

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER  
AUGUST 26, 2019

The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM by Mayor Mike Ochs with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

Councilmembers:        Brian Hatfield  
                                 Jack Kelley  
                                 Jerry Lamb        (arrived after roll call)  
                                 Connie Rayburn  
                                 Trent Wisner

Guests present: Barbara King, Mike Wilson, Elise Allen, James Webster, Mike Cole, Robin Brown, Russell Vaught, Will Spencer, Chad Speer, and Rick Marksberry.

Connie made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 12<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> meetings as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 4-0.

Jerry arrived at 6:04 PM.

Council was presented with amended Ordinance #976, an ordinance setting the salary of employees for 2019. The amended ordinance calls for the increase in salary of three firefighters who were hired on August 1, 2018. The firefighters were led to believe they would get an increase in pay at their one-year anniversary when they didn't receive a raise on January 1, 2019. The Board of Public Safety reviewed their request at their most recent meeting and voted unanimously to recommend to council an approval of the amended ordinance. Connie made the motion to amend the salary ordinance to increase the pay of the three firefighters, retroactive to their anniversary date on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and the motion was seconded by Jack. Further discussion included amending the salary ordinance to include a "year 0" for service time that all firefighters will start at, and then move to "year 1" on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year after they were hired. Motion carried 5-0.

Shawn completed the first reading of Ordinance #985, an ordinance creating a golf course recreation board. The second reading and potential adoption of the ordinance will take place at the September 9, 2019 city council meeting. Council members will also name their board appointments should the ordinance pass that night.

Park Director Chad Speer and event committee appointee Elise Allen asked council for clarification of the Festival and Special Event Committee's role as they pertain to organization events. The committee was established by Ordinance #977 but doesn't distinguish whether the committee would be involved in current established events, such as Christmas in the City and 4<sup>th</sup> of July at the park, or whether they would help establish new events. Questions also centered around where the committee would be responsible to hold events, such as the city park, Stellar Plaza, and Tripton Park. Shawn informed council that money had been set aside for festival events within the Festival budget. No motions or action took place.

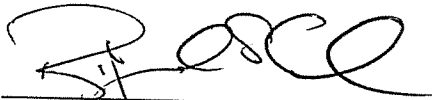
Council decided to have another budget session following their September 9, 2019 meeting instead of holding a meeting on a separate night.

Water Superintendent Will Spencer informed council that the notice sent out to customers to restrict water usage was due to a leak at the Brush Creek Reservoir more so than the lack of rain. The leak at the reservoir has been fixed and reminded those in attendance that the reservoir is the responsibility of MUTC and the Army Core of Engineers, and not city employees.

Council also discussed progress made on sidewalk repairs in the city and a discussion of a city code enforcer. No motions or action took place.


Connie made the motion to pay the claims presented and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion to pay the claims carried 5-0.

Trent made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Brian. Motion to adjourn carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.



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R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



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Mike Ochs, Mayor