

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
OCTOBER 26, 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

Matthew Hurley

Michael Ochs

Connie Rayburn

David Shaw

Street Commissioner- Rick Marksberry

Chief of Police- James Webster

Fire Chief- Rick McGill

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: Randall Marshall, Marilee Barber, Dave Kopitzke, Carolyn Dailey, Toni Stinson, Jeff Shinolt, Barbara King, and Bobby Anderson.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2015 City Council meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Hatfield abstained).

City insurance agent Marilee Barber, SIHO representative Carolyn Dailey, and Apex Benefits representative Toni Stenson were present to discuss the City's health, dental, and vision insurance renewal. Marilee Barber explained that the vision and dental insurance from Anthem has come in at an increase of just over 2% from 2015, well within the increase the City had planned and budgeted. Councilman Shaw made the motion to renew the dental and vision insurance with Anthem for 2016, seconded by Councilman Ochs. Motion carried 5-0.

Toni Stenson shared with Council that the SIHO premium for the City's health insurance came in at a 24% increase. It was discussed that an increase that size would be too much of a burden for the City and its employees. A recommendation was made to move to SIHO's Landmark Tier 3 plan along with increasing the deductible for single plans from the current \$1500 to \$2500. That move would result in a decrease of about 1% for the City and the employees. There was also discussion about leaving the City's HSA contribution at its current amount, \$1500.00 for family plans, \$1000.00 for single with children or spouse, and \$750.00 for single. After a lengthy discussion about the importance of the utilizing the clinic and general insurance questions, Councilman Shaw made the motion to accept the SIHO Landmark plan and keeping the City's HSA contributions the same for 2016, seconded by Councilman Ochs. Motion carried 5-0.

A letter was presented to Council from Mr. Tom Sarver, representing First Christian Church, explaining that the church had been selected to be a collection site for Samaritan's Purse "Shoebbox Project" and requesting use of the City Parking lot located behind the church from 6:00 PM on November 22 through 10:00 PM on November 23. Councilman Ochs motions to allow use of the parking lot, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Bids were opened for two one ton trucks with plows for the Street Department. Garlitch Ford, Chrysler, Jeep turned in a bid of \$91,056.92 for two Ford trucks and \$84,311.00 for two Dodge trucks. Country Chevrolet turned in a bid of \$83,200.00 for two Chevy trucks. A decision to move forward with the purchase of the two trucks was tabled until the city attorney and street commissioner could review the bids.

The next item on the agenda was the Wayside Homeless Shelter. Representatives from the shelter were present at the previous Council meeting with a request for financial help while their current building is being brought up to code. Discussion between Council members indicated they are interesting in helping, but want an idea from the homeless shelter how much money they are requesting. Councilwoman Rayburn made a motion to table the request, seconded by Councilman Shaw. Motion carried 5-0.

The utility budgets were presented to the Council for their approval. The budgets had previously been approved with a 5-0 vote by the Utility Service Board. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Rayburn made a motion to approve the utility budgets as presented, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion carried 5-0.

The next item on the agenda was the potential passing of Ordinance #950, the 2016 Salary Ordinance for Employees of the City of North Vernon. Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin explained that he had created the ordinance using the previously established matrix for the utility departments, fire department, and police department, and increased the remaining employee pay by 3% for employees with up to 10 years of service, 2% for employees who have worked for 11 to 20 years with the City, and 1% for employees with 21 years of service or more, as previously instructed by Council. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Rayburn made a motion to adopt Ordinance #950, seconded by Councilman Hatfield. Motion carried 5-0.

City Engineer Brad Bender gave Council a handout and gave a brief update of the CEDIT projects.

Wastewater Superintendent Russell Vaught informed Council that the City would be closing on the loan for the Long Term Control Plan project in the next couple of weeks, and that a notice of award on the project had been given to the low-bidder, Mitchell & Stark.

Chief Webster told Council that the annual Trick or Treat night held at the police station would be a challenge due to the ongoing construction, but that the department would find a way to work through it. Lieutenant Randall Marshall explained to Council that Officers Beville and Newsom had recently completed training from the Honor Guard.

Golf Course Manager Robin Brown and Airport Director Ryan Curry discussed the work being done at the golf course with tree removal, and subsequent compromise in getting the course cleaned up. Council agreed that an earlier agreement to have the golf course sell the wood from the trees be scrapped for Mr. Curry's proposal that the airport had someone who would clean up the property for the wood in lieu of pay. Councilman Shaw made the motion to let the airport take care of the cleanup, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion carried 5-0.

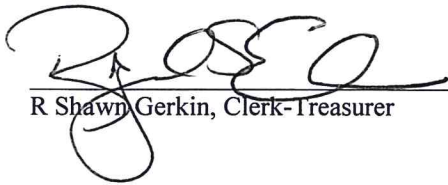
Park Director Chad Speer told Council that it appeared it would be spring before the State finished the tennis courts that have been disturbed by the work being done by INDOT on North State Street.

Bobby "Steve" Anderson requested from Council financial help to expand and repair the Good Samaritan shelter on Hoosier Street. Mr. Anderson is also looking for volunteers to help due the work involved. The Council asked him to get a better idea of how much money he thought was needed and a decision would be made in the future.

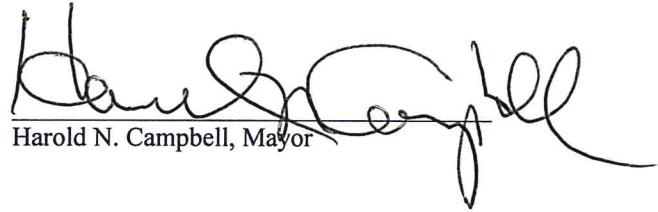
Councilman Ochs made a motion to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion to pay the claims passed 5-0.

Councilman Hatfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 P.M.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Harold N. Campbell, Mayor