

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JULY 22, 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
 Connie Rayburn
 Trent Wisner
 Jerry Lamb

Guests present: James Webster, Jeff Shinolt, Barbara King, Chuck Waggoner, Jeanie Hahn, Chris Lowe, Robin Brown, Ray Hughes, Russell Vaught, and Brian Biehle.

Connie made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2019 City Council meeting as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion to approve the minutes carried 5-0.

Brian Biehle, on behalf of St. Mary's Parish, requested a temporary street closure the annual St. Mary's Community Festival. They would like to close Washington Street from Pierce Street to Madison Avenue and Clay Street from Scott Street to Washington Street from September 4th through September 8th. Connie made the motion to allow street closure and the motion was seconded by Jerry. After a short discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Council was presented with amending Ordinance #927, an ordinance adopting the sewer use ordinance and enforcement response plan for the City of North Vernon. Larry explained to council the ordinance is in response to stricter IDEM and EPA requirements that limits the discharge of certain pollutants, most notably mercury, nickel, silver, cadmium, and copper. Utility Superintendent Russell Vaught explained that, because the city's discharge river is considered a low-flow stream, limits are stricter than those of a plant that would discharge into a larger river. Connie made the motion to waive the first reading of Amended Ordinance #927 and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0. Jack subsequently made the motion to adopt Amended Ordinance #927 and the motion was seconded by Connie. Motion carried 5-0.

Council discussed the idea of creating a golf board, similar to the airport or park boards, in an effort to help manage the finances and operations of the city's own St. Annes golf course. Following a lengthy discussion, Jack made the motion to direct Larry to draft an ordinance that would create a five member golf board of directors, with each member appointed by a member of the city council who must be a resident of Jennings County and would serve at the pleasure of the council member that appointed he or she, that would have general management responsibility of the course and it's employees; however, the hiring or dismissal of employees shall also require the consent of the Board of Public Works. The motion was seconded by Brian. Motion carried 5-0. Larry agreed to draft the framework of the ordinance to be presented for consideration at the next council meeting.

Shawn presented a letter from Vernon Mayor Dan Wright requesting use of the city's stage for the annual Labor Day Celebration in Vernon from Friday, August 30th to Sunday September 1st, without charge. Jack made the motion to waive the fee for use of the stage for the Town of Vernon for those dates and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion carried 5-0.

Director of Golf Robin Brown confirmed that the stage will be needed at the golf course for the Chris Daeger Memorial golf scramble on August 17th.

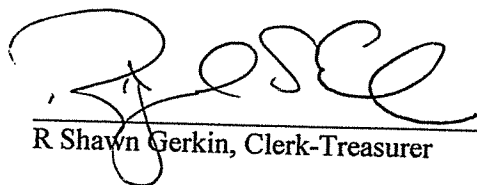
Russell Vaught informed the council that digging will start on construction of the slurry wall at the stone quarry this week.

Mayor Ochs told council that mayor's assistant Tanya Burnette would take over the role of chairperson on the Festival & Event Committee.

Ray Hughes, on behalf of the group planning this year's Relay for Life walk on July 27th, informed council that the walk will utilize the Muscatatuck Trail and requested that a police officer be present at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue for the safety of those participating.

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

Trent made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Brian. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor