

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
OCTOBER 24, 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

Councilmembers-Brian Hatfield (absent)

Jack Kelley

Jerry Lamb

Connie Rayburn

Trent Wisner

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Toni Stinson, Marilee Barber, Tracy Eder, Jeff Shinolt, and Barbara King.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2016 City Council meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 4-0.

Marilee Barber and Toni Stinson were present to discuss renewal of insurance. They informed Council that SIHO has agreed to a 0% increase in health insurance premiums. (Anthem rates came in subsequently at a 0% increase in vision premiums and a 3% increase in dental premiums). Additional options, such as offering a dual option plan to employees so they could choose a package that better fit their specific needs, were discussed briefly. Those options, and others, will be more thoroughly discussed in the future with the Mayor's insurance committee. Councilman Wisner made the motion to renew the health insurance with SIHO, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Ochs presented Council with a transfer request of \$1000.00 from 101-000-01-105 (part time help) to 101-000-01-106 (civil interest). Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 4-0.

Park Director Chad Speer and Clerk Treasurer Shawn Gerkin presented Council with a transfer request for funds in the pool budget. Funds are being transferred so payroll can be made from the pool budget to help alleviate the cash flow strain within the recreation budget while still maintaining enough money to purchase chemicals to be able to winterize the pool and reopen in the spring. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 4-0.

Next on the agenda was a transfer request from the golf budget. Director of Golf Robin Brown explained that the weather caused the course to spend more money in chemicals and part time help than anticipated. Overall, the course is still on track to bring in more money than spent during the calendar year. Councilman Kelley made the motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 4-0.

A letter was presented to Council from Fire Chief Mike Cole requesting three transfers from within the fire department general budget. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the three transfer requests, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Ochs asked Council's opinion on giving City employees election day off, similar to what is being done in the county. After a brief discussion, Council did not see the need to add additional holiday pay to the current schedule. No motions or action took place.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin completed the second reading of Ordinance #959, an ordinance fixing the annual salaries of all employees of the City of North Vernon for the year 2017. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to adopt Ordinance #959, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 4-0.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin completed the second reading of Ordinance #960, an ordinance fixing the annual salaries of elected officials of the City of North Vernon for the year 2017. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to adopt Ordinance #960, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 4-0.

Golf Director Robin Brown discussed with Council the cost of renting the clubhouse at the golf course for events. The current cost is \$30 per hour. The cost includes the rental of the building as well as having a bartender. After discussion, Council agreed to raise the cost of renting the building to \$50 per hour.

Wastewater Superintendent Russell Vaught informed Council that the Storm King has been set in place and a representative for the company will be in this week to make sure it has been set correctly. If everything goes as planned, Greensburg Street will be reopened in November.


Park Director Chad Speer discussed with Council the future of the City Pool. He had met with a representative of Spear Corporation and came to the conclusion that there are four options for the pool. The first option is to close the pool. The second option is to replace the liner and effectively put off the inevitable work that needs done with the concrete and pool house. The third option is to replace the pool and pool house with something similar at a cost of \$2 million. The pool would continue to operate at a loss of \$50,000.00 a year or so. The final option is to construct a splash pad and new pool house at a cost of \$1.25 million. This option would be cheaper to operate due to the need for fewer chemicals and fewer employees and the City could potentially charge more for admission. No motions or action took place.

There was a lengthy discussion about the shelter house at the City park. Ultimately, Councilman Kelley made the motion to instruct the Mayor to contact City Engineer Brad Bender and design a shelter house that will cost approximately \$50,000.00. Electrical labor and concrete have been donated. Councilman Wisner seconded by motion. Motion carried 4-0.


Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to pay the claims, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 4-0.

Councilman Wisner made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 P.M.



R. Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor