

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
FEBRUARY 22, 2016

The meeting was opened by Mayor Mike 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 (absent)

Councilmembers-Brian Hatfield

Jack Kelley

Jerry Lamb

Connie Rayburn

Trent Wisner

Street Commissioner- Rick Marksberry

Chief of Police- James Webster

Fire Chief- Mike Cole (absent)

Park Director- Chad Speer

Water Superintendent- Mike Hess (absent)

Wastewater Superintendent- Russell Vaught

Golf Course Manager- Robin Brown

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Marcia McGill, Rick McGill, Jeff Shinolt, Chris Doran, and Barbara King.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2016 City Council meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 5-0.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin completed the introduction and first reading of Ordinance #953, an ordinance pertaining to maximum speed limit on State Road 3. Police Chief James Webster explained to Council the area involved and signage needed. The second reading and possible adoption is set to take place at the next City Council meeting, scheduled for March 14, 2016.

The next item on the agenda was the implementation of the Title VI plan. The policy was authored by FPBH, Inc. and needed to be updated by the City to be eligible for federal funding for projects. City Engineer Brad Bender told Council that the document, which details the City's ongoing efforts to comply with civil rights regulations, had been reviewed by City Engineer Larry Greathouse. After a brief discussion, Councilman Kelley made the motion to accept the updated Title VI plan, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Bids were opened for work on the old Moose building on 5th Street at the previous Council meeting. Brad Bender recommended to Council that the work be completed by the low bidder, Bradshaw Building Specialists at a price of \$23,145.00. Councilman Lamb made the motion to award the bid to Bradshaw Building Specialists, subject to the company providing the paperwork confirming they are enrolled in and use e-Verify, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 5-0.

There was a lengthy discussion about the proposed creation of a golf course board. Councilman Jack Kelley, park director Chad Speer, and Clerk Treasurer Shawn Gerkin had met recently to discuss duties and authority of the board. After feedback from Council, it was recommended City Attorney Larry Greathouse author an ordinance based on the suggestions taken, and the Council could review the creation of the board at that time. No motions or action was taken at this time.

Park Director Chad Speer informed Council that activities were picking up at the park, with soccer starting soon. He said preparations were being made for the City's annual Easter egg hunt, which is scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 26th.

Golf Course Director Robin Brown told Council work continues to be done on a draining ditch lining the 3rd hole. Also, more scrambles had been reserved already for 2016 than were done the entire 2015 season.

Street Commissioner Rick Marksberry said the street department picked up the two new snow trucks on Saturday and have put them to use on moving snow already. There was also discussion the current trash ordinance. Councilmember Hatfield had recently heard complaints from a citizen whose neighbor had trash in the yard and discussion ensued on how the property could be cleaned up and whether the property owner could be billed for the cleanup. The current City ordinance on the subject will be put on the agenda and reviewed at the next Council meeting.

The Council heard the revised first reading of Ordinance #952, an ordinance adopting monthly billing to certain properties for fire protection, trash service, and storm water fees and repealing ordinance #937. Second reading and potential adoption will be scheduled for the next Council meeting.

Wastewater Superintendent Russell Vaught let Council know that 4th Street was currently closed due to work being completed. Also, the USB had awarded the PER to RLM Engineering for the annexation project. Finally, Greensburg Street would be closed to thru traffic from April 1, 2016 to August 1, 2016 due to construction on the Long Term Control Plan at the plant. Mr. Vaught said he would make sure the company had approved and correct signage to close the road.

Assistant Fire Chief Rick McGill explained to Council that Fire Chief Cole could not attend the meeting tonight, but that the aerial truck was back in service and that the first portion of the hiring process for a new firefighter was complete.

Councilman Hatfield asked engineer Brad Bender if he would review the idea of river access at Summit Street at the next meeting. A plan was designed some time back but was put on hold.

Councilman Lamb made the motion to reappoint Susie Hall as the Council's appointment to the Animal Control Board, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Jennings County EMA had requested their first draw from the City. Clerk Treasurer Gerkin explained that the City had budgeted UP TO \$22,000.00 for EMA for advertising purposes, but the amount to be given had yet to be decided. The Council gave \$11,000.00 to EMA in 2015. Council asked that EMA provide documentation on what the money given would be used for before any funds would be released. No motion or action took place on the claim.

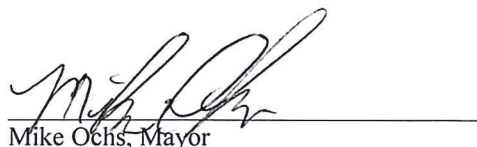
Councilman Hatfield made the motion to pay the remaining claims presented, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion to pay claims passed 5-0.

Councilman Wisner made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion to adjourn passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor