

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
MAY 13, 2019

The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM by Mayor 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

Trent Wisner

Connie Rayburn

Guests present: Barbara King, Chuck Waggoner, Chris Lowe, Jeff Shinolt, James Webster, Russell Vaught, Mike Gangstead, Sara Steinrock, Craig Kipper, Terry Thompson, Dan Norris, Kathy Ertel, Richard Morin, Pat York, Greg Hicks, Kevin Stark, Tim Hunt, Brad Bender, Robin Brown, and Chad Speer.

Council had a special 5:00 PM meeting with Chief James Webster and Sergeant Craig Kipper reviewing a "building needs assessment" the department created outlining the lack of space at the current location, the recommendation for additional space needed, and options of other locations to consider. No motions or action took place, but the department wanted council to be aware that a move or expansion was needed and urged them to develop a long term plan.

Connie made the motion to accept the minutes from the April 22, 2019 city council meeting as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Ochs proclaimed the week of May 12th thru May 18th as police week.

Sara Steinrock, with Administrative Resource Association, explained the city's intent to apply for a stormwater planning grant thru OCRA. One of the requirements of the grant is to hold a public hearing for questions and input on the application. The application will take place on or around June 15th and the city's 10% match of the grant, if awarded, will amount to \$3780.00. The floor was opened to the public but no comments were made. Trent made the motion to close the public hearing portion of the meeting and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

Cameron Maschino with IDEM updated council on the application to the "Clean Program" on behalf of the city. He informed council that a confidential CTAP visit was completed with Russell. He recommended going forward with the process by scheduling the public CTAP visit. Following a lengthy discussion, Brian made the motion to move forward with Cameron's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Jerry. Motion carried 5-0.

Richard Morin shared with council bid results for the needed piping, slurry wall, and dewatering well for the quarry. The project is being considered in an effort to reduce the hardness level of the water in the quarry. Total project cost with construction, engineering, and contingency is \$550,000.00. Costs associated with the quarry, including original purchase, has been funded by a bond taken out by the redevelopment commission. Shawn explained there are remaining bond proceeds still available totaling approximately \$300,000.00. The remainder would have to be funded through the NVRC or from another source, such as the water improvement fund. Jack made the motion to go to the NVRC for financial assistance with the project and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion carried 4-1 (Jerry).

JCEDC Director Kathy Ertel requested from council approval of an abatement for Layman Fabrication. The five-year abatement is for a piece of equipment with an estimated value of \$125,000.00. The approved abatement comes in the form of Resolution #2019-675 and would create three additional jobs for the company. Jack made the motion to approve Resolution #2019-675 and the motion was seconded by Connie. Motion carried 3-0-2 (Jerry and Trent abstained due to a relationship with the business owner).

Kathy presented Resolution #2019-674, a resolution approving a tax abatement for Decatur Plastics Products, Inc. The ten-year abatement is for improvements and construction of a 100,000 square foot expansion with an estimated cost of \$4,000,000.00. Connie made the motion to approve Resolution #2019-674 and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Council was presented with the seconded reading of Stormwater Ordinance #982. Jack made the motion to adopt Ordinance #982 and the motion was seconded by Brian. Discussion ensued. Brad Bender questioned the effective lead time and date of the ordinance. Russell suggested the date of the ordinance could be amended to a later date, making those projects already designed and approved under the former ordinance still valid. Following discussion, motion to adopt Ordinance #982 approved 4-1 (Jerry).

Shawn completed the first reading of amended Ordinance #878. The amendment would allow the consumption, sell, and possession of alcoholic beverages within a suitably delineated area within Tripton Park during certain events if agreed upon by a majority vote of the city council. The second reading and potential adoption of the amended ordinance will be on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Shawn completed the first reading of Ordinance #983, an ordinance prohibiting parking on the south side of High Street from the intersection of North State Street to Stockwell Street. The seconded reading will be on the agenda for the May 29th council meeting.

Shawn completed the first reading of Ordinance #984, an ordinance establishing the speed limit on West Walnut Street. Maximum speed limits will be 30 mph from State Street to Norris Avenue, 35 mph from Norris Avenue to Hayden Pike, and 45 mph from Hayden Pike to the western most corporate city limit of North Vernon, which is just beyond Middle School Road. Second reading and potential adoption will take place at the May 29th council meeting.

Shawn completed the first reading of Ordinance #985, an ordinance authorizing the operation and regulating the use of recreational off-road vehicles within the City of North Vernon. Second reading and potential adoption will be on the agenda for the May 29th city council meeting.

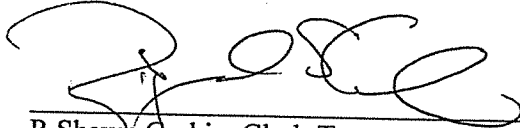
NVRC Attorney Chuck Waggoner invited council to attend the NVRC meeting on May 20, 2019 at 12:00 noon for the annual presentation the NVRC is required to give after the passing of House Enrolled Act 1242. The invitation must go out to all taxing entities affected by the NVRC, which includes the City of North Vernon. Notice was given that the council may attend the NVRC meeting.

Chief Webster presented council with the renewed School Resource Officer (SRO) contract between the City of North Vernon and the Jennings County School Corporation. The contract remains the same in language but extends the contract for the city to provide an SRO to the schools during times school is in session for three additional years at a rate of \$40,000.00 annually from the JCSC.


Chief Webster invited council and those in attendance to the police department's annual "Backyard BBQ" event, which is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 2019 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Farmer's Market shelter house at the North Vernon City Park.

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

Connie made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor