL	411.41
ECICOG	DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION APP	400.00
RANDY BROWN	MEALS,LODGING-HPC	379.01
GALLS LLC	EQUIP-PD	369.95
TERMINIX PRESTO-X	PEST CONTROL-PD	367.66
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-POOL	366.73
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-SEW	352.42
INTERMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE SERVICES-CITY HALL	352.03
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	ANNUAL PRINTER SUPPORT-WAT,SEW,SW	326.93
P&K MIDWEST INC	EQUIP MAINT-PW	326.90
DE NOVO MARKETING	WEBSITE SUPPORT-LBC	325.00
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-PW	324.07
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-PW	316.94
MEDIACOM	PHONE/INTERNET-FD	316.43
MENARDS	EQUIP-LBC	299.99
MAXWELL SIDERS	FIELD PREP-P&REC	286.00
CURTIS ENGLISH SELECT SERVICE	PORTABLE RR RENTALS-P&REC	260.00
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	250.33
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-PD	249.48
KONICA MINOLTA PREMIER FINANCE	COPIER LEASE-LBC	220.54
THEISEN SUPPLY INC	UNIFORMS-PW,P&REC	215.89
INDIAN HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TRAINING-PD	199.00
CITY LAUNDERING CO	SERVICES-CITY HALL	196.64
TASC	FSA ADJUSTMENT-PD	192.30
LYNCH FORD-LYNCH CHEVROLET	VEHICLE MAINT-PW	164.01
AIRGAS INC	CYLINDER RENTAL-PW	154.90
AFFORDABLE HEATING & COOLING	HVAC MAINT-CITY HALL	140.05
TECH SOLUTIONS	FIRE ALARM MONITORING-LBC	136.35
RICKARD SIGN AND DESIGN CORP	VEHICLE DECALS-PW	135.00
WENDLING QUARRIES	ROADSTONE-RUT	120.32
JAYNE DEWITTE	UNIFORMS-ALL DEPTS	102.88
VESTIS	RUGS-FD	98.20
BANKCARD 8076 ACH DEBIT MTOT	REFUND-LBC	90.00
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	ACH RETURN-WAT,SEW,SW	84.30
NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING SERV	WATER/SALT-LBC	82.50
PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING	WINDOW CLEANING-PD,CITY HALL	80.00

CYPRESS SOLUTIONS	SUBSCRIPTION-PD	78.75
MARY SCHLICHTE	INSTRUCTOR/SUPPLIES-LBC	75.00
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	ACH RETURN-WAT,SEW,SW	71.68
VESTIS	JANITORIAL SUPPLIES-LBC	60.24
STAPLES INC	SUPPLIES-PD	59.56
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	EQUIP MAINT-LBC	58.59
MARSHALL TUETKEN	TRAINING-FD	52.75
KONICA MINOLTA PREMIER FINANCE	COPIER USAGE-PD	47.89
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES-P&REC	44.81
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES-SEW	43.50
NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING SERV	WATER/SALT-FD	33.00
HETHER STAUFFACHER	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	21.25
RACHEL MOSIER	INSTRUCTOR-LBC	21.25
NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING SERV	WATER/SALT-CITY HALL	13.75
NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING SERV	WATER/SALT-SEW	8.00
TOTAL		549,025.56

FUND EXPENSE TOTALS

PAYROLL	195,045.08
RACHEL STREET	140,699.64
GENERAL FUND	54,413.09
SOLID WASTE	47,929.55
SEWAGE PROJECT	38,260.82
HWY 1 RECONSTRUCTION	20,455.00
WATER FUND	15,505.84
SEWER FUND	13,097.95
LBC	12,863.36
ROAD USE TAX FUND	6,802.49
LOST III UR & STREETScape	3,043.75
STORM WATER FUND	908.99
TOTAL	549,025.56

FY26 JUNE REVENUE

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,876,721.12
PUBLIC WORKS	330,393.14
CULTURE-RECREATION	113,565.05
PUBLIC SAFETY	45,601.35
TIF REVENUE	15,594.86
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEV	1,965.69
TOTAL	2,383,841.21

Discussion and Consideration of Accepting the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Award for Purchasing AED's and Accessories – Fire Department – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Andresen to approve the Q3 2026 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant Application that was submitted for the purchase of six AED3BLS EMS Fire Package AED's and accessories in the amount of \$19,386.90. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Andresen to approve the Firehouse Subs Grant Application. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Purchasing Two Desktop Workstations for Public Works - Council Action as Needed. These computers will allow Public Works employees to access their employee portal and also utilize Hubspot and emails. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to approve the purchase of two desktop workstations in the amount not to exceed \$5040.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Worldmaker Resilience Institute Invoice #0726 – Mt. Vernon/Lisbon Police Department – Council Action as Needed. This invoice is in the amount of \$50,126.55 and is being paid with Department of Justice COPS grant funds. Motion made by Engel, seconded by Andresen to approve Invoice #0726. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration Access Control for the Visitor's Center – Council Action as Needed. The Visitor Center cameras will be added to City Hall's monitoring system. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Andresen to approve the Visitor Center access control system, not to exceed \$3200.00. Motion carries.

Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #5 with Modern Concrete – Sidewalk Improvement Project – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Tuerler to table this item. Motion carries.

Reports to be Received/Filed. Full reports available in the July 20, 2026 Council Packet on the City website.

Mt. Vernon/Lisbon Police Report

Mt. Vernon Public Works Report

Mt. Vernon Parks and Rec Report

Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

June Treasurer's Report. Report is available in the July 20, 2026 Council Packet on the City website.

Mayor's Report. Wieseler reached out to Juliet Abdel with the Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance regarding the benefits of the City's membership with them. There will be a meeting on August 5th with them as well as other area Mayors and Administrators to discuss these expectations. On August 20th the Mayor will be welcoming Cornell students in front of City Hall. Mount Vernon has been asked to provide some items for a time capsule project that The Gazette is putting together on August 24th.

City Administrator's Report. Report is available in the July 20, 2026 Council Packet on the City website.

As there was no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned, the time being 7:39 p.m.,
July 20, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Dewell
City Clerk