Legislative Session Minutes

February 24, 2025

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mount Vernon City Council
Committee Meeting Schedule
February 24, 2025

5:40-6:01 p.m.	Exec session: Purchase/sale of property	Land Use & Development Keener
6:03-6:08 p.m.	Mansfield Avenue sidepath project	Streets & Public Buildings Severns
6:08-6:09 p.m.	Alley vacation	Land Use & Development Keener
6:09-6:16 p.m.	Street resurfacing	Streets & Public Buildings Severns
6:16-6:39 p.m.	Parks update	Parks & Recreation Miller
6:39-6:59 p.m.	MVAC at AF Park	Parks & Recreation Miller
6:59-7:13 p.m.	Knox CVB CA&C lease	Parks & Recreation Miller

- 02-24-25 Committee Meeting Schedule

MEETING WILL RECESS UNTIL 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee	Title	Status
Janis Seavolt	At Large	Present
Tammy Woods	Third Ward	Present
Amber Keener	At Large	Present
Mel Severns	Councilman	Present
Mike Miller	Fourth Ward	Present
James Mahan	First Ward	Present
John Ruckman	Second Ward	Present
Bruce Hawkins	President	Present

<RollCallList Status="Absent">

{Attendee(*):First Last}	{Attendee(*):Title}	Absent

INVOCATION

Pastor Justin Meier, Grace Baptist Church, performed the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited in unison.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- City Council - Legislative Session - Feb 10, 2025 7:30 PM

Seavolt made a motion to accept the minutes of the Legislative Session of February 10, 2025, with a second by Woods. Motion passed by a voice vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Janis Seavolt, At Large
SECONDER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council accepted without comment the minutes for the two Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee meetings, the Employee and Community Relations Committee meeting and the Utilities Committee meeting of February 10, 2024.

- 02-10-25A Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes
- 02-10-25B Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes
- 02-24-25 Employee and Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
- 02-10-24 Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE

None.

PROCLAMATION

None.

PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN

None.

RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE MANSFIELD AVENUE SIDEPATH PROJECT (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets and Public Buildings: Severns, Ruckman

Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-17, with a second by Ruckman. Engineer Brian Ball detailed the physical parameters of the Mansfield Avenue sidepath project, noted that improving the infrastructure in the vicinity of Dan Emmett School is a priority, and that this project connects to a handful of other similar projects. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 1 8

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A QUALIFICATION-BASED SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION AND RELATED ENGINEERING SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE MANSFIELD AVENUE SIDEPATH PROJECT (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets and Public Buildings: Severns, Ruckman

Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-18, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 2 0

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO GRANT AN EASEMENT TO THE KNOX COUNTY MEMORIAL BUILDING FOR A SIGN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets and Public Buildings: Severns, Ruckman

Resolution No. 2025-20 was given a second reading. Severns requested a 10-minute meeting of the Streets and Public Buildings Committee on the legislation for March 10, 2025.

RESULT:	**SECOND READING**	**Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 2 6

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SALT BARN AT 1700 OLD DELAWARE ROAD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets and Public Buildings: Severns, Ruckman

Severns made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-26, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-26, with a second by Ruckman. Severns noted that Council has budgeted for a new salt barn. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 2 7

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE 2025 STREET RESURFACING, AND CURB AND GUTTER RESTORATION PROJECTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets and Public Buildings: Severns, Ruckman

Severns made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-27, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-27, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 2 9

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO PAY BILLS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.41 (D), THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATION.

Finance and Budget: Seavolt, Woods

Seavolt made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-29, with a second by Woods. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Seavolt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-29, with a second by Woods. Auditor Dan Brinkman and Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers commented on the legislation. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Janis Seavolt, At Large
SECONDER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 3 0

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS.

Finance and Budget: Seavolt, Woods

Seavolt made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-30, with a second by Woods. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Seavolt made a motion to adopt

Resolution No. 2025-30, with a second by Woods. Auditor Dan Brinkman commented on the legislation. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Janis Seavolt, At Large
SECONDER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 5 - 3 1

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF REBECCA ABBOTT TO THE RECORDS COMMISSION FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

Woods made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-31, with a second by Keener. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Woods made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-31, with a second by Keener. Mayor Matthew Starr commented on the qualifications of Rebecca Abbott to serve on the Records Commission. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING

O R D I N A N C E N O . 2 0 2 5 - 0 3

AN ORDINANCE TO AFFIRM THE DECISION OF THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO NOT VACATE A PLATTED ALLEY NORTH OF KIRK STREET BETWEEN EAST STREET AND SOUTH MCKENZIE STREET IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use and Development: Keener, Mahan

Keener made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-03, with a second by Mahan. Keener clarified that a vote to adopt would in this case be to accept the recommendation of the Municipal Planning Commission, which in this case was against granting a petition to vacate an alley. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Amber Keener, At Large
SECONDER:	James Mahan, First Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

O R D I N A N C E N O . 2 0 2 5 - 0 4

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE CITY INSPECTOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-04, with a second by Keener. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers explained that the position of City Inspector is budgeted and within the City's pay grade, and added that a recent headline in Knox Pages that the City was proposing new funding for this position and that of Communications Director was incorrect. Miller noted that he had questions about the legislation and asked if Council would consider postponing it, but made no motion to that effect. Woods asked if creation of this position was a step toward the City establishing building codes; Salyers said it was not and that in any event that decision would be up to Council. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 4-3, with Woods, Seavolt and Keener voting no.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [4 TO 3]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman
NAYS:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-05, with a second by Keener. Miller asked if the Council Clerk would remain on board as the Council Clerk if the legislation were adopted, and Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers responded in the affirmative. Woods asked if the position of Communications Director would be posted, and Salyers responded that it would not be, as it was the intent of the Mayor to appoint the Mayor's Assistant to the position. Mahan expressed support for the position. Motion to adopt defeated by a roll-call vote of 3-4, with Mahan, Severns and Ruckman voting yes.

RESULT:	**DEFEATED [3 TO 4]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Severns, Mahan, Ruckman
NAYS:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Miller

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING COMPENSATION PAY GRADES FOR CERTAIN SUPERVISORY AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-06, with a second by Keener. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers noted that two pay grades in the legislation would need to be amended. Law Director Rob Broeren noted that the position of Administrative Chief Deputy Clerk of Court was a new title. Woods made a motion to postpone the third reading of Ordinance No. 2025-06 to March 10, 2025, with a second by Keener. Motion to postpone passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**POSTPONED TO A CERTAIN TIME [UNANIMOUS] Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-07

AN ORDINANCE SETTING PAY RANGES FOR TEMPORARY, SEASONAL, AND COLLEGE LEVEL INTERNSHIP EMPLOYEES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

Woods made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Ordinance No. 2025-07, with a second by Keener. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-07, with a second by Keener. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-08

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISION OF CHAPTERS 139, RECREATION BOARD, AND 931, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS; CAMPING, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Parks and Recreation: Miller, Severns

Ordinance No. 2025-08 was given a first reading.

RESULT:	**FIRST READING Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**

REMARKS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Matthew Starr announced that letters would be going out to residents soon detailing the City's new aggregation contract, thanked Code Enforcement Officer Greg Bemiller, who is retiring, for his years of service, and expressed displeasure at Council's defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers announced that the Jerry and Joy Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 12, 2025 at Memorial Park. Law Director Rob Broeren noted that door-to-door solicitors are required to get a solicitor's permit from the City, and that permits are issued to individuals and are non-transferable.

REMARKS FROM COUNCIL

Woods, referencing the defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05, noted that she was against creating positions for specific persons. Miller thanked the Mayor for communicating with Council, and suggested that Council committee meetings are too short. Keener, referencing the defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05, noted that she was against creating

positions for specific persons. Seavolt, referencing the defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05, noted that she found the financial situation of the City problematic, and requested a 15-minute meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee on re-appropriations for March 10, 2025. Mahan welcomed Auditor Dan Brinkman, mentioned participating in a housing webinar and noted that there is not enough housing in the City, and thanked Council for participating with the Knox County Commissioners and Regional Planning Commission on the Knox County Comprehensive Plan. Severns, referencing the defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05, noted that funds for the position of Communications Director had previously been appropriated. Ruckman, referencing the defeat of Ordinance No. 2025-05, noted that residents have complained to him about poor communications from the City, thanked resident Tonja Kent for hosting a walk along the Kokosing River dike, and thanked Mayor Matthew Starr for soliciting the Knox County Commissioners' assistance in addressing flood-control issues in the City.

ADJOURN AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT

Seavolt made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Keener. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

_____ _____

Bruce E. Hawkins, President of Council Todd Hill, Clerk of Council

CD on file/th

PRESS RELEASE

City Hall
40 Public Square
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Todd Hill, Clerk of Council
740-393-9517 Fax: 740-397-6595

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 19, 2025

Mount Vernon City Council
Committee Meeting Schedule
February 24, 2025

5:40-5:50 p.m.	Executive session: Purchase or sale of property	Land Use & Development Keener
5:50-5:55 p.m.	Temporary/seasonal employees, interns	Employee & Community Relations Woods
5:55-6:00 p.m.	Mansfield Avenue sidepath project	Streets & Public Buildings Severns
6:00-6:05 p.m.	Alley vacation	Land Use & Development Keener
6:05-6:20 p.m.	Street resurfacing	Streets & Public Buildings Severns
6:20-6:40 p.m.	Parks update	Parks & Recreation Miller
6:40-7:00 p.m.	MVAC at AF Park	Parks & Recreation Miller
7:00-7:15 p.m.	Knox CVB CA&C lease	Parks & Recreation Miller

The above listed meeting will be held to discuss the above items; but will not be limited to those listed.
Mount Vernon News - WMVO - WNZR – City Hall Bulletin Board

Communication: 02-24-25 Committee Meeting Schedule (Committee Meetings)

Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes
Committee Meeting
February 10, 2025 – 6:20 p.m. to 6:23 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Bruce Hawkins, President
Tammy Woods, Third Ward
James Mahan, First Ward
John Ruckman, Second Ward
Mike Miller, Fourth Ward
Janis Seavolt, At-Large
Amber Keener, At-Large
Mel Severns, At-Large

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matthew Starr, Mayor
Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director
Rob Broeren, Law Director
David Stuller, Treasurer
Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director
Robert Morgan, Police Chief
Todd Hill, Clerk

The committee discussed Resolution No. 2025-28, to purchase an ambulance for the Fire Department. Chair Mahan noted that the purchase has been budgeted for. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers noted that the ambulance will cost a bit more than $300,000, and that the wait time will be anywhere from 12 to 36 months. No further meetings on the matter were requested. Resolution No. 2025-28 was up for a first reading at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

James Mahan, Chair
Fire, Police, Civil Defense Committee,
Mount Vernon City Council

JM/th

Communication: 02-10-25A Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes (Receive Committee Reports)

Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes
Committee Meeting
February 10, 2025 – 6:23 p.m. to 6:31 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Bruce Hawkins, President
Tammy Woods, Third Ward
James Mahan, First Ward
John Ruckman, Second Ward
Mike Miller, Fourth Ward
Janis Seavolt, At-Large
Amber Keener, At-Large
Mel Severns, At-Large

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matthew Starr, Mayor
Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director
Rob Broeren, Law Director
David Stuller, Treasurer
Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director
Robert Morgan, Police Chief
Todd Hill, Clerk

The committee heard Police Sgt. Nick Myrda give a presentation on the Police Department's Citizen Police Academy, which will begin in the spring. Residents are invited to attend, at no cost, to learn about law enforcement and the City's Police Department. Participants will also do a ride-along with an officer. Myrda noted that he's hoping for 10 to 15 participants for the inaugural academy. Those interested may contact the Police Department for an application. No further meetings on the matter were requested.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

James Mahan, Chair
Fire, Police, Civil Defense Committee,
Mount Vernon City Council

JM/th

Communication: 02-10-25B Fire, Police and Civil Defense Committee Meeting Minutes (Receive Committee Reports)

Employee and Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
Committee Meeting
February 10, 2025 – 6:40 p.m. to 6:59 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Bruce Hawkins, President
Tammy Woods, Third Ward
James Mahan, First Ward
John Ruckman, Second Ward
Mike Miller, Fourth Ward
Janis Seavolt, At-Large
Amber Keener, At-Large
Mel Severns, At-Large

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matthew Starr, Mayor
Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director
Rob Broeren, Law Director
David Stuller, Treasurer
Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director
Robert Morgan, Police Chief
Todd Hill, Clerk

The committee discussed Ordinance No. 2025-04, establishing compensation, benefits and terms of employment for the City Inspector; Ordinance No. 2025-05, establishing same for the Communications Director; Ordinance No. 2025-06, amending compensation pay grades for certain supervisory and professional personnel; and Ordinance No. 2025-07, setting pay ranges for temporary, seasonal and college-level internship employees. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers discussed the two new positions of City Inspector and Communications Director, both of which have been budgeted. He added that in the future a position of City Clerk could be investigated. Regarding Ordinance No. 2025-06, Salyers noted that two positions need to be re-evaluated. Regarding Ordinance No. 2025-07, Salyers and Law Director Rob Broeren noted that the wage scales were created in part to reward returning seasonal employees. No further meetings on the four pieces of legislation were requested. Ordinance Nos. 2025-04, 2025-05 and 2025-06 were up for second readings and Ordinance No. 2025-07 was up for a first reading at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Tammy Woods, Chair
Employee and Community Relations Committee
Mount Vernon City Council

TW/th

Communication: 02-24-25 Employee and Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes (Receive Committee Reports)

Mount Vernon

Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2025 – 6:59 p.m. to 7:23 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Bruce Hawkins, President
Tammy Woods, Third Ward
James Mahan, First Ward
John Ruckman, Second Ward
Mike Miller, Fourth Ward
Janis Seavolt, At-Large
Amber Keener, At-Large
Mel Severns, At-Large

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Matthew Starr, Mayor
Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director
Rob Broeren, Law Director
David Stuller, Treasurer
Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director
Robert Morgan, Police Chief
Todd Hill, Clerk
Cheryl Splain, Knox Pages

The committee discussed Resolution No. 2025-02, to apply for, accept and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) agreement on behalf of the City for planning, design and/or construction of wastewater facilities and designating a dedicated repayment source for the loan. Joe Jacobs of Arcadis noted that the last time the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was upgraded was in 2012, although most upgrades date back to the 1990s. He added that the total cost of the upgrades would be $45 million, and that the principal drivers behind the project are protecting the Kokosing River, EPA mandates on phosphorous control and aging infrastructure at the WWTP. Construction could begin in January 2026, concluding in August 2028. Jacobs added that a rate study is upcoming. Woods asked how the project cost climbed to $45 million from $14 million four years ago, and why the project wasn't begun then. Utilities Director Aaron Reinhart noted that the project could be completed with a monthly rate increase of $26 per residence, but Safety-Service Director added that that proposal is not on the table and that the City is looking into contracts to add revenue. No further meetings on the matter were requested. Resolution No. 2025-02 was up for a third reading at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

John Ruckman, Chair
Utilities Committee
Mount Vernon City Council

TW/th

Communication: 02-10-24 Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes (Receive Committee Reports)

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Streets and Public Buildings
Severns, Ruckman
Category: Streets
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4180

RESOLUTION 2025-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE MANSFIELD AVENUE SIDEPATH PROJECT (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Mansfield Avenue Sidepath Project (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280).

