

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
OCTOBER 13, 2015

The meeting was opened by Mayor Harold Campbell with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Harold N. Campbell

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- John Roche

Councilmembers-Brian Hatfield (absent)

Matthew Hurley

Michael Ochs

Connie Rayburn

David Shaw

Street Commissioner- Rick Marksberry

Chief of Police- James Webster

Fire Chief- Rick McGill (absent)

Park Director- Chad Speer (absent)

Water Superintendent- Mike Hess

Wastewater Superintendent- Russell Vaught

Golf Course Manager- Robin Brown (absent)

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Randall Marshall, Adam Simmons, Jeff Shinolt, Barbara King, Coleen Malone, Joanne Riley, and Kelly Hatton.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to accept the minutes of the September 28, 2015 City Council meeting subject to changing that Council told Jennings Water they need to speak with the USB to “talk about and present a proposal” and not necessarily sharing the cost of a rate study and to accept the minutes from the October 7, 2015 Special Budget meeting subject to changing the vote for golf course salary to “motion denied” instead of carried and that the salary will be “reviewed midyear” before a commission is set. Councilman Hurley seconded the motion subject to the changes, motion carried 4-0.

Ardell Mitchell, project manager with Harmon Construction on the 5th Street Restoration project, was present to tell Council that the project is wrapping up and completion should take place later in the week. Mr. Mitchell presented change order #1 from Holman Excavating on the project in the amount of \$64,638.26. These increased cost were explained by the need for adding an underdrain, installing a new sanitary sewer line, the additional environmental cleanup, soft soils, and disposal of tanks found underground. Councilman Shaw made the motion to approve the change order, seconded by Councilman Ochs. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Mitchell proceeded to present Council with change order #1 from Harmon Construction, Inc. The change order stems from the additional man hours needed for oversight, design, environmental, and legal due to the unforeseen issues detailed above. The change order is in the amount of \$81,086.70. Mr. Mitchell reminded Council that the overall cost of the project, even with the change orders presented, was originally estimated at \$580,385.93 and comes in at a closing cost of \$591,718.30. Councilman Ochs made the motion to accept the change order from Harmon Construction, Inc., seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 4-0.

Coleen Malone and Joanne Riley, representing the Wayside Homeless Shelter, were present to make the City Council aware of the organization and the amount of people they are helping and services they are providing. The shelter opened in November of 2014 and has had 167 individuals spend 2293 nights to date. They asked for support from the Council in any way possible both now and in the future. The current

building is in need of renovation to be brought up to code, and the organization will need to find a temporary place to house individuals. Clerk Treasurer Gerkin said if Council wishes to make a financial donation to help offset those costs, he would look into the budget to see if money was available at this time. Council asks that the shelter be put on the agenda for the following meeting.

Kelly Hatton, representing the Jennings County Community Foundation, presented Council with an opportunity to beautify the North Vernon signs seen as one enters the city limits. The group has a quote to fix up the signs in the amount of \$4480.00. The JCCF has \$3000.00 to donate to the project and needs Council to come up with the remaining \$1480.00. The quote was for four signs, but Mayor Campbell noted there is a fifth sign that's currently in storage due to bypass construction. Council agreed to help in any way possible and that final details could be worked out later. Councilman Ochs made the motion to move forward with the project, seconded by Councilman Shaw. Motion carried 4-0.

Wastewater Superintendent Russell Vaught informed Council that bids were opened recently for the Long Term Control Plan and that Mitchell & Stark Construction was the low bid, coming in slightly under the engineer's estimate. Soft closing with SRF should take place on October 29, 2015, with final closing and an official "Notice to Proceed" on the project to follow.


Water and Sewer budgets, previously approved by the Utility Service Board, were given for Council to review. Approval of the budgets will be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Street Commissioner Rick Marksberry told Council that the truck that had been stolen from the street department had been located and currently sits in impound in Indianapolis. The City has already received the insurance check for the stolen vehicle and relinquished the title to the insurance company. Councilman Shaw stated the truck is now the property of the insurance company and the City should have no desire to purchase back the truck, especially not knowing the extent of the damage that may have been caused to the truck.


Councilman Rayburn made the motion to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilman Shaw. Motion to pay the claims passed 4-0.

Councilman Ochs made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion to adjourn passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Harold N. Campbell, Mayor