

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CARNEGIE BUILDING  
MARCH 14, 2022

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

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

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

Guests Present: Jeff Shinolt, Kathy Ertel, Garrie Ritchie, Terry Sargent, Bill Williams, Marie Shepherd, Terry Thompson, Tim Hunt, Russell Vaught, Robin Brown, Keith Messer, Adam Robillard, Kylan Higgs, and Chad Speer.

Jerry made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 city council meeting as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion carried 5-0.

Adam Robillard, representing Madison Railroad, introduced himself as the new Chief Executive Officer of the railroad. He informed council that the railroad had just received a \$250,000 grant for a project in North Vernon and looked forward to working with the city in the future.

Area Plan Commission Director Marie Shepherd requested approval of a rezone request for Bill Williams at 30 Oakwood Avenue. Mr. Williams would like to rezone the parcel from Residential Multi-Family to Residential Single-Family to bring it into compliance. Jerry made the motion to approve the rezone request and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

Marie also informed council that the violation of hosting drag shows at the Scoop the Loop business on Madison Avenue had been resolved and the shows are no longer allowed. She asked if the council would be willing to pay the attorney fees to Alex Zimmerman to resolve the case. Baron made the motion to pay Mr. Zimmerman attorney fees in the amount of \$1250.00 from the council's code enforcement fund and the motion was seconded by Jack. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Economic Development Director Kathy Ertel recommended to council the approval of Resolution #693-2022, an approval of a tax abatement for GT Industries for personal property. She explained GT Industries is planning a \$26 million expansion of the building and property, which will create over 100 additional jobs. A second resolution, Resolution #694-2022 would approve a tax abatement for qualified real estate for the project. Trent made the motion to approve both resolutions and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Following discussion, motion carried 5-0.

Shawn presented council with amended Ordinance #1003, an ordinance determining compensation of employees for the 2022 year. Changes to the original included an additional rate of pay of \$6.15 per hour for the mayor's assistant taking on the additional role of event coordinator, in increase in pay to \$19.00/hour for the CDL driver of the trash truck, starting pay of a new street department employee at \$16.00/hour, and the updated pay for street commissioner

and assistant street commissioner. Jerry made the motion to approve the amended salary ordinance #1003 and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

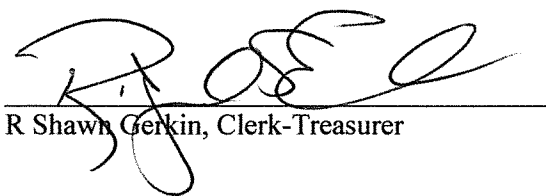
Council was presented with Amended Ordinance #1006A, an ordinance pertaining to a North Vernon USB amended resolution for the clarification and inclusion of descriptive language in previously approved Ordinance #1006 pertaining to Stormwater Fees. Utility Superintendent Russell Vaught discussed with council various examples of increased stormwater charges to businesses in North Vernon. Trent made the motion to approve the clarifying ordinance and the motion was seconded by Brian. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

Next on the agenda was approval of Amended Ordinance #1004A, an ordinance amending and restating Ordinance #1004 for the addition of 10- and 12-inch annual private fire protection fees. Jerry made the motion to adopt Ordinance #1004A and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

Other items of discussion with no motions or action included violation letters for trash continue to be sent out, an update on the installation of new playground equipment at the park, equipment needs at the golf course, and the city's solar project and the erosion concerns associated with the solar panels at Tripton Park.

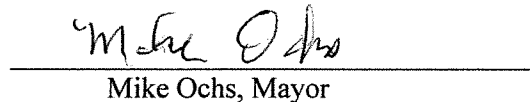
Trent made the motion to pay the claims presented and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Motion to pay the claims carried 5-0.

Jerry made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Baron. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.



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R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



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Mike Ochs, Mayor