

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CARNEGIE BUILDING  
MARCH 28, 2022

The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM by Council President Brian Hatfield with the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Treasurer Shawn Gerkin completed roll call.

Mayor- Mike Ochs (absent)  
Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin  
Attorney- Larry Greathouse  
Councilmembers: Brian Hatfield  
Jack Kelley  
Jerry Lamb  
Baron Wilder  
Trent Wisner

Guests Present: Russell Vaught, Jeff Shinolt, Kylan Higgs, Mike Cole, Travis Jones, Gloria Banister, Tim Hunt, Warren Alexander, and Keith Messer.

Jack made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 City Council Meeting as written and presented and the motion was seconded by Trent. Motion carried 5-0.

Council discussed the erosion under the solar panels at Tripton Park. Russell Vaught said he would get an updated cost to fix the problem from Dave O'Mara Contractors. Discussion also included installation of solar panels from the old pool be installed. Baron made the motion to instruct the mayor to follow up with Johnson Melloh on solar options and the motion was seconded by Jack. Motion carried 5-0.

Tim Hunt addressed council about the city's new comprehensive plan. The draft plan had been emailed to council for review. Tim explained the comp plan needs to be approved by the Jennings County Area Plan Commission and is on their agenda for approval at their April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. A public hearing on the comp plan and adoption by the city council will be held at the April 11<sup>th</sup> city council meeting.


Fire Chief Mike Cole demonstrated the new drone the fire department was able to purchase by using grant money from IPEP.

Police Chief Keith Messer informed council that the city's current K-9 officer had applied for a position with another department and may be leaving. Discussion ensued about the current dog and the number of working years expected, as well as the city's policy on paying out sick time and vacation time to departing employees. No motions or action took place.

Shawn informed the council that Utility Service Board (USB) President Terry Thompson had reached out to him to request a joint executive session meeting between the council and USB. Council agreed and instructed Shawn to schedule the meeting for April 11, 2022 at 5:15 PM just prior to their regularly scheduled meeting.

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

Trent made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Jerry. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.



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R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



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Mike Ochs, Mayor