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason to keep the project on schedule and within the allocated budget, and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 **City Council** **FIRST READING**

Resolution No. 2025-17 was given a first reading.

02/10/25 **City Council** **SECOND READING**

Resolution No. 2025-17 was given a second reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-17, with a second by Ruckman. Engineer Brian Ball detailed the physical parameters of the Mansfield Avenue sidepath project, noted that improving the infrastructure in the vicinity of Dan Emmett School is a priority, and that this project connects to a handful of other similar projects. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Streets and Public Buildings
Severns, Ruckman
Category: Streets
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4181

RESOLUTION 2025-18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A QUALIFICATION-BASED SELECTION OF CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION AND RELATED ENGINEERING SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE MANSFIELD AVENUE SIDEPATH PROJECT (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for bids and award a qualification-based selection of construction inspection and related engineering services during construction of the Mansfield Avenue Sidepath Project (KNO-CR5-0.47 PID 115280).

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason to keep the project on schedule and within the allocated budget, and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 **City Council** **FIRST READING**

Resolution No. 2025-18 was given a first reading.

02/10/25 **City Council** **SECOND READING**

Resolution No. 2025-18 was given a second reading. Severns requested a five-minute meeting of the Streets and Public Buildings Committee on Resolution Nos. 2025-17 and 2025-18 for February 25, 2025.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-18, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Streets and Public Buildings
Severns, Ruckman
Category: Lands
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4187

RESOLUTION 2025-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO GRANT AN EASEMENT TO THE KNOX COUNTY MEMORIAL BUILDING FOR A SIGN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 723.121 authorizes municipal legislative authorities to convey easements on City property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That Council hereby authorizes the Safety-Service Director of the City of Mount Vernon to grant an easement to the Knox County Board of Commissioners, the owner of record of 112 East High Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio (Parcel 66-50207.000), conveying a perpetual easement for the sign located at that address (see attachment A).

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public, peace, health and safety. The reason for the emergency is to allow the County to install an appropriate sign at the property while protecting the City's interest in the adjacent property and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

02/10/25 **City Council** **FIRST READING**

Resolution No. 2025-20 was given a first reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Resolution No. 2025-20 was given a second reading. Severns requested a 10-minute meeting of the Streets and Public Buildings Committee on the legislation for March 10, 2025.

RESULT: SECOND READING **Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**

EXHIBT A

East High Street
SIGN EASEMENT FOR PURPOSES
WITHOUT LIMITATION OF EXISTING ACCESS RIGHTS
IN THE NAME AND FOR THE USE OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KNOX COUNTY, OHIO

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, City of Mount Vernon the Grantor(s) for and in consideration of the sum of ($1.00) One Dollar and for other good and valuable consideration to us paid by the Board of Knox County Commissioners, the Grantee, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby remise, release, grant and convey to said Grantee, its successors and assigns forever, a perpetual easement for the construction, maintenance and repair of the sign facilities herein described. The Grantor herein retains the right to use said lands for any and all other purposes provided that such use does not interfere with nor impair the exercise of the easement herein granted.

Situated in Block B of the City of Mount Vernon First Ward, Thomas Addition, County of Knox, State of Ohio, and described as follows:

Commencing at a ¾ inch pipe found on the south right of way of East High Street, being the northheast corner of a 0.212 acre parcel of land now or formerly owned by Board of Knox County Commissioners as recorded in deed book 282 page 664;

Thence N86°37'40"W along the south right of way line of East High Street a distance of 154.18 feet to a point, this being the Point of Beginning;

Thence continuing N86°37'40"W along the south right of way line of East High Street a distance of 10.00 feet to a point;

Thence N03°22'20"E a distance of 21.00 feet to a point;

Thence S86°37'40"E a distance of 10.00 feet to a point;

Thence S03°22'40"W a distance of 21.00 feet to a point on the south right-of-way line of East High Street to the true Point of Beginning containing 210.00 square feet more or less.

Attachment: Ex A - Knox County Memorial Building Sign Easement (2025-20 : Easement for Memorial Building Sign)

This description was prepared by Cameron Keaton, Ohio Professional Surveyor Number 7927, and is based on an actual field survey conducted by Knox County Engineer's Office in January of 2025 under his direct supervision.

The bearings for this description are based on the Ohio State Plane Coordinate System, North Zone, the North American Datum of 1983 with the 2011 adjustment (NAD 83(2011)), with the bearing of the south right of way of East High Street (66-feet wide) being N86°37'40" W.

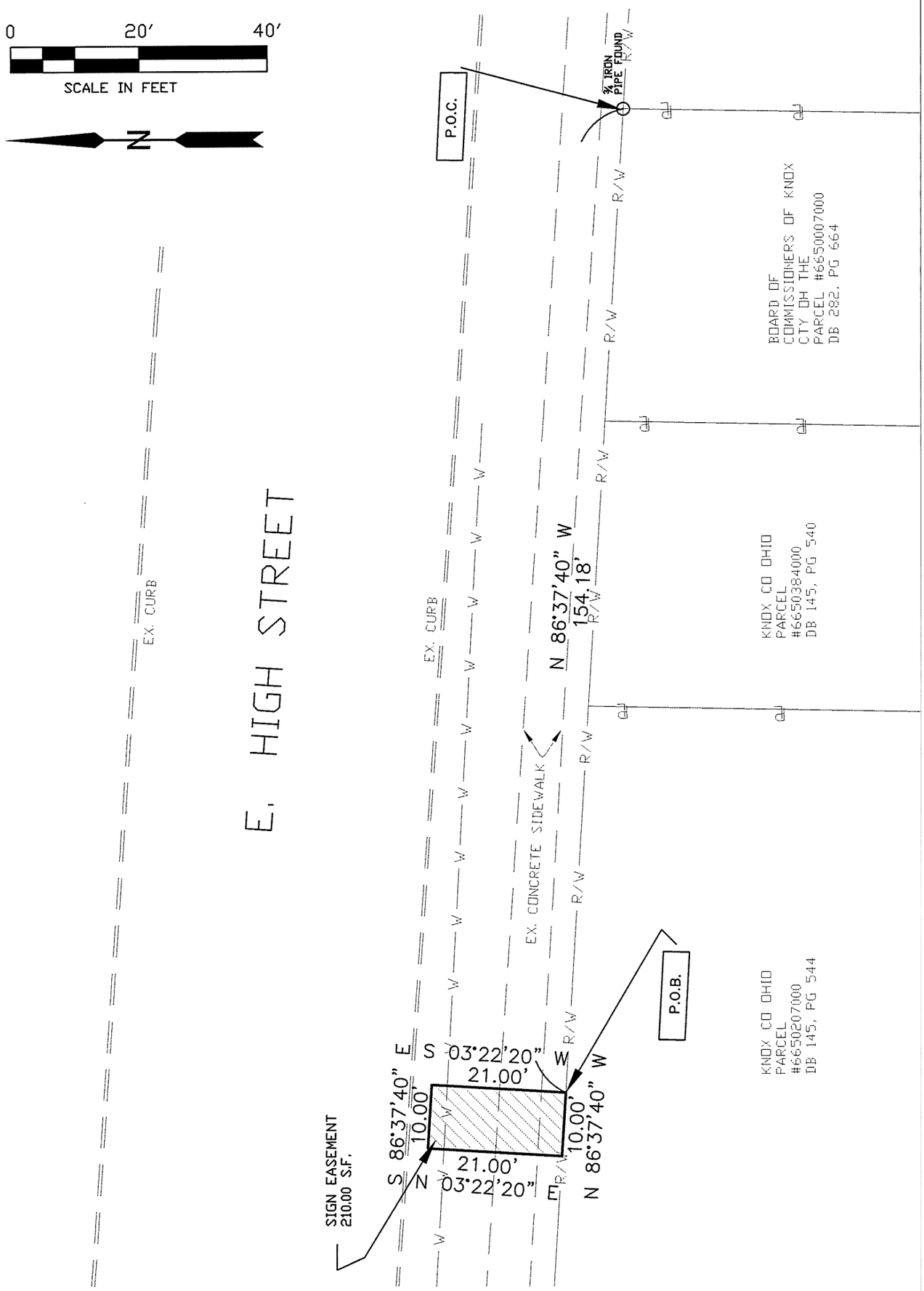
_____ _____

Cameron Keaton, P.E., P.S. Date
Registered Ohio Surveyor No. 7927

Attachment: Ex A - Knox County Memorial Building Sign Easement (2025-20 : Easement for Memorial Building Sign)

MAP TO ACCOMPANY EASEMENT ACROSS PROPERTY OWNED BY CITY OF MOUNT VERNON

BLOCK B OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, FIRST WARD , COUNTY OF KNOX, STATE OF OHIO.



Cameron Keaton P.E., P.S.
Registered Surveyor No. 7927

Date

X:\Current Projects\Knox County Memorial Building Sign\Easement Plan.dwg

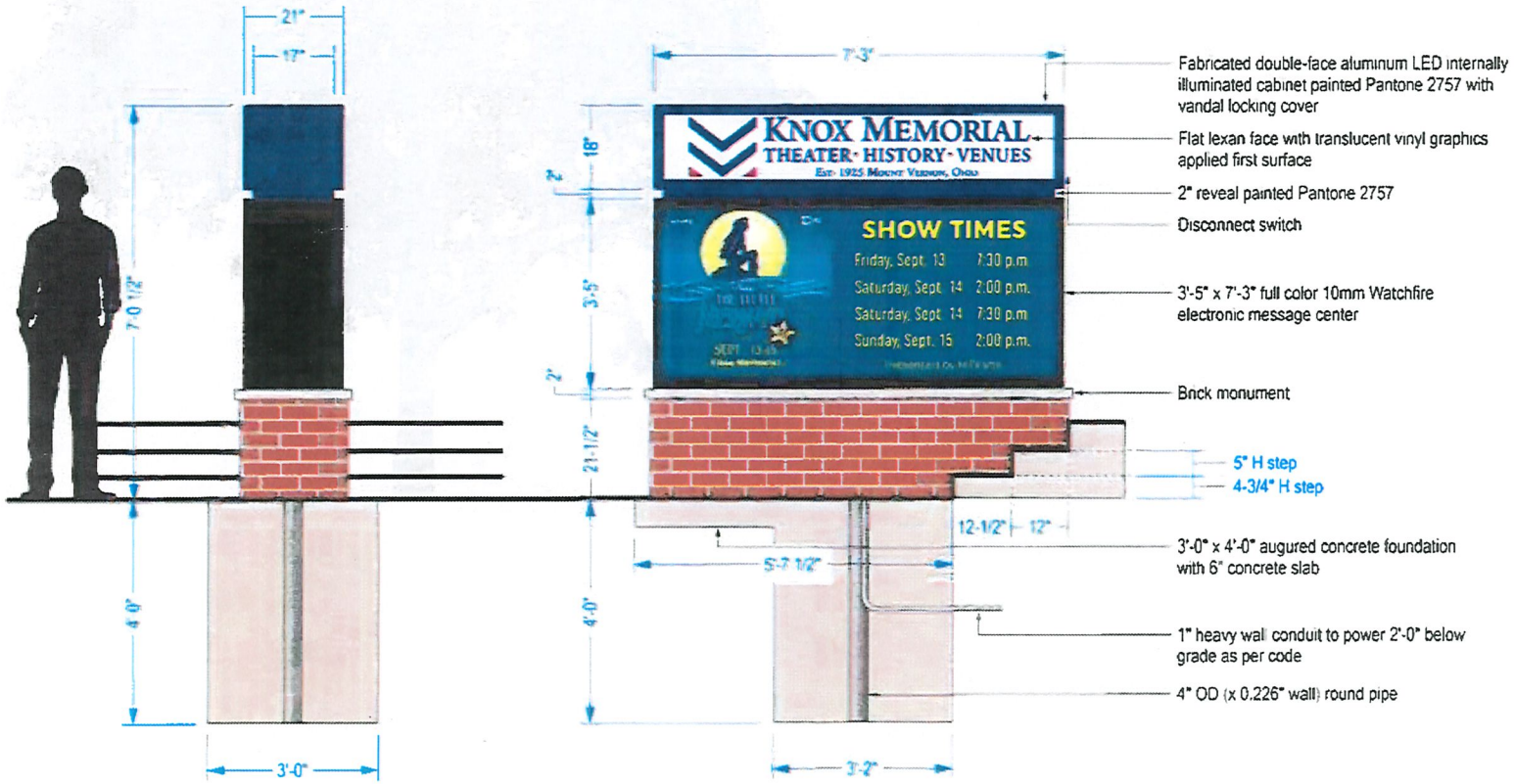
Attachment: Ex A - Knox County Memorial Building Sign Easement (2025-20 : Easement for Memorial Building Sign)

MAP TO ACCOMPANY EASEMENT ACROSS PROPERTY OWNED BY CITY OF MOUNT VERNON

BLOCK B OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, FIRST WARD , COUNTY OF KNOX, STATE OF OHIO.

Attachment: Ex A - Knox County Memorial Building Sign Easement (2025-20 : Easement for Memorial Building Sign)

X:\Current Projects\Knox County Memorial Buliding Sign\Easement Plan.dwg



NEW DOUBLE-FACE INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED MONUMENT SIGN
WITH 10MM FULL COLOR ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER - OPTION B

SCALE 1/2" = 1'

KNOX MEMORIAL
THEATER · HISTORY · VENUES

CLIENT | Knox Memorial

LOCATION | Mount Vernon, OH

SAVED AS | Knox_Memorial_Monument_Aug_20

DATE | August 15, 2024

REVISIONS | September 5, 2024

SALESMAN | Michael Lynn

DESIGNER | Jay Melton

SALESMAN INITIAL OF APPROVAL |

X

☐ GLOSS ☐ SATIN
☐ SEMI-GLOSS ☐ FLAT

CIRCUITS | 1

VOLTAGE | 120V

UL LIC#E155647

WHITE

PANTONE 2757

PANTONE 200

ALL CONCEPTS, DESIGNS, AND PLANS REPRESENTED BY THIS DOCUMENT ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE KESSLER DESIGN GROUP AND ARE FOR THE USE IN THE PROJECT SPECIFIED IN THIS DOCUMENT

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THE KESSLER DESIGN GROUP

Attachment: Ex A - Knox County Memorial Building Sign Easement (2025-20 : Easement for Memorial

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Streets and Public Buildings
Severns, Ruckman
Category: Bid/Contract
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4194

RESOLUTION 2025-26

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SALT BARN AT 1700 OLD DELAWARE ROAD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for bids and enter into contract for construction of a salt barn at 1700 Old Delaware Road.

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason to allow bidding for the project to proceed as quickly as possible to allow immediate relocation of the City's current salt barn, and the said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

02/10/25	**City Council**	**FIRST READING**

Resolution No. 2025-26 was given a first reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Severns made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-26, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-26, with a second by Ruckman. Severns noted that Council has budgeted for a new salt barn. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Streets and Public Buildings
Severns, Ruckman
Category: Bid/Contract
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4195

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2025-27

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE 2025 STREET RESURFACING, AND CURB AND GUTTER RESTORATION PROJECTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for bids and enter into a contract for the 2025 annual street resurfacing and curb and gutter restoration projects.

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason that bids must be solicited to assure timely completion of street paving and concrete work during good weather, and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

02/10/25 City Council FIRST READING

Resolution No. 2025-27 was given a first reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Severns made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-27, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Severns made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-27, with a second by Ruckman. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Mel Severns, Councilman
SECONDER:	John Ruckman, Second Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Finance and Budget
Seavolt, Woods
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4201

RESOLUTION 2025-29

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO PAY BILLS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.41 (D), THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATION.

WHEREAS, the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon did make the necessary inquiries that these billed amounts as indicated are legitimate and proper and did approve payment in the amounts shown; and

WHEREAS, at the time of the making of such contract or order and at the time of the execution of such certificate a sufficient sum appropriated for the purpose of such contract or order was in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Auditor for the City of Mount Vernon be, and he herewith is, authorized and directed to pay bills as follows:

1. To Bonded Chemicals Inc in the amount of $4,750.80, to be taken from account 701.2720.53211, Plant Chemicals.
2. To Knox County Career Center (Payment for Coshocton Ave TIF, second half of 2024) in the amount of $17,030.05, to be taken from account 402.1300.54484, TIF-Local School District.
3. To Mount Vernon City Schools (Payment for Coshocton Ave TIF, second half of 2024) in the amount of $172,192.76, to be taken from account 402.1300.54484, TIF-Local School District.

SECTION 2: This Resolution provides for appropriations for the current expenses of the City, and therefore, pursuant to Revised Code Section 731.30, it shall become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Seavolt made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-29, with a second by Woods. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Seavolt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-29, with a second by Woods. Auditor Dan Brinkman and Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers commented on the legislation. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Janis Seavolt, At Large
SECONDER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Finance and Budget
Seavolt, Woods
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4202

RESOLUTION 2025-30

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Auditor for the City of Mount Vernon be, and he herewith is, authorized and directed to make supplemental appropriations as follows:

1: To account 224.1900.54313, Training/Travel/Expenses-Grant Funds, in the amount of $25,044.91 (Grant from Law Enforcement PRO Training).

SECTION 2: This Resolution provides for appropriations for the current expenses of the City, and therefore, pursuant to Revised Code Section 731.20, it shall become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Seavolt made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-30, with a second by Woods. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Seavolt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-30, with a second by Woods. Auditor Dan Brinkman commented on the legislation. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Janis Seavolt, At Large
SECONDER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Appointment
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4199

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 2025-31

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF REBECCA ABBOTT TO THE RECORDS COMMISSION FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the City of Mount Vernon confirms the Mayor's appointment of Rebecca Abbott, 100 Oak Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio, to the Records Commission for a five-year term, commencing February 24, 2025 and expiring February 25, 2030.

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason that an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the various departments of the municipal government and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Woods made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Resolution No. 2025-31, with a second by Keener. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Woods made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-31, with a second by Keener. Mayor Matthew Starr commented on the qualifications of Rebecca Abbott to serve on the Records Commission. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Land Use and Development
Keener, Mahan
Category: Planning and Zoning
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4182

ORDINANCE 2025-03

AN ORDINANCE TO AFFIRM THE DECISION OF THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO NOT VACATE A PLATTED ALLEY NORTH OF KIRK STREET BETWEEN EAST STREET AND SOUTH MCKENZIE STREET IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Planning Commission, after reviewing the matter, has recommended not to vacate a platted alley, north of Kirk Street between East Street and South McKenzie Street, as requested by the adjacent property owners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That Council affirms the decision of and accepts the recommendation of the Municipal Planning Commission to not vacate a portion of a platted alley north of Kirk Street between East Street and South McKenzie Street, as further described in Exhibit A.

SECTION 2: This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for the further reason of promoting timely development within the City, and said Ordinance shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 **City Council** **FIRST READING**

Ordinance No. 2025-03 was given a first reading.

02/10/25 **City Council** **SECOND READING**

Ordinance No. 2025-03 was given a second reading. Keener requested a 10-minute meeting of the Land Use and Development Committee on the legislation for February 24, 2025.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Keener made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-03, with a second by Mahan. Keener clarified that a vote to adopt would in this case be to accept the recommendation of the Municipal Planning Commission, which in this case was against granting a petition to vacate an alley. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Amber Keener, At Large
SECONDER:	James Mahan, First Ward
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

Date **PETITION**

...rson the Council of the City of Mount Vernon to:

Lots 380, 381, 382 (Fillhart)
Lots 377 (Jacobs), 379 (Hunnicutt) 378 (shared)
The 16' x 150' Alley between Fillhart and the Jacobs's & Hunnicutt parcels as labeled in the survey from Kirk St to 150' toward Mt. Vernon Ave.

Print Name	Signature	Address	Phone
Shane Fillhart	Shane Fillhart	201 Kirk St.	419-701-9859
Jeffrey Jacobs	Jeffrey Jacobs	609 S. McKenzie St.	740-485-6162
Deanah Jacobs	Deanah Jacobs	609 S. McKenzie St.	740-485-6174
Sherry Fillhart	Sherry Fillhart	201 Kirk St	330-432-3365
Charles F. Hunnicutt II	Charles F. Hunnicutt II	205 Kirk St.	7405984184

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

Tracy & Mills, Surveyors

Thomas M. Tracy, P.S. 1941-2002
David R. Mills, P.S. 7157
Amy Bernicken, P.S. 8571

6/20/2024

To Shane:

Enclosed you'll find the plat and description combining all of your property once the alley vacation is passed. As you'll see, there are blanks that need filled in. Those can either be done by hand, or you can let me know when the vacation is complete and I'll revise the documents with the vacation ordinance information.

You can use the enclosed documents for your application and communication with the city, however, this cannot be recorded as a parcel of record until the vacation ordinance is passed.

Let me know if you have any questions,

Amy Bernicken
Ohio Surveyor #8571

10 East Vine Street • PO Box 642 • Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 • 740-397-8324 • Fax 740-397-5910

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

Tracy & Mills, Surveyors

Thomas M. Tracy, P.S. 1941-2002
David R. Mills, P.S. 7157
Amy Bernicken, P.S. 8571

LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR:
Shane & Sherry Fillhart
0.440 ACRE
June, 2024

The following real estate being all of Lots 380, 381, and 382, and part of a vacated alley in Elmwood Place, City of Mount Vernon, U.S.M.L., Knox County, Ohio and being described as follows:

Commencing at a 3/4" iron pipe found at the southwest corner of Lot 380, being the intersection of the east right of way line of East Street (40') and the north right of way line of Kirk Street (50'), and being the southwest corner and beginning point of the tract herein described;

Thence along the west lines of Lots 380, 381, and 382, and the east right of way line of East Street, North 03° 58' 20" East, 150.00 feet to a 5/8" iron pin found at the southwest corner of Lot 383 (Jessica Davis, D.V. 1136, Pg. 9);

Thence along the south line of Lot 383 and the extension thereof, South 86° 00' 00" East, 127.71 feet to a 5/8" iron pin set in the centerline of a 16-foot alley;

Thence along the centerline of a vacated portion of said 16-foot alley (Vacated by _____), South 03° 57' 33" West, passing through a 5/8" iron pin set at 75.00 feet, a total distance of 150.00 feet to a 5/8" iron pin set in the north right of way line of Kirk Street;

Thence along the north right of way line of Kirk Street and the south line of Lot 380, North 86° 00' 00" West, passing through a 5/8" iron pin found at the southeast corner of Lot 380 at 8.00 feet, a total distance of 127.74 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.440 acre, as surveyed in June, 2024 by Tracy & Mills, Surveyors, 10 E. Vine Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio, Amy Bernicken, Ohio Professional Surveyor #8571.

North based on the north line of Kirk Street per Survey Volume N, Page 771.

Note: Iron pins set are 5/8" x 30" rebar with plastic cap stamped Tracy & Mills.

10 East Vine Street • PO Box 642 • Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 • 740-397-8324 • Fax 740-397-5910

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

TRACY & MILLS, SURVEYORS

DAVID R. MILLS, PS
SURVEYOR #7157

AMY BERNICKEN, PS
SURVEYOR #8571

10 East Vine Street - P.O. Box 642
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
Tel.: 740-397-8324 Fax: 740-397-5910
tracyandmills@aol.com

FLOYD W. BARNES, PS
1921-2018

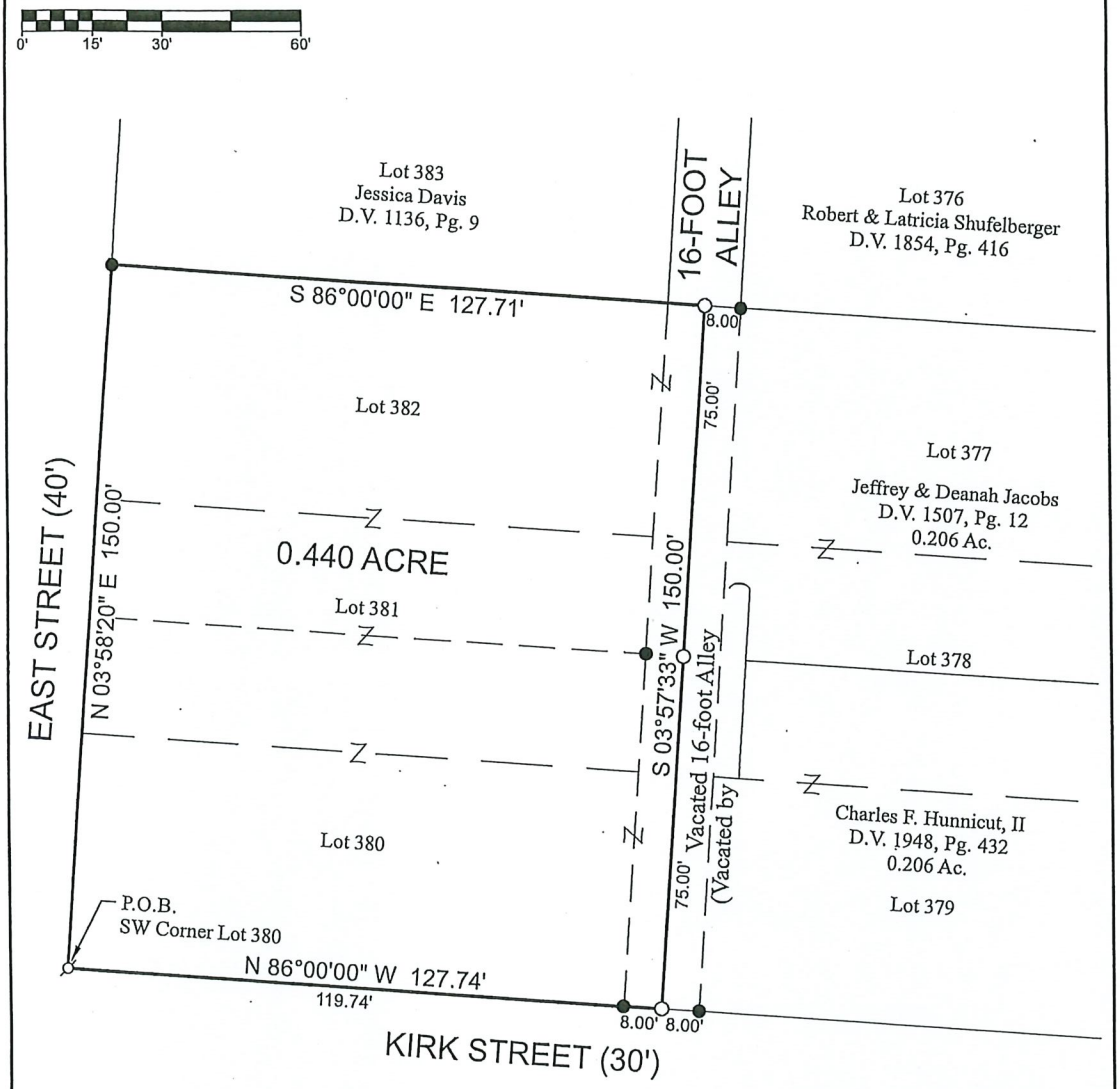
THOMAS M. TRACY, PS
1941-2002

SURVEY FOR: Shane & Sherry Fillhart, Deed Volume 1978, Page 157

LOCATION: Being all of Lots 380, 381, and 382, and part of a vacated alley in Elmwood Place, City of Mount Vernon, U.S.M.L., Knox County, Ohio

Date: June 14, 2024
Scale: 1" = 30'

PARCEL # 66-01332.000
66-01334.000



- Iron Pin Set (5/8" x 30") Capped "Tracy & Mills"
- 5/8" Iron Pin Found
- 3/4" Iron Pipe Found

North based on the north line of Kirk Street per Survey Volume N, Page 771.

CERTIFICATION: We hereby certify that the foregoing survey was prepared from actual field measurements, in accordance with Chapter 4733-37, Ohio Administrative Code.

David R. Mills, Surveyor No. 7157
Amy Bernicken, Surveyor No. 8571

Z:\Carlson 2022\66-01332.000 Fillhart\66-01332.000.dwg

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

Tracy & Mills, Surveyors

Thomas M. Tracy, P.S. 1941-2002
David R. Mills, P.S. 7157
Amy Bernicken, P.S. 8571

All of Parcel Numbers 66-01332.000 and 66-01334.000.

Deed Volume 1978, Page 157.

Amy Bernicken, Surveyor No. 8571
Date: June 14, 2024

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

10 East Vine Street • PO Box 642 • Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050 • 740-397-8324 • Fax 740-397-5910

City of Mount Vernon, Ohio
Development Services
40 Public Square
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
Phone 740-393-2033 | DSM@MountVernonOhio.org

To: Clerk of Council

January 13, 2025

Municipal Planning Commission
Meeting Date: January 9, 2025

Case Number: 2025-MPC-01
Petition to Vacate a platted alley north of Kirk ST between East ST and S McKenzie ST

An application from Shane Fillhart to vacate a 16' x 150' section of platted alley north of Kirk ST and between East ST and S McKenzie ST was submitted for review by the Municipal Planning Commission for a recommendation to City Council.

A public hearing was held and testimony ensued about the proposed vacation. Following testimony:

Anne Elsworth made a motion to recommend to Council to approve the Vacation. Tanner Salyers seconded the motion.

The vote resulted in a 0-5 vote against the petition to vacate.
(No: Starr, Salyers, Ellsworth, Swallow, Diehl)

Per §1156.04 Council shall consider the recommendation of the Municipal Planning Commission for the Application for Zoning Amendment and determine the final approval or denial.

Warm Regards,

Lacie Blankenhorn

Lacie Blankenhorn
Development Services Manager

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

City of Mount Vernon
Procedure for Street or Alley Vacation

1. Submission of a petition asking for vacation signed by property owners (husband and wife need to sign separately including their address). The completed petition should be returned to the Clerk of Council's Office, 40 Public Square, 740-393-9517 with the following information:

   a. Description of the property to be vacated on the petition. Provide as much information as possible.
   b. A survey outlining the area to be vacated (include the dimensions of the vacation).
   c. Provide the plat book number and page number, the subdivision name, of the property.
   d. Provide a list of all property owners surrounding the vacation including the properties across the streets and alleys.
   e. $50.00 filing fee, any costs incurred over this amount are billed to the to the petitioner.

2. Once submitted to the Clerk of Council the petition is read at the next regular Council meeting where it is referred to the Chair of the Street Committee.

3. The petition may be referred to the Planning Commission for their review.

4. If all the property owners directly abutting the vacation have signed the petition, legislation can be prepared for the next Council meeting for action.

   If all the abutting property owners have not signed the petition, then public notice must be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation on six (6) consecutive occasions (published for six weeks). Once the six publications are complete the request is placed in legislative form, either an ordinance to accept the vacation or a resolution to reject the vacation.

5. Once the legislation is prepared for Council, it may receive up to three (3) separate readings. If the legislation accepts the vacation, then the City will record the appropriate documentation with the Knox County Recorder. If the vacation is rejected, then no further action is taken.

/jrb 04/27/2009

Attachment: 01-27-25 Alley vacation (2025-03 : Request to Vacate Platted Alley B/N East and S McKenzie Sts)

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

ADOPTED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Personnel
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4183

ORDINANCE 2025-04

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE CITY INSPECTOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the following exempt professional position is hereby authorized within the salary range and upon the appropriation times listed below:

	Pay Grade	Min	Mid	Max	
City Inspector	6	$30.25	$36.30	$42.36	(per hour)

The salary authorized by this Ordinance shall be payable bi-weekly.

SECTION 2: The salary range listed is the base salary range for the position. The position is eligible for annual longevity increments:

For the first five (5) years, $400.00.

Annual Longevity Increments after five (5) years:

Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
$500.00	$550.00	$600.00	$650.00	$700.00

The effective date of eligibility for an annual longevity increment shall be the anniversary date of employment with the City in a non-bargaining unit position.

SECTION 3: Exempt employees are expected to work as necessary, including outside of normal business hours, in the completion of their duties. Exempt employees will work with their supervisor in establishing their work schedule.

SECTION 4: This position shall be entitled to the benefits outlined in the Mount Vernon Employee Handbook effective August 2021, as amended.

SECTION 5: This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and for the further reason to bring needed supervision to permitted projects within the City, and shall become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 City Council FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2025-04 was given a first reading. Woods requested a 15-minute meeting of the Employee and Community Relations Committee on Ordinance Nos. 2025-04, 2025-05 and 2025-06 for February 10, 2025.

02/10/25 City Council SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2025-04 was given a second reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-04, with a second by Keener. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers explained that the position of City Inspector is budgeted and within the City's pay grade, and added that a recent headline in Knox Pages that the City was proposing new funding for this position and that of Communications Director was incorrect. Miller noted that he had questions about the legislation and asked if Council would consider postponing it, but made no motion to that effect. Woods asked if creation of this position was a step toward the City establishing building codes; Salyers said it was not and that in any event that decision would be up to Council. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 4-3, with Woods, Seavolt and Keener voting no.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [4 TO 3]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Mel Severns, Mike Miller, James Mahan, John Ruckman
NAYS:	Janis Seavolt, Tammy Woods, Amber Keener

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Personnel
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4184

DEFEATED

ORDINANCE 2025-05

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the following exempt professional position is hereby authorized within the salary range and upon the appropriation times listed below:

	Pay Grade	Min	Mid	Max	
Communications Director	6	$30.25	$36.30	$42.36	(per hour)

The salary authorized by this Ordinance shall be payable bi-weekly.

SECTION 2: The salary range listed is the base salary range for the position. The position is eligible for annual longevity increments:

For the first five (5) years, $400.00.

Annual Longevity Increments after five (5) years:

Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
$500.00	$550.00	$600.00	$650.00	$700.00

The effective date of eligibility for an annual longevity increment shall be the anniversary date of employment with the City in a non-bargaining unit position.

SECTION 3: Exempt employees are expected to work as necessary, including outside of normal business hours, in the completion of their duties. Exempt employees will work with their supervisor in establishing their work schedule.

SECTION 4: This position shall be entitled to the benefits outlined in the Mount Vernon Employee Handbook effective August 2021, as amended.

SECTION 5: This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and for the further reason to bring needed supervision to permitted projects within the City, and shall become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 City Council FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2025-05 was given a first reading. Woods requested a 15-minute meeting of the Employee and Community Relations Committee on Ordinance Nos. 2025-04, 2025-05 and 2025-06 for February 10, 2025.

02/10/25 City Council SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2025-05 was given a second reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-05, with a second by Keener. Miller asked if the Council Clerk would remain on board as the Council Clerk if the legislation were adopted, and Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers responded in the affirmative. Woods asked if the position of Communications Director would be posted, and Salyers responded that it would not be, as it was the intent of the Mayor to appoint the Mayor's Assistant to the position. Mahan expressed support for the position. Motion to adopt defeated by a roll-call vote of 3-4, with Mahan, Severns and Ruckman voting yes.

RESULT:	**DEFEATED [3 TO 4]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Mel Severns, James Mahan, John Ruckman
NAYS:	Janis Seavolt, Tammy Woods, Amber Keener, Mike Miller

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Personnel
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4185

ORDINANCE 2025-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING COMPENSATION PAY GRADES FOR CERTAIN SUPERVISORY AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That the following established supervisory and professional positions are hereby authorized at a salary within the listed minimum and maximum for the position. The employee's salary shall be set by the employee's supervisor with the concurrence of the Safety-Service Director based on written policies developed by the City's Human Resources Department, unless the employee is appointed by an elected office holder other than the Mayor. An employee appointed by an elected office holder other than the Mayor shall have their salary set by their appointing authority within the listed minimum and maximum for the position.

	Pay Grade	Min.	Mid.	Max.
Assistant Director of Plant Maintenance	9	$37.76	$45.31	$52.86
Fire Marshall	7	$32.37	$38.85	$45.32
Administrative Chief Deputy Clerk of Court	5	$28.27	$33.93	$39.58
First Deputy Auditor	4	$26.43	$31.71	$37.00

SECTION 2: This Ordinance does not alter any other benefits or terms and conditions of employment for the listed positions.

SECTION 3: Any provision in legislation previously adopted which is in conflict with this Ordinance is repealed.

SECTION 4: This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and for the further reason to properly adjust the compensation for the listed positions based on market forces, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

01/27/25 City Council FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2025-06 was given a first reading. Woods requested a 15-minute meeting of the Employee and Community Relations Committee on Ordinance Nos. 2025-04, 2025-05 and 2025-06 for February 10, 2025.

02/10/25 City Council SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2025-06 was given a second reading.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-06, with a second by Keener. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers noted that two pay grades in the legislation would need to be amended. Law Director Rob Broeren noted that the position of Administrative Chief Deputy Clerk of Court was a new title. Woods made a motion to postpone the third reading of Ordinance No. 2025-06 to March 10, 2025, with a second by Keener. Motion to postpone passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**POSTPONED TO A CERTAIN TIME [UNANIMOUS] Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Personnel
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4196

ADOPTED

ORDINANCE 2025-07

AN ORDINANCE SETTING PAY RANGES FOR TEMPORARY, SEASONAL, AND COLLEGE LEVEL INTERNSHIP EMPLOYEES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1: That all currently established temporary, seasonal and college level internship positions are hereby authorized at an hourly rate within the listed minimum and maximum for the position. The employee's salary shall be set by the employee's supervisor with the concurrence of the Safety-Service Director based on written policies developed by the City's Human Resources Department, unless the employee is appointed by an elected office holder other than the Mayor. An employee appointed by an elected office holder other than the Mayor shall have their salary set by their appointing authority within the listed minimum and maximum for the position.

Minimum hourly rate: $15.00/ hour Maximum hourly rate: $20.00/hour

SECTION 2: This Ordinance does not alter any other benefits or terms and conditions of employment for currently established temporary, seasonal and college level internship positions.

SECTION 3: Any provision in legislation previously adopted which is in conflict with this Ordinance is repealed.

SECTION 4: This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and for the further reason to properly adjust the compensation for currently established temporary, seasonal and college level internship positions based on market forces, and shall therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

HISTORY:

02/10/25 City Council FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2025-07 was given a first reading. Woods requested a five-minute meeting of the Employee and Community Relations Committee on the legislation for Ordinance No. 2025-07.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Woods made a motion to suspend the rule requiring three separate readings of Ordinance No. 2025-07, with a second by Keener. Motion to suspend passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0. Woods made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-07, with a second by Keener. Motion to adopt passed by a roll-call vote of 7-0.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Tammy Woods, Third Ward
SECONDER:	Amber Keener, At Large
AYES:	Seavolt, Woods, Keener, Severns, Miller, Mahan, Ruckman

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 02/24/25 7:30 PM
Dept: Parks and Recreation
Miller, Severns
Category: Parks
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Lindsay Hoar
DOC ID: 4203

ORDINANCE 2025-08

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISION OF CHAPTERS 139, RECREATION BOARD, AND 931, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS; CAMPING, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION 1: That Section 139.01 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

Council herewith determines that the Recreation Board shall have the authority to study, plan, advise, report or recommend to Council, the Mayor**,** ~~or~~ Safety-Service Director**, or the Recreation Director,** any action, program, plan or legislation it deems necessary to carry out its duties.

SECTION 2: That Section 139.02 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

Council herewith determines that the Recreation Board shall be authorized to develop and supervise the recreation programs of City-owned swimming pools, gymnasiums, City recreation centers, public baths, park activities and scheduling of all softball/baseball fields, tennis courts, or any other athletic facility within the City~~, to create master list of the names of the City's recreation facilities and to develop a policy and procedure to suggest to Council names for these facilities~~.

SECTION 3: That Section 931.05 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

(a) No person is permitted in **Shellmar Park,** Dan Emmett Park, Riverside Park, Phillips Park, Memorial Park, Arch Avenue Park or Hiawatha Park, used for public recreation and owned or operated by the City, between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day**, unless written authorization is granted by the Recreation Director**. No person is permitted in Ariel-Foundation Park between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless the person is actively fishing.

(b) During the winter months between November 15th and the first Monday of April of each year no person shall occupy the Parks specified in subsection (a) hereof between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day.

(c) As part of regulating a controlled hunt for Canada Geese in Ariel-Foundation Park, the Safety-Service Director**, or Recreation Director** may set the opening and closing hours and restrict access to some or all of Ariel-Foundation Park

SECTION 4: That Section 931.06 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

On the first day of April of each year **Shellmar Park,** Dan Emmett Park, Riverside Park, Phillips Park, Memorial Park, Arch Avenue Park and Hiawatha Park will be officially open for public recreation.

SECTION 5: That Section 931.07 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

931.07 GROUP RESERVATIONS **FOR PAVILLIONS AND SHELTERS; FEES**.

(a) Pavilions and shelters may be reserved for group use on application through the **Parks and Recreation Department** ~~Park's Office~~. Application must be made through the **Parks and Recreation Department** ~~Park's Office~~ at least twenty-four hours in advance of the date and time of reserved use.

(b) No group or person shall use facilities, which have been properly reserved by application during the period of reservation except the group having made the reservation.

(c) The Board of Control shall, upon the recommendation of the Recreation Director, adopt a schedule of fees to reserve the use of pavilions and shelters within the City's parks.

SECTION 6: That Section 931.08 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

(a) This section applies to all individuals, groups, or organizations, teams and/or churches who wish to utilize the Mount Vernon City recreational softball or baseball fields, tennis courts, or any other athletic facilities. ~~Any of the above individuals reserving these facilities for the purpose of financially benefiting themselves or the sponsor, will pay the rental fees as stated.~~ Sanction fees must also be paid to the appropriate associations. ~~Any of the individuals using the facilities for charity or a nonprofit purpose may be exempted from paying the following fees by action of the City Recreation Board (with the exception of the deposit required). The exemption may be granted for recognized charitable groups and not-for-profit organizations, as outlined in subsection (b)(3).~~

(b) The **Board of Control shall, upon the recommendation of the Recreation Director, adopt a schedule of fees to reserve the use of the various recreational facilities within the City's parks** ~~following fees will be assessed for use with the above mentioned facilities in Mount Vernon, Ohio:~~

~~(1) There will be a fee of fifty dollars ($50.00) for each facility, each weekend. This fee will include the use of all lights and restroom facilities. (This fee is for a tournament consisting of eight teams or more. If there are fewer than eight teams, this fee will be prorated.)~~

~~(2) There will be a fee of twenty dollars ($20.00) for a group or organization using one facility (day or night) for any organized activity. This fee also includes the use of lights and restroom facilities.~~

~~(3)~~ All groups or organizations reserving ~~the~~ **a** facility are also responsible for their own equipment and general maintenance **of the facility** at the completion of their **reserved time** ~~activities~~. ~~A deposit of twenty-five dollars ($25.00) will be required to cover any cost of cleaning after a group activity. If the necessary clean-up is not required, the fee will be refunded.~~

~~(4) In the event of cancellation or cancellation due to inclement weather, the fees paid will be refunded in full.~~

SECTION 7: That Section 931.09 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

The Recreation Director shall adopt regulations for the operation of concession stands within Shellmar Park, Dan Emmett Park, Memorial Park, Riverside Park, Phillips Park and Hiawatha Park excluding Hiawatha Water Park.

~~(a) Regulations as to the operation of concession stands within Dan Emmett Park, Memorial Park, Riverside Park, Phillips Park and Hiawatha Park excluding Community Pool, being recreational parks within the City are as follows:~~

~~(1) There shall be no more than one concession stand per ball diamond.~~

~~(2) Concession stands are to be operated only by those individuals involved with a ball league.~~

~~(3) All profits are to be directed to the Treasurer of the League operating the concession and those profits are to be used in programs.~~

~~(b) If by May 1st, of any year no individual associated with a ball league commits to operate a concession stand at a ball field, the Safety-Service Director shall enter into contract for a period of one year for the operating of a concession stand. The contract shall contain the following provisions:~~

~~(1) Contract shall be for the duration of one year.~~

~~(2) Ten percent (10%) of all gross receipts shall be paid to the general fund for the City to be used for park equipment.~~

~~(c) Exceptions to the above regulations may be granted with the approval of the Recreation Board. Upon the approval of the Board a special permit shall be issued by the Safety-Service Director. Such special permit shall be limited to no more than two events per year, per business or individual. Ten percent (10%) of all gross receipts shall be paid to the general fund for the City to be used for park equipment. The ten percent (10%) provision may be waived by the Safety-Service Director for non-profit organizations. Such special permits must be displayed during the permitted event.~~

SECTION 8: That Section 931.10 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

Banners, pennants and streamers ~~are not~~ **shall only be** permitted on the Public Square **in conformity with policies adopted by the Safety-Service Director**.

SECTION 9: This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public, peace, health and safety, and for the further reason to begin scheduling of summer recreation activities, and said Ordinance shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Ordinance No. 2025-08 was given a first reading.

RESULT:	**FIRST READING**	**Next: 3/10/2025 7:30 PM**