

MINUTES
MOUNT VERNON CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 20, 2013

The Mount Vernon City Council met January 20, 2014 at Mount Vernon city Hall Chambers with the following members present: Roudabush, Taylor, Niemi and Hampton. Absent: Thompson.

1. Call to Order. At 6:28 p.m. Mayor James Moore called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of Agenda. There were no changes or objections to the agenda.
3. Consent Agenda. Motion made by Hampton, seconded by Taylor to approve the Consent Agenda.

a. Approval of minutes of January 6, 2014.

b. Claims for approval.

AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL	SUPPLIES-PW	149.55
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-FD	760.72
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	26.08
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	128.58
ALLIANT ENERGY	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	132.01
ARAMARK	RUGS-FD	62.60
BALICHEK, RITA	CLEANING SERVICE-ALL DEPTS	87.50
BALICHEK, RITA	CLEANING SERVICE-P&A	52.50
BENHART, SHERRIE	CLEANING SERVICE-ALL DEPTS	87.50
BENHART, SHERRIE	CLEANING SERVICE-P&A	52.50
BOBCAT OF CEDAR RAPIDS	CUTTING EDGE-RUT	166.03
BOBCAT OF CEDAR RAPIDS	WINDOW/BOBCAT-PW	319.08
CAMPBELL SUPPLY	DRILL BIT-PW	45.00
CENTURY LINK	INTERNET CHGS-P&A	69.11
CENTURY LINK	INTERNET CHGS-SEW	62.16
CENTURY LINK	INTERNET CHGS-WAT	62.16
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGES-PD	37.23
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-FD	110.58
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-P&A	369.44
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-PD	103.68
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-POOL	48.77
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-SEW	92.05
COGRAN SYSTEMS	ONLINE REGISTRATION FEES	112.00
CUMMINS CENTRAL POWER	GENERATOR/FUEL FILTERS-WAT	56.06
DAVIES HEATING	SERVICE CALL-P&A	76.00
DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY	IA SYSTEM COMP SUPPORT-PD	100.00
DIESEL TURBO SERVICES	VEHICLE REPAIRS-SEW	17.76
DIESEL TURBO SERVICES	VEHICLE REPAIRS-WAT	19.50
ECICOG	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN-P&Z	1,036.00
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING	MEMBERSHIP-EMA	120.00
GRAYBILL COMMUNICATIONS	MASTER SWITCH-FD	5.54
GROUP SERVICES INC	INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	29,150.28
I WIRELESS	CELL PHONE-ALL DEPTS	113.13
INNOVATIVE INDUSTRIES	EQUIPMENT-FD	802.50
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES-WAT, SEW	11.70

IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	COMPUTER MAINT-WAT, SEW	145.00
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	REGIONAL TOURNAMENT-P&REC	50.00
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TRAINING-SEW	85.00
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS	MAINT PLAN/COPIES-ALL DEPTS	544.78
LYNCH FORD	ARM ASY/F450-RUT	32.25
MARTIN EQUIPMENT	BACKHOE MAINT-PW	549.87
MARTIN EQUIPMENT	BACKHOE-PW	113.96
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST	SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX-P&A	35.00
MOUNT VERNON DEVELOPEMENT	SIDEWALK ESCROW REIMB	16,595.64
MUTUAL WHEEL COMPANY	EQUIPMENT-FD	98.34
OVERHEAD DOOR CO	EMERGENCY RELEASE BRACKET-PW	129.75
PAYROLL	CLAIMS	43,451.32
PAYROLL CLAIMS	TOTAL	50,728.76
RTE - RICK ELLIOTT	RENT-P&REC	890.00
SCHIMBERG COMPANY	WELL #5 PIPE-WAT	361.20
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	76.51
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	198.87
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	233.12
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	266.28
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-P&A	4.73
STAR EQUIPMENT	SAFETY EQUIP-PW	53.40
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-PD	111.68
WALKER AG EQUIPMENT	CUTTING EDGE-RUT	81.40
WENDLING QUARRIES	SAND-RUT	357.54
WENDLING QUARRIES	SAND-RUT	638.15
WEX BANK	FUEL-PW	1,375.90
WEX BANK	FUEL-PW	1,489.99
	GRAND TOTAL	153,343.74

c. Approval of liquor license renewals: Scorz Bar & Grill and Kernoustie Golf Club.

4. Open forum: each citizen limited to 5 minutes per discussion item.
5. Request to appoint Council member to Comprehensive Plan Committee. When Mayor Moore asked council for a volunteer Niemi suggested they could take turns attending the sessions, on a revolving basis. Taylor stated it makes sense to have one person fill that role on a regular basis so there is continuity. Niemi volunteered. Taylor moved to appoint Bill Niemi to serve as the council member representative to the Comprehensive Plan Committee, seconded by Hampton. Carried all. Absent: Thompson.
6. Mayor Report. An issue with mail delivery on Tenth Avenue has been resolved.
7. City Administrator "State of the Town" Report. Summing up the State of the City in one word City Administrator Beimer said it is "good". Between last year and the current year property valuations increased about \$10 million resulting in approximately \$135,000 more in general fund revenues. A lot of the increase can be attributed to the increase in commercial assessments. Beimer continued saying that all funds are in good shape except the Water Fund, which is predicted to be in "the black" in CY2014. There are growth opportunities in housing and

economic development through more businesses which will probably occur with future annexation. The City could fund about \$2 million more in public works projects (agenda item #15) and still have sufficient debt capacity left in case an emergency arises. In the next three years there will be decreases in the commercial property tax valuations but the State has promised to “backfill”. In the interim Beimer thought it prudent to plan for any possible growth to the south and southwest.

8. Presentation from Speer Financial; TIF book updates. Maggie Burger presented Council with the new TIF updates explaining each section. Currently (FY14) the City’s assessed value is \$225,809,611.00 which gives the City a debt limit of \$11,290,481.00 (5% of 100% value). Present outstanding debt is \$6,705,000.00 which is just principle as that only needs to be counted against the debt capacity. During this fiscal year the City will repay \$730,000.00 but issued new debt of \$1,200,000.00 leaving the debt capacity (not obligated) at \$4,115,481.00 / 36.45% remaining capacity. 20% is withheld as a contingency reserve leaving \$1,857,384.00. Using the same formulas but with the new assessed values which will start on July 1, 2014, the property valuation increases to \$245,263,450.00. Subtracting the principle payments and allowing for the 20% reserve leaves 3,480,538.00 debt capacity. The TIF report presented lists the base value when the TIF district was set years ago. Anything above that value is called “incremental value” The total of the TIF taxable property value is added together, multiplied by the TIF value (\$33.048). That total is the amount of TIF dollars available. The City is using \$633,117.00 + \$59,802.00 which means the unclaimed total of TIF dollars is \$1,743,251.00. These dollars are put back into the general fund of the City, county, and school district. Asking for more money from TIF can potentially harm the general fund balance if the City doesn’t have the growth to compensate for what is being asked for.
9. Discussion and possible action on Resolution #1-20-2014A: A Resolution of appointment and compensation schedule for City Attorney. Beimer explained that this resolution is the same one used for the last several years, the rates have remained constant and his recommendation is to approve it. Motion to approve Resolution #1-20-2014A made by Hampton, seconded by Taylor. Roll call vote all yes. Absent: Thompson.
10. Public hearing and discussion and possible action on Ordinance #1-20-2014A: An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Water Meters (Meter Testing). Mayor Moore opened the public hearing. With no comments from the public the hearing was closed. Beimer said the current \$45.00 does not cover the costs of testing a meter. Proposed ordinance changes the charge to \$100.00. Hampton moved to approve Ordinance #1-20-2014A, seconded by Taylor. Roll call vote all yes. Absent: Thompson.
11. Public hearing and discussion and possible action on Ordinance #1-20-2014B: An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Storm Water Utility (Calculation of Equivalent Units and Amount of Charge). Mayor Moore opened the public hearing. With no comments from the public the hearing was

closed. Niemi moved to approve Ordinance #1-20-2014B, seconded by Hampton. Roll call vote all yes. Absent: Thompson.

12. Request from Community Center Committee to present update. As there were no representatives present there was not an update.
13. Police Chief Report. Officer Gehrke will be conducting TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) training on Saturday, January 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Business's that hold permits to sell alcohol are encouraged to attend. Department vehicle radios have been reprogrammed. The new radio system will go live on February 3rd. The system is a narrow banded system required by Federal standards. Currently there are two reserve officer positions open.
14. Parks and Recreation Director Report. Hahn Creek signs are done and will be installed once the ground thaws. The Davis Park basketball court was flooded to create an ice rink. Master Parks Plan progress continues hoping to present to Council in Spring 2014.
15. Council worksession on FY2015 budget. Beimer asked Council to focus on the capital projects that have been identified. The total of the projects in the worksheet are about \$2.4 million which is also an amount he thought the City could safely bond for. Beimer explained each project and their funding source. There will be a special work session on Monday, January 27, 2014, City Hall, 6:30 p.m. to continue budget discussions. All those asking for City support are invited to come and explain their budget askings.

16. Old Business.

17. New Business. Loren Hartelt resigned as Public Works Director.

At this time Mayor Moore said they would take a break after which Council would go into Closed Session. Motion made by Roudabush to go into Closed Session, seconded by Niemi. Roll call vote all yes. Absent: Thompson.

18. Strategy discussion with counsel about matters that are presently in litigation with ABCM Corp. (Hallmark). This session and discussion may be closed pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(c) which permits closed sessions with legal counsel to discuss matters presently in litigation. Motion to come out of closed session made by Hampton, seconded by Taylor. Roll call vote all yes. Absent: Thompson.

As there was no further business to attend to the meeting adjourned, the time being 9:35 p.m., January 20, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Ripke

City Clerk

Reviewed and approved
Michael R. Beimer
City Administrator