MountVernon

City Council **August 26, 2024**

Legislative Session **Agenda** **7:30 PM**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mount Vernon City Council
Committee Meeting Schedule
August 26, 2024

6:40-6:55 p.m.	Potential litigation	Council as a Whole Hawkins
6:55-7:00 P.M.	5 E. High St. lease	Land Use and Development Keener
7:00-7:10 p.m.	TIRC recommendations	Land Use and Development Keener
7:10-7:15 p.m.	Police/Fire supervisory benefits	Employee & Community Relations Woods

- 08-26-24 Committee Meeting Schedule

MEETING WILL RECESS UNTIL 7:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

Christopher Liberati, Gay Street United Methodist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- City Council - Legislative Session - Aug 12, 2024 7:30 PM
- City Council - Special Meeting - Aug 19, 2024 6:00 PM

RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 08-12-24 Land Use and Development Committee Meeting Minutes

- 08-12-24A Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes
- 08-12-24B Utilities Commission Meeting Minutes
- 08-12-24 Finance and Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE

None.

PROCLAMATION

None.

PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN

None.

RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING

RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING

RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-81

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 2024 KNOX COUNTY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL CONCERNING PARCELS OF COMMERCIAL REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON RECEIVING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use and Development: Keener, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-82

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

Finance and Budget: Seavolt, Woods

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-83

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-84

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLAS MYRDA TO THE RECREATION BOARD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

R E S O L U T I O N N O . 2 0 2 4 - 8 5

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH ASC CUSTOM WOODWORKING LLC TO LEASE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5 EAST HIGH STREET; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use and Development: Keener, Mahan

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING

O R D I N A N C E N O . 2 0 2 4 - 3 5

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A CREDIT CARD USE POLICY FOR THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance and Budget: Seavolt, Woods

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

O R D I N A N C E N O . 2 0 2 4 - 3 6

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING BENEFITS FOR POLICE AND FIRE SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee and Community Rel.: Woods, Keener

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

O R D I N A N C E N O . 2 0 2 4 - 3 7

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE IMPROVEMENTS TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE; DECLARING SUCH IMPROVEMENTS TO BE EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; REQUIRING THE OWNERS THEREOF TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; DESIGNATING THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE THAT WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE REAL PROPERTY; AND ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SERVICE PAYMENTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use and Development: Keener, Mahan

REMARKS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

REMARKS FROM COUNCIL

ADJOURN AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT

MountVernon

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
August 21, 2024

Mount Vernon City Council
Committee Meeting Schedule
August 26, 2024

6:40-6:55 p.m.	Potential litigation	Council as a Whole Hawkins
6:55-7:00 P.M.	5 E. High St. lease	Land Use and Development Keener
7:00-7:10 p.m.	TIRC recommendations	Land Use and Development Keener
7:10-7:15 p.m.	Police/Fire supervisory benefits	Employee & Community Relations Woods

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

MountVernon

Land Use and Development Committee Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024 – 6:25 p.m. to 6:36 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 Mel Severns, At-Large
ABSENT:	Amber Keener, At-Large
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Matthew Starr, Mayor Rob Broeren, Law Director Terry Scott, Auditor Brian Ball, Engineer

The committee met in executive session to discuss property acquisition. Mahan made a motion to exit executive session at 6:36 p.m., with a second by Severns. Motion passed by a roll-call vote of 6-0. No further meetings on the matter were requested.

Respectfully submitted,

____
James Mahan, Vice Chair
Land Use and Development Committee
Mount Vernon City Council
AK/th

MountVernon

Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2024 – 6:37 p.m. to 6:51 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 Mel Severns, At-Large
ABSENT:	Amber Keener, At-Large
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Matthew Starr, Mayor Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director Rob Broeren, Law Director Terry Scott, Auditor Brian Ball, Engineer Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director Todd Hill, Clerk Cheryl Splain, Knox Pages

The committee discussed Resolution No. 2024-75, to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Fairgrounds Road utility improvements and resurfacing project, and Resolution No. 2024-79, to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Norton Street water line extension project. Engineer Brian Ball noted that the Fairgrounds Road project is a joint endeavor with the County, which is providing $750,000 in ARPA funds. The road will be resurfaced with $150,000 in OPWC funds, while Water funds will be used to pay off a loan. Ball also noted that there have been water outages in the area. The chair added that water tap-ins won't be required and that residents can keep their septic tanks if they wish. Regarding Resolution No. 2024-79, Ball noted that water lines are needed for Heartland Commerce Park, as well as just outside the facility. ARPA funds are slated to cover the cost of the project, and each building in the facility will have its own water account. No further meetings were requested on either resolution, both of which were up for first readings at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

____

John Ruckman, Chair
Utilities Committee
Mount Vernon City Council

TW/th

MountVernon

Utilities Committee Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2024 – 6:51 p.m. to 7:03 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 Mel Severns, At-Large
ABSENT:	Amber Keener, At-Large
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Matthew Starr, Mayor Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director Rob Broeren, Law Director Terry Scott, Auditor Brian Ball, Engineer Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director Todd Hill, Clerk Cheryl Splain, Knox Pages

The committee discussed Resolution No. 2024-75, to enter into contract with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. for design of a west end sanitary sewer replacement project. Engineer Brian Ball emphasized that the legislation only pertained to design of the project, with an estimated cost of $75,000 to $100,000, which is in the Utilities budget. Some grant funds may also become available. Project construction is slated to occur in phases, perhaps beginning in 2025. No further meetings on the matter were requested. Resolution No. 2024-75 was up for a second reading at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

____

John Ruckman, Chair
Utilities Committee
Mount Vernon City Council

TW/th

MountVernon

Finance and Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
Committee Meeting
August 12, 2024 – 7:03 p.m. to 7:16 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 Mel Severns, At-Large
ABSENT:	Amber Keener, At-Large
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Matthew Starr, Mayor Tanner Salyers, Safety-Service Director Rob Broeren, Law Director Terry Scott, Auditor Brian Ball, Engineer Aaron Rinehart, Utilities Director Todd Hill, Clerk Cheryl Splain, Knox Pages

The committee discussed Ordinance No. 2024-35, to create a credit card use policy for the City. Safety-Service Director Tanner Salyers noted that the policy would increase efficiency on purchasing smaller items, and that some vendors require payment by credit card. The parameters for the policy are detailed in the Ohio Revised Code. Department heads would authorize users, while the Treasurer would be the compliance officer. An annual report on credit card usage would be provided to Council and the State, and there would be an option not to utilize credit card rewards programs. Salyers also noted that currently various City employees use their own credit cards for purchases and are then reimbursed by the City. Miller and Severns expressed support for the legislation. Auditor Terry Scott noted that if the legislation is adopted he would have to notify the State. Ordinance No. 2024-35 was up for a second reading at Council's Legislative Session later in the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

____

Janis Seavolt, Chair
City of Mount Vernon

JS/th

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Land Use and Development
Keener, Mahan
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill

RESOLUTION 2024-81
DOC ID: 4083

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 2024 KNOX COUNTY TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL CONCERNING PARCELS OF COMMERCIAL REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON RECEIVING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Mount Vernon City Council has from time to time provided economic development incentives through means of Community Reinvestment Area (CRA), Enterprise Zone (EZ) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) exemptions to foster development of various real property within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Area Development Foundation, Inc., in support of the City of Mount Vernon, annually collects performance data from each such exempted economic development project and reports the same to the Ohio Department of Development; and

WHEREAS, in addition to reporting to the State, the Knox County Auditor has acted pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.85 to create the Knox County Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC) for purposes of annually reviewing all City agreements granting CRA, EZ and TIF property tax exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the TIRC met on June 18, 2024 for purposes of its annual review of performance data collected from all tax-exempted economic development projects (the same data reported to the State), with the TIRC making recommendations concerning the status of each such economic development project; and

WHEREAS, Mount Vernon City Council must thereafter meet and vote to accept, reject or modify all or any portion of the TIRC's recommendations within 60 days of the TIRC's review, as per Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.85(E); and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of ensuring that each tax-exempted economic development project that remains in good standing and eligible under Ohio law continues to receive the benefits of such tax incentives.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Municipality of Mount Vernon, County of Knox, State of Ohio:

<u>SECTION 1:</u> That the Mount Vernon City Council hereby accepts the TIRC's recommendation to find as in compliance for tax year 2023 the CRA exemption in place for Woodward Development Corp. on the basis of job and investment performance data reported for tax year 2021.

SECTION 2: That the Mount Vernon City Council does hereby accept the TIRC's recommendations to continue as is, and as found to be in compliance, the active EZ exemptions in place for Chesterland Productions PLL (i.e., Sanoh America), and Mount Vernon Senior Living, and Woodward Landlord LLC, respectively, on the basis of job and investment performance data reported for tax year 2023.

SECTION 3: That the Mount Vernon City Council hereby accepts the TIRC's reported information concerning the three (3) active TIF projects for the year ending December 31, 2023.

SECTION 4: That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Auditor of Knox County, Ohio, after its passage and upon request made by said Auditor's representative.

SECTION 5: That the Clerk of Council be instructed to record said Resolution in the appropriate record book.

SECTION 6: 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 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.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION 2024-82

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Finance and Budget
Seavolt, Woods
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Terry Scott
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4085 A

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 101.1900.53216, K-9 Unit Expenses, in the amount of $4,000.00.
   (Grant from the Grand Chapter of Ohio, Ohio Eastern Star, Inc.)
2. To Account 405.2900.55514, 401.2500.55516, Public Buildings & Lands, in the amount of $1,350,000.00.
   (Grant from Ariel Corporation - Captain Hunter's Landing)
3. To Account 101.1900.54115, PAK-United, in the amount of $1,000.00.
   (Donation from Specialty Outdoor Services)
4. To Account 101.1780.51112, Special Docket-Mental Health-FY25, in the amount of $35,000.00.
   (Grant-Mental Health & Recovery for Licking/Knox Counties)
5. To Account 101.2300.54111, Services Received, in the amount of $1,722.00.
   (Refunds & Reimbursements)

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.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Finance and Budget
Seavolt, Woods
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Terry Scott
Initiator: Todd Hill

RESOLUTION 2024-83

DOC ID: 4086

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 Knox County Commissioners, in the amount of $3,276.00, to be taken from Account 101.3600.54482, River & Harbors.
2. To Knox County Transit Board, in the amount of $5,625.00, to be taken from Account 101.3600.55519, Knox Area Transit.
3. To GovernmentJobs.Com, Inc., in the amount of $83,190.00, to be taken from Account 101.2300.54111, Services Received.
4. To Grainger Industrial Supply, in the amount of $3,142.80, to be taken from Account 701.2720.53211, Plant Chemicals.
5. To Knox County Transit Board, in the amount of $5,625.00, to be taken from Account 101.3600.55519, Knox Area Transit.
6. To Core & Main LP, in the amount of $3,621.23, to be taken from Account 701.2740.55513, Line Improvement or Extensions and $3,621.23 from Account 720.2840.55513, Line Improvement or Extensions.

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.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION 2024-84

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Appointment
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4087

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLAS MYRDA TO THE RECREATION BOARD; 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 for the City of Mount Vernon confirm the Mayor's appointment of Nicholas Myrda, 104 E. Curtis St., Mount Vernon, Ohio, to the Recreation Board, fulfilling the unexpired term of Leslie Buehrer, beginning immediately and expiring on December 31, 2024.

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 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.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Land Use and Development
Keener, Mahan
Category: Contract
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill

RESOLUTION 2024-85 **DOC ID: 4088**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH ASC CUSTOM WOODWORKING LLC TO LEASE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5 EAST HIGH STREET; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio owns the property located at 5 East High Street in the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the current tenant, Clipped LLC, will no longer utilize 5 East High Street.

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 be and herewith authorized and directed to enter into a contract with ASC Custom Woodworking LLC, for lease of the property located at 5 East High Street in the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio.

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 to allow the tenant to immediately use the property, pay the utilities on the property, and pay rent to the City, 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.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

ORDINANCE 2024-35

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Finance and Budget
Seavolt, Woods
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4067

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A CREDIT CARD USE POLICY FOR THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes that the use of a credit card is for the efficient acquisition of goods or services solely for the benefit of the operation of the City. The City also recognizes the additional risk inherent with credit card usage. The absence of an appropriate credit card policy and of thorough monitoring of credit card activity increases the risk of unauthorized and/or otherwise improper expenditures that do not further the public purpose of the entity and are likely to result in audit findings or other sanctions; and

WHEREAS, House Bill (H.B.) 312 of the 132nd General Assembly, sets forth regulations and requirements for local government entities and political subdivisions to adopt a written policy for the use of credit card accounts prior to the acquisition of any such cards; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 312 establishes new safeguards for credit card use and seeks to reduce credit card abuse for all local government entities and citizens across Ohio; and

WHEREAS, specifically, H.B. 312 requires the City to adopt a written policy for the use of credit card accounts addressing all of the following: (1) the officer or positions authorized to use a credit card account; (2) the types of expenses for which a credit card account may be used; (3) the procedure for acquisition, use, and management of a credit card account; (4) the procedure for submitting itemized receipts; (5) the procedure for credit card issuance, re-issuance, cancellation, and the procedure for reporting lost or stolen credit cards; (6) each credit card account's maximum credit limit; and (7) the actions or omissions by an officer or employee that qualify as misuse of a credit card account.

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

<u>SECTION 1:</u> Council adopts the "City of Mount Vernon, Ohio Credit Card Policy" as set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

<u>SECTION 2:</u> This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and for further reason that the policy must be adopted prior to the City acquiring a credit card pursuant to HB 312, and said Ordinance shall, therefore, becomes 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:

07/22/24 City Council FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2024-35 was given a first reading. Seavolt requested a 15-minute meeting of the Finance and Budget Committee on the legislation for Aug. 12, 2024.

08/12/24 City Council SECOND READING

Ordinance No. 2024-35 was given a second reading.

THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON CREDIT CARD POLICY

The City of Mount Vernon hereby authorizes the issuance and use of a credit card(s) for official municipal business purposes.

As used in this policy "credit card account" means any bank-issued credit card account, store-issued credit card account, financial institution-issued credit card account, financial depository-issued credit card account, affinity credit card account, or any other card account allowing the holder to purchase goods or services on credit or to transact with the account, and any debit or gift card account related to the receipt of grant moneys. "Credit card account" does not include a procurement card account, gasoline or telephone credit card account, or any other card account where merchant category codes are in place as a system of control for use of the card account.

Section 1: Authorized users

The Mayor and Safety-Service Director, along with any member of the Safety or Service Departments authorized by the Safety-Service Director, are authorized to use the City's credit card account. Before receiving authorization to use the City credit card, authorized officers or employees must complete a written acknowledgement of this policy.

Section 2: Authorized expenses

The credit card issued to the Safety Service Office shall be utilized exclusively for the procurement of necessary goods and services directly related to the operation and functions of the Safety Service Office, including but not limited to:

1. Purchasing equipment and supplies.
2. Payment for training programs, seminars, and conferences.
3. Payment for necessary administrative expenses such as office supplies and communication.

Section 3: Procedure for acquisition, use, and management of a credit card account

The Safety Service Office shall ensure that the credit card is used responsibly and solely for official municipal business purposes. Personal expenditures or unauthorized transactions are strictly prohibited.

All credit cards shall be paid in full by the due date - to avoid interest charges.

Section 4: Procedure for submitting itemized receipts

The City recognizes that the credit card provides convenience to employees in acquiring goods and services for the City. The City also recognizes the additional risk inherent with credit card usage.

For individual expenditures, the expense must fall within pre-approved budgets. Itemized receipts must be turned in to the Auditor within two (2) business days along with a purchase order designating the account(s) from which the funds are to be drawn. If an officer or employee is out of town during the expenditure, signed receipts should be turned in within two (2) business days of returning to work along with a purchase order designating the account(s) from which the funds are to be drawn.

Section 5: Procedure for credit card issuance, reissuance, cancellation, and the procedure for reporting lost or stolen credit cards

In order to open a new credit card account a written request must be made to the Auditor. The name of the City shall appear on the Credit Card Account(s).

The Auditor is responsible for administration of City credit cards, including, but not limited to, selection of card provider, payment of credit card bills, and managing issuance of cards.

Officers and employees must surrender all City credit cards upon their separation of employment or service from the City or when requested by the Safety-Service Director or Auditor.

In the event the card is lost or stolen, the cardholder must notify the Auditor as soon as reasonably possible. The employee is to assist the Auditor in identifying and resolving any charges made to the account.

An open credit card Account maybe cancelled by the Safety-Service Director and Auditor.

Section 6: Credit card’s maximum credit limit

Each credit card shall have a minimum limit of $5,000.00 and a maximum limit of $10,000.00.

Section 7: Actions or omissions by an officer or employee that qualify as misuse of a credit card account

The use of a City credit card account for expenses beyond those authorized by this Policy, or any failure to comply with this Policy, constitutes misuse of a credit card account.

1. Criminal Penalty
An officer or employee of the political subdivision or a public servant as defined under section 2921.01 of the Revised Code who knowingly misuses a credit card account held by the City violates section 2913.21 of the Revised Code, as well as any other applicable criminal penalty.
2. Disciplinary Action
Misuse of a credit card account may also subject an officer or employee of the City to disciplinary action.
3. Liability
The officer or employee is liable in person and upon any official bond the officer or employee has given to the political subdivision to reimburse the treasury the amount for which the officer or employee does not provide itemized receipts in accordance with this policy and/or for any other unauthorized use of a "credit card" as established by this policy.

Section 8: Compliance

The Mayor shall appoint a compliance officer. The compliance officer cannot be the Auditor or any person who uses or can authorize another person to use the City's credit card account.

At least quarterly, the compliance officer and Council shall review the number of cards and accounts issued, the number of active cards and accounts issued, the cards' and accounts' expiration dates, and the cards' and accounts' credit limits.

Section 9: Credit Card Rewards

Annually, the Auditor shall file a report with Council detailing all rewards received based on the use of the City's credit card account.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Employee and Community Rel.
Woods, Keener
Category: Police
Prepared By: Rob Broeren
Initiator: Todd Hill

ORDINANCE 2024-36 **DOC ID: 4071**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING BENEFITS FOR POLICE AND FIRE SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

SECTION 1: That the authorized police and fire supervisory positions:

Police Chief:
Assistant Police Chief (fka Police Captain)
Fire Chief
Assistant Fire Chief

are entitled to the benefits as listed below.

