

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
JUNE 8, 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 (absent)

Water Superintendent- Mike Hess

Wastewater Superintendent- Russell Vaught (absent)

Golf Course Manager- Robin Brown

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Corinne Finnerty, Lester Lee, Brenda Lee, John Barlow, Richard Morin, Rob Barlow, Kathy McKalip, Cheryl Trisler, Randall Marshall, Jeff Shinolt, Barbara King, and Chris Lowe.

Councilman Ochs made the motion to accept the minutes of the May 11, 2015 City Council meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion carried 4-0-1. (Councilwoman Rayburn abstained)

Clerk Treasurer Shawn Gerkin informed Council that Ardell Mitchell would not be present at the meeting due to illness, but that he had reported that the 5th Street Restoration Project was moving along and still on schedule.

Area Plan Director Cheryl Trisler presented Council with a rezone request for property currently owned by John Barlow at 414 West Walnut Street. Mr. Barlow wishes to have the property rezoned from residential multi-family and commercial to commercial single site for the construction of storage units. The request has already been approved by the area plan board. After a brief discussion of the units, Councilman Ochs made the motion to waive the first reading of the request, seconded by Councilman Hurley. Motion carried 5-0. Councilman Shaw then made the motion to grant the rezone request, seconded by Councilman Ochs. Motion to rezone the property carried 5-0.

Next on the agenda was a presentation by Mr. Lester Lee on an idea the City's water supply. Mr. Lee cited safety concerns with the City's current plan to use the quarry as a new reservoir and primary water supply, such as the close proximity to the City's cemetery and a nearby "brown zone" that contains the poison thallium. Mr. Lee encouraged Council to look at other options, including his idea of creating an 80 acre lake by building a dam, which could also be used for recreation and be an enhancement to the City. After a lengthy discussion, Water Superintendent Mike Hess and engineer Richard Morin, who has been involved with the Quarry project from the beginning, discussed some of Mr. Lee's concerns with the Council. All involved agreed to hold a public hearing on the topic so residents had the opportunity to voice any concerns before a final decision would be made. That meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the ETC building on West O&M Avenue **DURING** the regularly scheduled Council meeting. No motions on the topic were made.

Fire Chief Rick McGill informed Council that he hopes the hire of fireman will occur soon as he and the clerk treasurer are close in getting the new '77 Fund established through PERF for the fire department. Also, pump tests on the fire department equipment were completed last week and re-certification of the apparatus has been accomplished.

Police Chief James Webster told Council that the applicant which was to be hired as the City's 17th police officer withdraw their name from the process earlier that day.

City Engineer Brad Bender told Council that an ordinance would need created to change the speed limits on Highway 3, which is now within the City limits. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to have City Attorney John Roche create the new ordinance which would make the speed limit 45 mph in the zone discussed, seconded by Councilman Shaw. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Shaw made the motion to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilman Ochs. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Harold N. Campbell, Mayor