

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 26, 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

Jack Kelley

Jerry Lamb

Connie Rayburn

Trent Wisner

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: James Webster, Randall Marshall, Wade Eaglin, Louise Showman, Jim Bird, Joyce Sweet, Floyd Strickland, Tracy Eder, Barbara King, Chris Lowe, Jeff Shinolt, Ruth Bosch, Linda Coad, Terry Zornes, John Bright, Ron James, Jeanette James, Terry Bright, and Russell Vaught.

Councilman Wisner made the motion to approve the minutes as written and presented for the September 12, 2016 City Council meeting, the September 14, 2016 City Council budget meeting, and the September 19, 2016 City Council budget meeting, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 5-0.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin opened the public hearing for the 2017 budget, and explained to those in attendance that any ten or more taxpayers may object to the budget, tax rate, or tax levy by filing an objection petition not more than seven days from today's date. The City's budget has been "advertised" on Gateway according to state statute and DLGF requirements. Mayor Ochs asked anyone in attendance for comment. After no comments, Councilman Lamb made the motion to close the public hearing portion of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilman Kelley and Councilman Wisner explained to those in attendance the Ford's Crossing Committee's plan for the future of the old golf course. Immediate plans include working with the Division of Fish and Wildlife to plan pollinator patches on portions of the course and having walking trails. Future plans include more recreational items, such as playgrounds and an amphitheater. Jeanette James, property owner adjacent to the course, spoke about concerns of mowing the area around her home. No motions or actions took place at this time.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin presented a proposal forwarded by Pat York from Owens Communications for a new tornado siren. There is an interested in having a new siren installed on the north end of town, towards the recently annexed city property and industrial park. The purchase was tabled at this time.

Ruth Bosch, on behalf of the Senior Resource Center, was present to discuss the Center's request for fund from the 2017 budget. Councilwoman Rayburn apologized to those in attendance for a comment in the recent Plain Dealer where she felt she was misquoted, and explained that it was not her intention to single out funding for the Senior Center. Council was given a handout that itemized the expenses and revenue of the Senior Center. No motions or actions took place at this time.

City Engineer Brad Bender presented Council with the updated 5 year CEDIT plan. The plan is required to be adopted by Council by statute. Council asked for time to review the document. Approval of the plan will be put on the agenda for the October 11, 2016 City Council meeting.

Next on the agenda was an update on the shelter house to be built at the North Vernon City Park. Mr. Bender presented Council with two options for the house. He and park director Chad Speer explained that the park board recommended that the Council go with option #1, a 3 bay shelter house, that best fit the needs of the park and the farmer's market. Engineer estimates for the project are at a cost of \$112,000.00. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to direct Mr. Bender to move to get quotes for option #1, seconded by Councilman Hatfield. Motion carried 5-0. Quotes for the project will be opened at the October 11, 2016 City Council meeting.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin explained to Council that the renewal date for the City's workman's compensation and liability insurance was set to renew on October 1<sup>st</sup>. He explained he had been working with agent John Bright and ISU Bright insurance on the policy, and that the rate for 2017 would remain unchanged. Mr. Gerkin explained a slightly higher price due to the addition of five city vehicles, the stage, and the old golf course, but there was not an increase on the basic policy. Councilman Lamb made the motion to renew the insurance with ISU Bright (through EMC insurance), seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Webster told Council the department had recently bought a new Ford Explorer and wanted to get rid of a 2007 Chevy Trailblazer from their asset list. Clerk Treasurer Gerkin said he'd move the vehicle from the police to the City's asset list.

Chief Webster presented Council with a request for 8 different transfers from within the police department budget. After a brief discussion, Councilman Kelley made the motion to allow the transfers, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 5-0.

It was announced that Council would hold another special budget meeting on Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. at the Carnegie Government Center. The meeting will be opened to the public.

Park Director Chad Speer informed Council that he would be meeting with someone regarding the condition of the City pool, as well as other options on Friday, October 30, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed them to attend. Councilman Hatfield and Councilman Wisner opined that the pool serves a need of the community regardless of cost and would like to see it continue to be opened.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion carried 5-0.

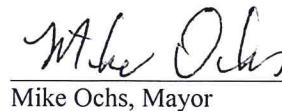
Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 P.M.



---

R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



---

Mike Ochs, Mayor