SECTION 2: This Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief shall be entitled to the following benefits, on the same terms granted to police personnel in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Mount Vernon and the FOP Ohio Labor Council: Jury and Witness Duty Pay (Art 15), Holidays, (Art. 22), Vacation (Art 23), Personal Leave (Art 24), Sick Leave (Art 26), Bereavement Leave (Art 27), Injury Leave (Art. 28), Training Programs (Art 30), Healthcare Benefitis (Art. 31), Uniforms (Art 32), Pension Contributions (Art. 36), Leaves of Absence (Art 41), and Tuition Reimbursement (Art. 45).

SECTION 3: This Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief shall be entitled to the following benefits, on the same terms granted to fire personnel in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Mount Vernon and the IAFF Ohio Association of Professional Firefighters: Jury and Witness Duty Pay (Art 15), Holidays, (Art. 22), Vacation (Art 23), Personal Leave (Art 24), Sick Leave (Art 26), Bereavement Leave (Art 27), Injury Leave (Art 28), Training Programs (Art 30), Hospitalization and Medical Insurance (Art. 31), Uniforms (Art 32), OP&F Contributions (Art 37), Family and Medical Leave (Art 39), Leaves of Absence (Art 41), and Tuition Reimbursement (Art 44). Benefit hours that are established for 48-hour or 56-hour work week, if no 40-hour benefit levels are indicated in the agreement.

SECTION 4: This ordinance shall be effective retroactive to January 1, 2022.

SECTION 5: Any preceding ordinance governing benefits for police and fire supervisory personnel are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6: 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 restore previously agreed upon benefits for the fire and police supervisory personnel, 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:

08/12/24 **City Council** **FIRST READING**

Ordinance No. 2024-36 was given a first reading. Woods requested a five-minute meeting of the Employee and Community Relations Committee on the legislation for Aug. 26, 2024.

City Council
City of Mount Vernon
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 08/26/24 7:30 PM
Dept: Land Use and Development
Keener, Mahan
Category: Finance
Prepared By: Todd Hill
Initiator: Todd Hill
DOC ID: 4084

ORDINANCE 2024-37

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE IMPROVEMENTS TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, KNOX COUNTY, OHIO TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE; DECLARING SUCH IMPROVEMENTS TO BE EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; REQUIRING THE OWNERS THEREOF TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; DESIGNATING THE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE THAT WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE REAL PROPERTY; AND ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SERVICE PAYMENTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio (the "City") desires to facilitate the development of certain real property located within the territorial boundaries of the City; and

WHEREAS, several separate parcels of real property (as depicted and described in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference) will be developed as commercial properties (the "Commercial TIF Site"); and

WHEREAS, the development of commercial properties in the City is a project, as that term is defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(A)(7) (the "Project"), that will benefit the City and its residents by creating economic opportunities, enlarging the property tax base, and stimulating collateral development in the City; and

WHEREAS, by providing public infrastructure improvements, as that term is defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(A)(8) (as more fully described in Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, the "Public Infrastructure Improvements"), the City may facilitate the development of commercial properties for the benefit of the Commercial TIF Site, including, without limitation, by facilitating the financing, acquisition and construction of the Public Infrastructure Improvements; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.40, 5709.42 and 5709.43 (the "TIF Act") provide for the use of City tax increment financing to pay the costs of Public Infrastructure Improvements, which costs may include, without limitation: (I) the payment for or reimbursement of costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements incurred by the City or any other public or private party in cooperation with the City, and (ii) payment of debt service, required reserves and administrative expenses on, and other expenses relating to the issuance of, any bonds, notes or other obligations issued to finance the Public Infrastructure Improvements (collectively, the "Debt Service"); and

WHEREAS, the TIF Act provides that this City Council may, among other things, (a) declare the improvement to real property located in the City to be a public purpose, thereby exempting such improvement from real property taxation for a period of time, (b) specify public infrastructure improvements to be made to benefit the Commercial TIF Site, (c) require the owner or owners of those parcels to make service payments in lieu of taxes, and (d) establish a public improvement tax increment equivalent fund into which such service payments shall be deposited; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to grant a one hundred percent (100%) exemption from real property taxation for a period of thirty (30) years (the "TIF Exemption") for each improvement to the Commercial TIF Site (as defined in Section 1 hereof, the "Improvement"); and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is necessary and appropriate and in the best interests of the City to require the owners of the parcels included in the Commercial TIF Site and their heirs, successors and assigns (collectively, with their heirs, successors and assigns, as owners of the Commercial TIF Site, the "Owners") to make service payments in lieu of taxes (as defined in Section 2 hereof, the "Service Payments") with respect to the Improvement pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.42; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon City School District and the Knox County Career Center have each received notice of the TIF Exemption and the proposed text of this Ordinance in advance of the date on which this Ordinance is being adopted, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.40 and 5709.83.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio that:

SECTION 1: Authorization of TIF Exemption. Pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(B), this City Council hereby finds and determines that one hundred percent (100%) of the increase in assessed value of each parcel (as it may be subdivided or combined in connection with the acquisition or development of a parcel) comprising the Commercial TIF Site (the "Exempted Property") that first appears on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property after the effective date of this Ordinance, which increase in assessed value in hereinafter referred to as the "Improvement," as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(A)(4), is declared to be a public purpose. Pursuant to and in accordance with the TIF Act, the Improvement with respect to each parcel shall be exempt from real property taxation (the "TIF Exemption") for a period commencing with the first day of the first tax year in which there is newly assessed real property tax valuation for a partial or complete building or structure on the parcel and ending for a parcel on the thirtieth (30th) anniversary of such date or the date the Public Infrastructure Improvements (as defined in the TIF Ordinance) are paid in full, whichever occurs first. After the TIF Exemption becomes effective, such TIF Exemption shall apply with respect to any parcel when the Improvement to such parcel is made and an exception for such parcel is claimed in the manner provided for in this Ordinance.

SECTION 2: Payment of Service Payments. As provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.42, but only after the TIF Exemption is effective, the Owner of a parcel that includes any Exempted Property shall be required to, and shall make, service payments in lieu of taxes with respect to the Improvement allocable thereto to the Knox County Treasurer (the "County

Treasurer") on or before the final due dates for payment of real property taxes. Each service payment in lieu of taxes shall be charged and collected in the same manner and in the same amount as the real property taxes that would have been charged and payable against such parcel as if it were not exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 1 hereof. If any reduction in the levies otherwise applicable to such parcel is made by the County budget commission under Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.31, the amount of the service payment in lieu of taxes shall be calculated as if the reduction in levies had not been made. Any late payments of service payments in lieu of taxes shall be calculated as if the reduction in levies had not been made. Any late payments of service payments in lieu of taxed shall be subject to penalty and bear interest at the then current rate established under Ohio Revised Code Sections 323.121(B)(1) and 5703.47, as the same may be amended from time to time, or any successor provisions thereto (the "Penalties and Interest"). Each Owner shall make any other payments in respect of such parcel which are received by the County Treasurer in connection with any reduction required by Ohio Revised Code Section 319.302, as the same may be amended from time to time, or any successor provisions thereto (the "Property Tax Rollback Payments," together with the service payments in lieu of taxes and the "Penalties and Interest," are collectively referred to herein as the "Service Payments"). The Service Payments shall be allocated and distributed in accordance with Section 3 hereof.

SECTION 3: Creation of TIF Fund; Application of Service Payments. This City Council hereby establishes, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.43, a Public Improvement Tax Increment Equivalent Fund. The City Auditor may create one or more accounts or sub-accounts within such fund as appropriate to distinguish the Service Payments received with respect to the TIF Exemption established pursuant to this Ordinance from any tax increment financing programs that may be established by the City in the future and as are necessary to account for payment of the costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements, including any reimbursement payments for the reimbursement of the costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements, Debt Service, and other expenses relating to the issuance of any bonds, notes or other obligations issued to finance the Public Infrastructure Improvements. As used in this Ordinance, "TIF Fund" shall refer to the specific fund or account that receives the Service Payments provided for in this Ordinance. The TIF Fund shall be maintained in the custody of the City and shall receive all distributions of Service Payments required to be made to the City. Those Service Payments received by the City with respect to the Exempted Property shall be used solely for the purposes authorized in the TIF Act, including, but not limited to, paying any costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements. For purposes of this Ordinance, "costs" of the Public Infrastructure Improvements" set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 133.15(B), and incurred with respect to the Public Infrastructure Improvements, which "costs" specifically include any reimbursement payments for the reimbursement of the costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements, and Debt Service, and other expenses relating to the issuance of any bonds, notes or other obligations issued to finance the Public Infrastructure Improvements. The TIF Fund shall remain in existence so long as such Service Payments are collected and used for the aforementioned purposes, after which time said TIF Fund shall be dissolved and any surplus funds remaining therein shall be transferred to the City's General Fund, all in accordance with the TIF Act.

Pursuant to the TIF Act, the County Treasurer is requested to distribute the Service Payments and the Property Tax Rollback Payments as follows: (I) *first* to the Mount Vernon City School District and the Knox County Career Center, each an amount equal to the amount the respective school district would otherwise have received as real property tax payments (including the applicable portion of any Property Tax Rollback Payments) derived from the Improvement to the parcels located within each school district if the Improvement had not been exempt from taxation pursuant to this Ordinance, and (ii) *second*, to the City for deposit into the TIF Fund. The distribution from the County Treasurer to the City required under this Section and under Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.42(B) is requested to be made at the same time and in the same manner as real property tax distributions.

SECTION 4: Public Infrastructure Improvements. This City Council hereby designates the Public Infrastructure Improvements described in Exhibit B attached hereto as "public infrastructure improvements" (as such term is defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(A)(8)) made, to be made, or in the process of being made, and that, once made, will directly benefit the Commercial TIF Site.

SECTION 5: Application for Real Property Tax Exemption and Remission. This City Council further hereby authorizes and directs the City Mayor, the City Auditor, or other appropriate officers of the City, to sign and execute all documents, including any Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization forms or related filings, and make such arrangements as are necessary and proper for collection of Service Payments from the Owners of real property located in the Commercial TIF Site, which are to be deposited into the TIF Fund.

SECTION 6: Further Authorizations. This City Council further hereby authorizes and directs the City Mayor, the City Auditor, or other appropriate officers of the City, to prepare and sign all agreements, and any amendments thereto such that the character of those changes is not substantially adverse to the City, which shall be established conclusively by their signatures thereon, and to prepare and sign all instruments and to take all other actions as may be necessary and appropriate to implement this Ordinance.

SECTION 7: Notices. This City Council hereby finds and determines that notice of this proposed Ordinance has been delivered to all affected school districts, including the Mount Vernon City School District and the Knox County Career Center, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5709.40 and 5709.83, and hereby ratifies the giving of that notice.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(I), the Clerk of City Council is hereby directed to deliver a copy of this Ordinance to the Director of the Department of Development of the State of Ohio within fifteen (15) days after its adoption. On or before March 31 or each year that any exemption set forth in Section 1 hereof remains in effect, the City Auditor or other authorized officer of this City shall prepare and submit to the Director of the Department of Development of the State of Ohio the status report regarding the Project and the Public Infrastructure Improvements required under Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(I).

SECTION 8: Tax Incentive Review Council. The City has created the City Tax Incentive Review Council with the membership of that Council constituted in accordance with

Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.85. That Council shall, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.85, review annually all exemptions from taxation resulting from the declarations set forth in this Ordinance and any other such matters as may properly come before that Council, all in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.85.

SECTION 9: Open Meetings. This City Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this City Council and any of its committees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this City Council, and that all deliberations of this City Council and any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, all in compliance with the law, including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

SECTION 10: Effective Date. This Ordinance is hereby determined to be an emergency measure necessary 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 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; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

EXHIBIT A

Map of Commercial TIF Site

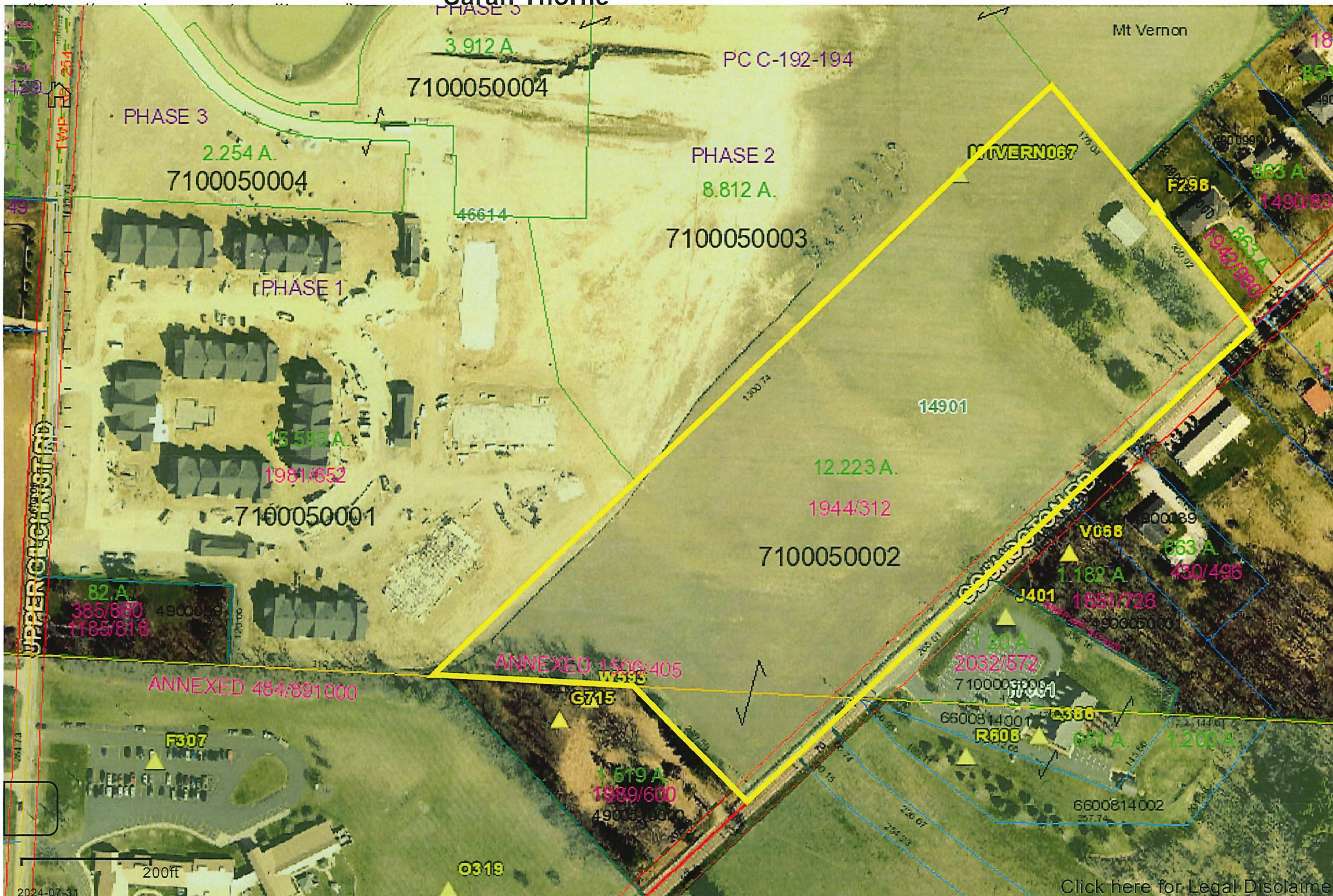
The Commercial TIF Site consists of the parcel numbers identified below and in the records of the County Auditor of Knox County, Ohio as of August 26, 2024.

7100050002
7100050001
7100050003
7100050004
7100050005
7100050000

[Map Attached]

Knox County Ohio, GIS

Sarah Thorne



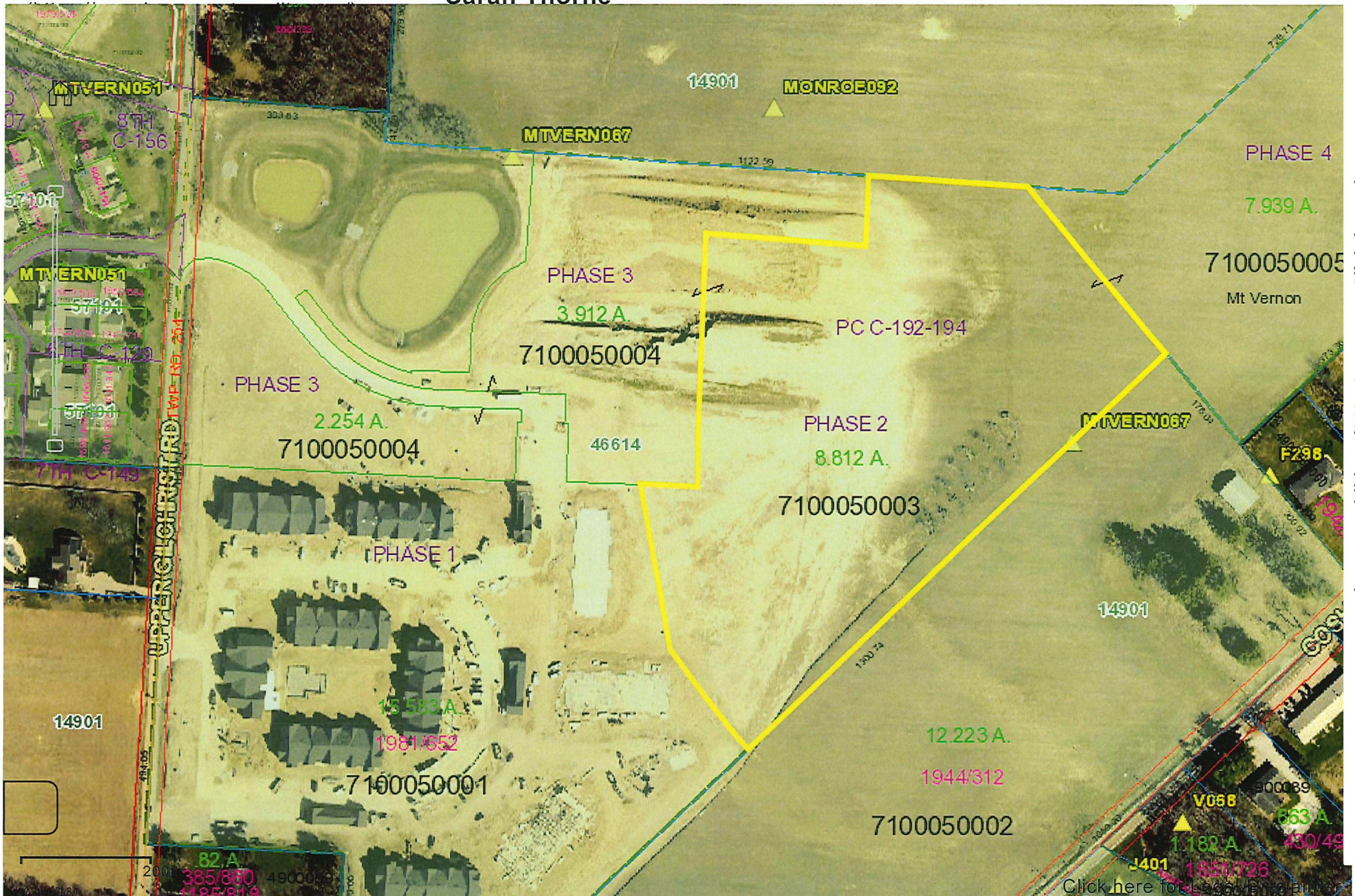
Knox County Ohio, GIS

Sarah Thorne

Attachment: Exhibit A (2024-37 : Upper Gilchrist TIF)

Knox County Ohio, GIS

Sarah Thorne



17.1.a

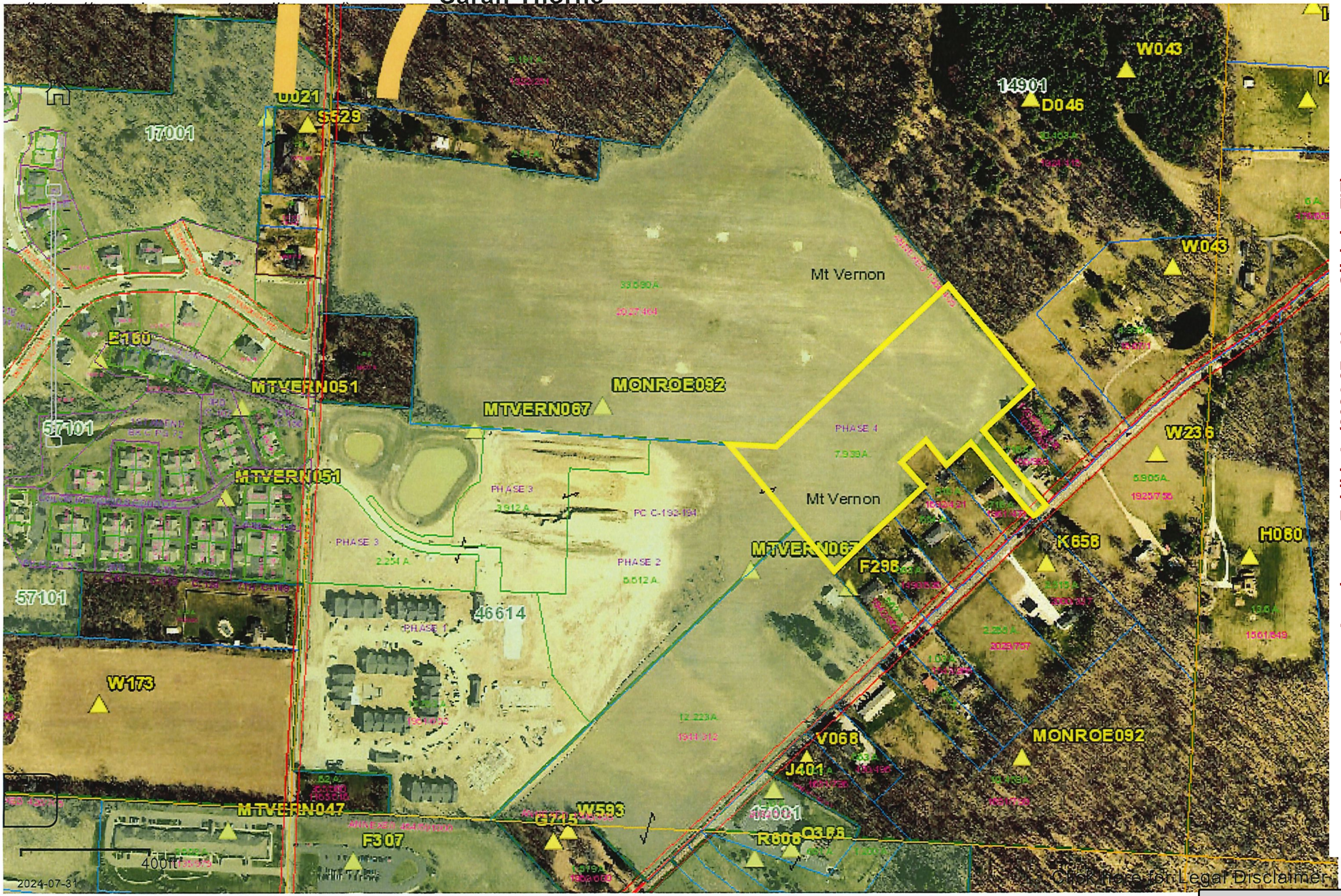
Knox County Ohio, GIS

Sarah Thorne

Attachment: Exhibit A (2024-37 : Upper Gilchrist TIF)

Knox County Ohio, GIS

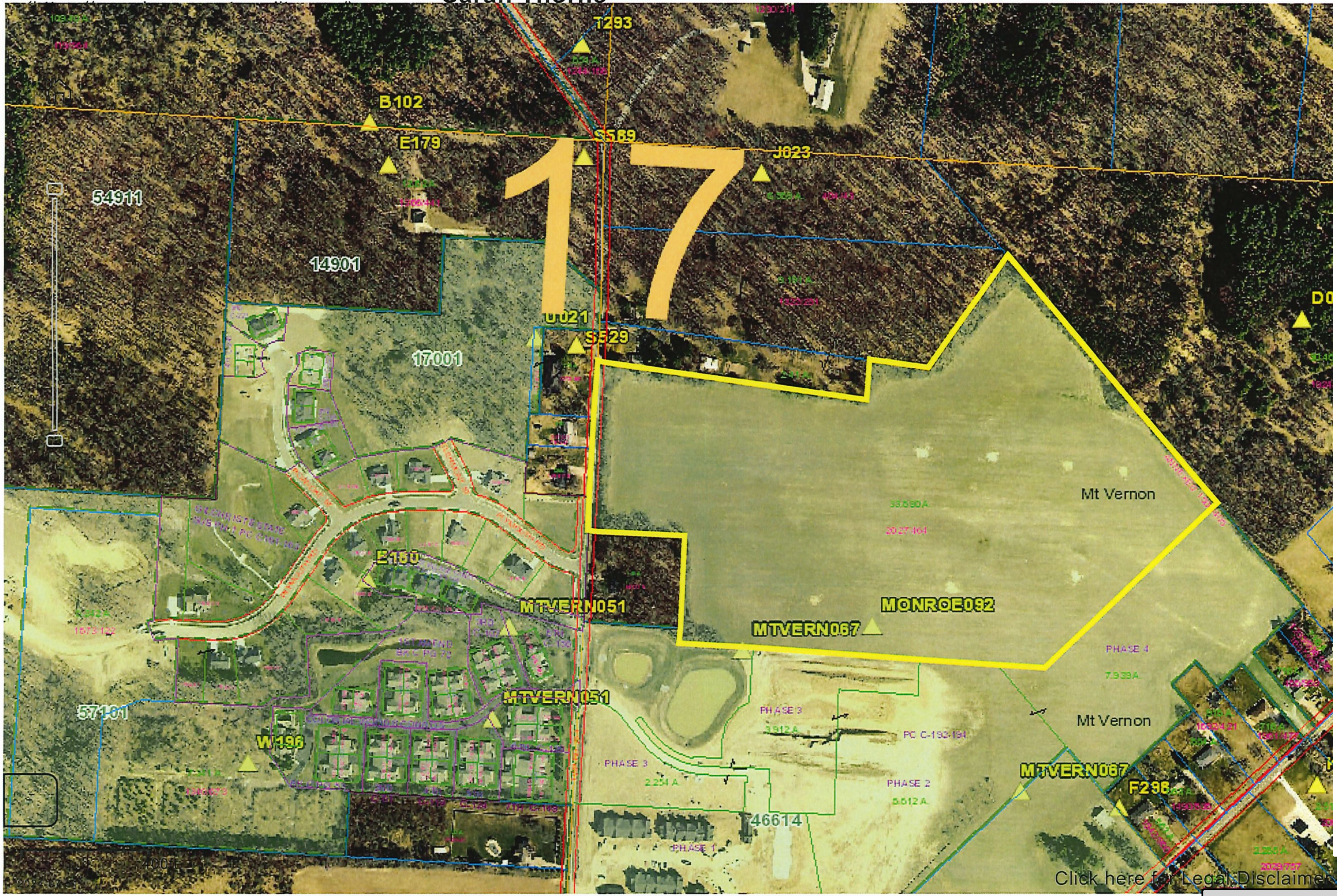
Sarah Thorne



Attachment: Exhibit A (2024-37 : Upper Gilchrist TIF)

Knox County Ohio, GIS

Sarah Thorne



Attachment: Exhibit A (2024-37 : Upper Gilchrist TIF)

EXHIBIT B

Public Infrastructure Improvements

The Public Infrastructure Improvements consist generally of acquiring and constructing the infrastructure described below:

- Construction, reconstruction, extension, opening, improving, widening, grading, draining, curbing or changing of the lines and traffic patterns of roads, highways, streets, bridges (both roadway and pedestrian), traffic calming devices, sidewalks, bikeways, medians and viaducts accessible to and serving the public, and providing lighting systems, signalization, and traffic controls, the continued maintenance of public roads and highways, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Construction, reconstruction or installation of improvements (including any underground utilities), storm and sanitary sewers (including necessary site grading therefore), water and fire protection systems, the continued maintenance of water and sewer lines, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Construction, reconstruction or installation of gas, electric, and communication service facilities, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Construction or reconstruction of one or more public parks, including grading, trees and other park plantings, park accessories and related improvements, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Construction or installation of streetscape and landscape improvements including trees and shrubs, landscaping mounds and fencing, tree grates, planting beds, signage, curbs, sidewalks, street and sidewalk lighting, trash receptacles, benches, newspaper racks, burial of overhead utility lines and related improvements, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Construction of one or more public parking facilities, including public surface parking, public parking structures and related improvements, off-street parking facilities, including those in which all or a portion of the parking spaces are reserved for specific uses when determined to be necessary for economic development purposes, and all other appurtenances thereto;
- Demolition and excavation, including demolition and excavation on private property when determined to be necessary for economic development purposes;
- Acquisition of real estate or interests in real estate (including easements) necessary to accomplish the foregoing improvements;
- Any on-going administrative expenses relating to the Public Infrastructure Improvements and maintaining the TIF revenues, including but not limited to engineering, architectural, legal, TIF administration, and other consulting and professional services; and,
- All inspection fees and other governmental fees related to the foregoing.

The Public Infrastructure Improvements specifically include the costs of financing the Public Infrastructure Improvements, including the items of "costs of permanent improvements" set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 133.15(B), and incurred with respect to the Public Infrastructure Improvements, which "costs" specifically include any reimbursement payments for the reimbursement of the costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements and the Debt Service on, and other expenses relating to the issuance of, any bonds, notes, or other obligations issued to finance the Public Infrastructure Improvements.

All of the Public Infrastructure Improvements described above are hereby determined to be "public infrastructure improvements" (as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(A)(8)) and are intended to benefit the real property described in Exhibit A.