

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
(MEETING CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM)
JANUARY 11, 2021

The meeting was opened at 6:00 by Mayor Mike Ochs.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

Councilmembers:	Brian Hatfield	Baron Wilder
	Jack Kelley	Trent Wisner
	Jerry Lamb	

Guests Present: Barbara King, Police Chief James Webster, Tara Hagan, Bill Dillon, Terry Sargent, Tim Hunt, Sue Bright, and Chuck Waggoner.

Jack made the motion to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2020 and the December 18, 2020 city council meetings as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion carried 5-0.

Jerry made the motion to nominate Brian as city council president for 2021 and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Brian abstained).

Trent made the motion to nominate Jerry as vice president for city council for 2021 and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Jerry abstained).

Mayor Ochs confirmed that he had no immediate changes to any of his mayoral appointments for 2021.

Brian made the motion to reaffirm all current city council appointments in 2021 and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Motion carried 5-0.

The next item on the agenda was the public hearing to discuss the city's application for an OCRA comprehensive planning grant. Tara Hagan, representing ARA, explained the application would be submitted on or about January 15th. The city council has previously committed up to \$11,000.00 in match money if awarded. The meeting was opened to the public for comments. Barb King asked how a comprehensive plan would benefit the city. No other public comments. Baron made the motion to close the public hearing portion of the meeting and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Motion carried 5-0.

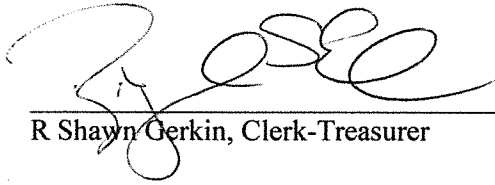
Terry Sargent, along with his attorney Bill Dillon, requested from council that the city deed over a small piece of property behind his home located at 526 Summit Street. Mr. Sargent has lived at the property for 44 years and he has maintained the abandoned ally since that time. Jerry made the motion to direct city attorney Larry Greathouse and Mr. Dillon to cause the legal transfer of the property to Mr. Sargent and the motion was seconded by Trent. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief James Webster presented council with recommended changes to the department's general orders. Changes were recommended to orders #13, 50, 56, 64, and 72. Baron made the motion to accept the recommended changes and the motion was seconded by Jack. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

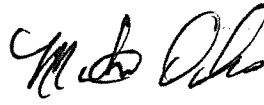
Further discussion included street paving, responsibility for applying the final coat to streets in subdivisions, making money available to developers to help offset capital costs, and concrete/trash off of South Gum Street. No motions or action took place.

Baron made the motion to pay claims presented for payment 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 Jerry. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JANUARY 25, 2021

The meeting was opened at 6:00 by Mayor Mike Ochs.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

Councilmembers:	Brian Hatfield	Baron Wilder
	Jack Kelley (absent)	Trent Wisner
	Jerry Lamb	

Guests Present: Barbara King, Police Chief James Webster, Tyler Stock, Marie Shepherd, Elise Allen, Chad Speer, Will Spencer, Tim Hunt, and Jeff Shinolt.

Jerry made the motion to accept the minutes of the January 11, 2021 city council meeting as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion carried 4-0.

Tyler Stock, APC board member, was present with APC Director Marie Shepherd to discuss recommended changes to the Area Plan ordinances. He explained a task for group reached out to local realtors, renters, building owners, builders, police, fire, etc. over the course of months to allow the APC to work on changes to simplify the enforcement process. Changes discussed involved both administrative changes and changes to ordinances regarding blight, abandoned property, zoning, and animal control. Following the power point presentation and questions from council, Baron made the motion that the council be in favor of the proposed amendments to the unified ordinance, adding that the city would pledge to bring its own buildings up to the standards set, so long as the county and county commissioners accept and enforce any stricter ordinances that the council would adopt to city properties. The motion was seconded by Jerry. Following a lengthy discussion, motion carried 4-0.

Tim Hunt explained to council that he and Shawn would be getting together Wednesday to submit the city's 2021 CCMG application. Total project costs are currently estimated at \$550,000.00, which would make the city's 25% match \$137,500.00. The current application was recently approved at a Board of Public Works meeting.

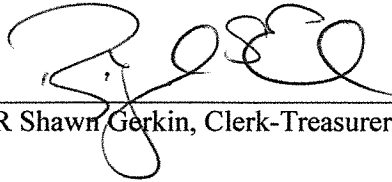
Tim also presented the council with a proposal from EOP Architects to provide programming services associated with building a new police station. The group has taken the department's own building needs assessment report created in 2019 as a starting point for the project. The program will spell out needs for the department for the next 25 years. Trent made the motion to accept the agreement with the not-to-exceed cost of \$10,000.00 and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion carried 3-1 (Jerry against).

Brian discussed the desire to revisit the possibility of getting a sidewalk out to Walmart on Madison Avenue. Tim said the surveyors from HWC would be on site this week to take a preliminary look at the project.


The council also discussed the need to tidy up the city's ordinance as it relates to sidewalks. Multiple complaints have been made about various businesses that are putting retail items out on the sidewalks creating not only an eyesore, but making it difficult to navigate in some cases.

Jerry made the motion to pay the claims presented and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion to pay the claims carried 4-0.

Brian made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor