



**City Council  
Legislative Session**

**Agenda**

**January 27, 2026  
7:30 PM**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Mount Vernon City Council  
Committee Meeting Schedule  
January 27, 2026

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic Under Discussion</b>	<b>Committee</b>
6:25 - 6:40 p.m.	Drinking Water Treatment Material Report 2026	Utilities- Ruckman
6:40 - 6:50 p.m.	Employment Positions Approved in Annual Budget	Employee & Community Relations - Keener
6:50 - 7:00 p.m.	Resolution 2026-03 Street Chip Seal Project	Streets & Public Buildings - Severns
7:00 - 7:15 p.m.	Resolution 2026-05 Renovating Two Floors of the Mount Vernon Municipal Center	Streets & Public Buildings - Severns

**MEETING WILL RECESS UNTIL 7:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

City Council Minutes 1/12/2026

**RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PROCLAMATION**

**LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE**

**PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO  
ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE 2026  
STREET CHIP SEAL PROJECT.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE RENOVATION OF TWO FLOORS OF THE 236 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CENTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

**RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF GREGORY YASHNYK TO THE MOUNT VERNON PLANNING COMMISSION, RE-APPOINTING AMBER KEENER TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE KNOX COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS' BUREAU, RE-APPOINTING JOHN RUCKMAN TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EXPERIENCE MOUNT VERNON OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-07

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE KNOX COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Police, Fire, and Civil Defense: Miller, Hager

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-08

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAM FOR THE MOUNT VERNON JUSTICE CENTER AND STATE ROUTE 13 PROJECTS.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-10

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO LEASE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1 EAST HIGH STREET; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A QUALIFICATION-BASED SELECTION FOR DESIGN SERVICES RELATED TO THE NORTH SANDUSKY STREET & UPPER FREDERICKTOWN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-13

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 & Budget: Mahan, Severns

**ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING**

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

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

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 911.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON.

Utilities: Ruckman, Miller

**REMARKS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION**

**REMARKS FROM COUNCIL**

**ADJOURN AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT**





## **PRESS RELEASE**

City Hall  
40 Public Square  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council  
740-393-9517 Fax: 740-397-6595

[zsherman@mtvernonoh.gov](mailto:zsherman@mtvernonoh.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 21, 2026

### **Mount Vernon City Council Committee Meeting Schedule January 26, 2026**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic Under Discussion</b>	<b>Committee</b>
6:25 – 6:40 p.m.	Drinking Water Treatment Material Report 2026	Utilities - Ruckman
6:40 - 6:50 p.m.	Employment Positions Approved in Annual Budget	Employee & Community Relations - Keener
6:50 – 7:00 p.m.	Resolution 2026-03 Street Chip Seal Project	Streets & Public Buildings - Severns
7:00 – 7:15 p.m.	Resolution 2026-05 Renovating Two Floors of the Mount Vernon Municipal Center	Streets & Public Buildings - Severns

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

**City Council Minutes  
Legislative Session**



**January 12, 2026**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Mount Vernon City Council  
Committee Meeting Schedule  
January 12, 2026

<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Item Under Consideration</b>	<b>Committee</b>
7:00 - 7:15 p.m.	2026-27 Organizational Meeting (see attached agenda)	Council as a Whole

Council Organizational Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bruce Hawkins.

**Committee Structure**

Severns and Hager exchanged places on the third chair assignments for the Committee Structure. Hager from Employee & Community Relations to Streets & Public Buildings. Severns from the latter to the former.

**Elect President Pro-Tem**

Mahan nominated Severns to serve as President Pro-Tem. Hager seconded. Severn elected President Pro-Tem by unanimous roll-call vote.

**City Officials Roster**

Hawkins noted that his phone number on the website should be updated to 740-501-9462

Miller noted that his phone number on the website should be updated to 740-233-1264

Email of Judge Thatcher was listed incorrectly on City Officials Roster. Corrected to [judge@mtvernonoh.gov](mailto:judge@mtvernonoh.gov)

**City Council Minutes Policy**

Severns made a motion to adopt the City Council Minutes Policy for 2026-27. Keener seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll-call vote.

Hawkins noted that Council Members submitting Committee Meeting minutes was important, particularly because the State Auditor checks for those documents.

**Council Casual Dress Policy**

Severns made a motion to amend the Council Casual Dress policy to be Business Casual from October-May, and Summer Business Casual from June-September. Keener seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll-call vote. Severns made a motion to adopt the Council Casual Dress Policy as amended. Keener seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll-call vote.

**Clerk of Council**

Severns made a motion to continue the appointment of Zachary Sherman as the Clerk of Council for 2026-27. Hager seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll-call vote.

**Assistant Clerk of Council**

Hawkins noted that the Clerk of Council is expecting a child in May, 2026. And that a back-up will need to be arranged.

Safety-Service Director Salyers suggested that a Council Member could temporarily assume that position.

Keener said she would connect with Mr. Salyers and Mr. Sherman regarding a path to recommend.

**Appointment**

President Bruce Hawkins to continue to serve on Audit Review Committee  
City Data Board no longer operating.

Severns made a motion to recommend Keener to the Knox County Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Mahan seconded. Approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Severns made a motion to recommend Ruckman to the Experience Mount Vernon Board. Keener seconded. Approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Mahan made a motion to appoint Hager to the Foundation Park Conservancy Board. Miller seconded. Approved by unanimous roll call vote.

**Adjourn**

Keener made a motion to adjourn the organizational meeting. Severns seconded. Adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

**MEETING WILL RECESS UNTIL 7:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Present	Absent	Excused
Council President Bruce Hawkins Fourth Ward LeNan Hager At-Large Amber Keener First Ward James Mahan At-Large Mel Severns Second Ward John Ruckman At-Large Dale Miller 3rd Ward Taylor Jacklin		

**INVOCATION**

Rev. Gene McBride

Invocation given by Rev. Gene McBride

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All recited in unison.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Severns made a motion to accept the 12/22/2025 minutes. Keener seconded. Accepted by unanimous voice vote.

12/22/2025 Minutes

**RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE**

Application for liquor license:

PNH, LLC  
6 Columbus Rd.  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050  
Permit Class: C-1, C-2

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN**

Rev. Justin Meier

Rev. Justin Meier spoke regarding lime sludge removal. He noted that he has been a resident of Mount Vernon for fifteen years. There is lime sludge in his backyard. Following letters, no council members reached back out to him. A lot of sludge has been removed since 2022, but some is still there. There are concerns regarding leeching.

Secondly, he noted that almost every resolution is suspended and brought to its third reading, and declared an emergency. if everything is an emergency, nothing is. He noted that the two reasons for suspending rules are likely because the writers of legislation aren't forward-thinking enough or because Council is trying to pass legislation without giving time for residents to voice concerns or complaints. He ended by thanking the city employees for their work.

Jacklin asked if the sludge concern had been resolved.

Mayor Starr said that the city is continuing to work on removing the sludge.

Law Director Broeren noted that the city is in compliance and working to resolve the removal by the end of the year.

### **RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING**

### **RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING**

### **RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING**

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE, BY INTERNET AUCTION DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2026, OF CITY-OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE OR WHICH IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

Mahan made a motion to suspend the rules and take Resolution 2026-01 to its third reading. Severns seconded.

Jacklin asked if Council could clarify the need to suspend the rules.

Mahan noted that this particular Resolution allows the city to do business throughout the year. Therefore, it makes the most sense to pass it quickly, rather than wait four weeks.

Salyers noted that suspension and emergency are different. Suspension means that a piece of legislation is taken to its final reading, rather than going through three separate Council

meetings. Emergency means that after the legislation is adopted, it immediately goes into effect. Without the emergency clause, legislation must wait 30 days to go into effect. Law Director Broeren noted that this is a routine piece of legislation that must be passed every year according to Ohio Revised Code to allow the city to do business. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote.

	<b>Motion to Suspend the Rules and Take to Third Reading</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	First Ward James Mahan
<b>SECONDER:</b>	At-Large Mel Severns
<b>AYES:</b>	LeNan Hager, Amber Keener, James Mahan, Mel Severns, John Ruckman, Dale Miller, Taylor Jacklin
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

Mahan made a motion to adopt. Severns seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	James Mahan
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Mel Severns
<b>AYES:</b>	LeNan Hager, Amber Keener, James Mahan, Mel Severns, John Ruckman, Dale Miller, Taylor Jacklin
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02**

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF BARB BLAZER TO THE RECREATION BOARD; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

Keener made a motion to suspend the rules and take Resolution 2026-02 to its third reading. Ruckman seconded.

Mayor Starr noted that there is a meeting of the NCA on the 20th of January, so suspending the rules would allow the appointee to begin by that date. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote.

	<b>Motion to Suspend the Rules</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	At-Large Amber Keener
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Second Ward John Ruckman
<b>AYES:</b>	LeNan Hager, Amber Keener, James Mahan, Mel Severns, John Ruckman, Dale Miller, Taylor Jacklin
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

Keener made a motion to amend Resolution 2026-02 to change the title and add the appointment of Kathy Greenwich to the New Community Authority. Ruckman seconded. Mayor Starr noted that Greenwich is the superintendent of the Knox County Career Center, and will be replacing an NCA member who was also a school representative. Amended by unanimous roll call vote. Keener made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-02 as amended. Ruckman seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

	<b>Motion to Adopt as Amended</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Amber Keener
<b>SECONDER:</b>	John Ruckman
<b>AYES:</b>	LeNan Hager, Amber Keener, James Mahan, Mel Severns, John Ruckman, Dale Miller, Taylor Jacklin
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 STREET CHIP SEAL PROJECT.**

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

Severns gave Resolution 2026-03 its first reading. He noted there is no emergency clause on the legislation. 10-minute committee meeting requested for January 26.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR THE 2026-2027 BIENNIUM.**

Land Use & Development: Jacklin, Keener

Committee of the resolution was corrected from Land Use & Development to Employee & Community Relations. Keener made a motion to suspend the rules and take Resolution 2026-04 to its third reading. Ruckman seconded. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote. Keener made a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-04. Ruckman seconded. Adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	At-Large Amber Keener
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Second Ward John Ruckman
<b>AYES:</b>	LeNan Hager, Amber Keener, James Mahan, Mel Severns, John Ruckman, Dale Miller, Taylor Jacklin
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO**

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE RENOVATION OF TWO FLOORS OF THE 236 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CENTER; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

Resolution 2026-05 was given its first reading. Severns requested a 15-min committee meeting on Jan. 26.

**ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING**

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

**REMARKS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Starr welcomed the new members of Council, and is looking forward to a productive 2026.

Safety Service Director Salyers said that he would give a report on the progress of lime removal. He thanked first responders and teachers for responding to the situation at East Knox School that day. He reminded the community that the first Washington Forum will be on January 28 at the Woodward Opera House.

Law Director Broeren welcomed all of Council, informing them to let him know if he could be of service.

**REMARKS FROM COUNCIL**

Miller expressed that it is a privilege to sit on Council, and thanked the citizens who entrusted him with that responsibility.

Jacklin expressed his appreciation for the voters in the Third Ward. He noted the helpfulness of administration and Council during his transition, saying that there is a will to do good among those who work for the City.

Keener requested a ten-minute committee meeting on employment positions that have been approved in the budget.

Severns noted that Austin Swallow has spent twenty-four years serving on the Municipal Planning Commission. He thanked Mr. Swallow for his service.

Hawkins said that his heart goes out to school, children, and parents at East Knox School.

**ADJOURN AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT**

Keener made a motion to adjourn. Severns seconded. Adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 8:06 p.m.

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Bruce E. Hawkins, President of Council

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Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 1/12/2026 7:30 PM  
Dept: Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Contract  
Prepared By: Zac Sherman  
Initiator: Zac Sherman

SCHEDULED

**RESOLUTION 2026-03**

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE 2026 STREET CHIP SEAL PROJECT.**

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 2026 street chip seal project.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, President of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting: 1/12/2026 7:30 PM  
Dept: Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Contract  
Prepared By: Zac Sherman  
Initiator: Zac Sherman

SCHEDULED

**RESOLUTION 2026-05**

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE RENOVATION OF TWO FLOORS OF THE 236 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CENTER; 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 renovation of two floors of the 236 South Main Street, Mount Vernon Municipal Center (AKA, Central Ohio Technical College).

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 it is necessary for the usual daily operation of the various departments of the municipal government, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, President of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-6

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Employee & Community  
Relations

Keener, Ruckman

Category: Resolution

Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council

Doc ID: 2026-19

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A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF GREGORY YASHNYK TO THE MOUNT VERNON PLANNING COMMISSION, RE-APPOINTING AMBER KEENER TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE KNOX COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS' BUREAU, RE-APPOINTING JOHN RUCKMAN TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EXPERIENCE MOUNT VERNON OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the By-Laws of the Knox County Convention and Visitors Bureau provide that one member of the Board of Trustees shall be a representative of the City of Mount Vernon.

WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 1 of the Code of Regulations of Experience Mount Vernon of Mount Vernon, Ohio provides that one member of the Board of Directors shall be a representative of the City Council as determined by City Council;

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

SECTION 1: That the Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon appoints Gregory Yashnyk, 502 Mitchell Avenue, Mount Vernon, Ohio, to the Mount Vernon Planning Commission, fulfilling the unexpired six-year term of Austin Swallow, commencing immediately, and expiring on December 31, 2026.

SECTION 2: That Council member Amber Keener be re-appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Knox County Convention and Visitors Bureau, for a one-year term commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2026.

SECTION 3: That Council member John Ruckman be re-appointed to the Board of Directors of Experience Mount Vernon of Mount Vernon, Ohio, for a one-year term, commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2026.

SECTION 4: 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.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-7

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Police, Fire, and Civil Defense  
Miller, Hager

Category: Resolution

Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council

Doc ID: 2026-20

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**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE KNOX COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL  
NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon recognize the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Knox County; and

WHEREAS, Knox County has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as Knox County Multijurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan of October 17, 2025 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Multijurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Knox County from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the City of Mount Vernon demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Mitigation Plan of December 20, 2025.

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

SECTION 1: That the City of Mount Vernon adopts the Knox County Multijurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, dated December 20, 2025.

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 further to comply with Federal law 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.

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Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-8

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings

Severns, Mahan

Category: Resolution

Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council

Doc ID: 2026-23

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAM FOR THE MOUNT VERNON JUSTICE CENTER AND STATE ROUTE 13 PROJECTS.**

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, Department of Development, provides financial assistance to local governments for the purpose of addressing local needs including brownfields; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio desires to participate in the Program to receive financial assistance for KNO-SR13-10.33, PID 116840 and Mount Vernon Justice Center, PID: 2341901 under the Brownfield Fund; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio has the authority to apply for financial assistance and to administer the amounts received from the State of Ohio, Department of Development Brownfield Fund.

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 authorized and directed to apply to the Ohio Department of Development Brownfield Fund for construction on KNO-SR13-10.33, PID 116840 and Mount Vernon Justice Center, PID: 2341901.

SECTION 2: The Safety-Service Director is further authorized and directed to enter into any agreements as may be necessary for obtaining financial assistance including compliance with program guidelines and assurances.

SECTION 3: That the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio hereby commits itself to providing the matching funds as described in the application.

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Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-9

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Employee & Community  
Relations  
Keener, Ruckman  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Rob Broeren, Law Director  
Doc ID: 2026-26

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**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE  
VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS' DEPENDENTS FUND 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 Council members James Mahan and Dale Miller be appointed to the Volunteer Peace Officers Dependents' Fund Board, commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2027.

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 of providing members as required by the authorizing ordinance, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-10

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan

Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council  
Doc ID: 2026-27

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT; 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 enter into a contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation for the KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT (AKA N Sandusky Street & Upper Fredericktown Road) (PID 2541301).

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 and contracts must be solicited at the earliest possible time to avoid future cost increases, and to provide uninterrupted traffic management, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-11

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan

Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council  
Doc ID: 2026-28

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO LEASE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1 EAST HIGH STREET; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio owns the property located at 1 East High Street in the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the current tenant is vacating the premises; and

WHEREAS, Sweet Street LLC, wishes to enter into a lease for 1 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 is authorized and directed to enter into a contract with Sweet Street LLC, for lease of the property located at 1 East High Street in the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio, subject to the successful completion of appropriate background checks.

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

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Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-12

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan

Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council  
Doc ID: 2026-29

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A QUALIFICATION-BASED SELECTION FOR DESIGN SERVICES RELATED TO THE NORTH SANDUSKY STREET & UPPER FREDERICKTOWN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO); 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 North Sandusky & Upper Fredericktown Road Improvements Project (KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO).

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled  
RESOLUTION 2026-13

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Finance & Budget  
Mahan, Sevens  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council  
Doc ID: 2026-35

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**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 American Electric Power in the amount of \$3,446.96 from line number 701.2720.54211, Water Fund - Plant Utilities.
2. To Ohio Water Development Authority in the amount of \$8,181.00 from line number 720.2820.53312, Waste Water - Plant Maintenance.
3. To Charles W. Kohler in the amount of \$9,890.00 from line number 101.2300.54111, Safety Service - Services Received.
4. To Ohio Water Development Authority in the amount of \$202,000.00 from line numbers:  
\$185,000.00 from line number 720.2860.56521, Waste Water - OWDA Principal; and  
\$17,000.00 from line number 720.2860.56522, Waste Water - OWDA Interest.
5. To Insight Public Sector in the amount of \$8,642.45 from line number 101.3600.54494, General Fund - Networking Systems.

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.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Employee & Community  
Relations

Keener, Ruckman  
Category: Ordinance

Prepared By: Rob Broeren, Law  
Director

Doc ID: 2026-24

**ORDINANCE 2026-1**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE CITY CLERK; 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 Clerk (per hour)	1	\$21.57	\$25.88	\$30.20

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 standardize the City's operation of meetings and dissemination of information about those meetings, 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.

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

ORDINANCE 2026-2

Meeting 1/27/2026 7:30 PM  
Utilities  
Ruckman, Miller  
Category: Ordinance  
Prepared By: Rob Broeren, Law  
Director  
Doc ID: 2026-30

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 911.04 OF THE CODIFIED  
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON.**

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

Section 1. That Section 911.04(g) of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read  
as follows (additions in **bold**, deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):

(g) ~~Grease and Oil Traps and Interceptors~~ **Fats Oils and Grease (FOG)  
Control Devices.** For ~~grease, fats, oil, and grease~~ **inorganic material such as  
sand, grit, etc., interceptors or traps control devices** shall be provided at the  
User's expense when, in the opinion of the Director, they are necessary for the  
proper handling of liquid wastes containing floatable grease in excessive amounts,  
as specified in subsection (e)(3)M. and (e)(3)N. hereof, ~~or any flammable wastes,  
sand, or other harmful ingredients;~~ except that such ~~interceptors~~ **devices** shall not  
be required for single-family residences, duplexes, or other multi-unit residences  
unless the Utilities Commission determines there are discharges that may create  
problems in the sanitary sewer. ~~All Users shall also be subject to permit per Section  
911.06.~~ **All Users with such a device are required to obtain a FOG Permit  
from the City's Code Enforcement Department.**

(1) All ~~interceptors and traps~~ **FOG control devices** shall be of a type and  
capacity approved by the Utilities Commission, and shall be located as to be readily  
and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. All ~~interceptors or traps~~ found not  
to be in compliance with these guidelines shall be modified or replaced **in a timely  
manner at the User's expense.** In the maintaining of these ~~interceptors~~ **FOG  
control devices**, the owner shall be responsible for the proper removal and  
disposal by appropriate means of the captured material and shall maintain records  
of the dates, and means of disposal which are subject to review by the Director. Any  
removal and hauling of the collected materials ~~not performed by the owner's  
personnel~~ must be performed by ~~currently~~ fully licensed waste disposal **or  
rendering** firms.

(2) The introduction of additives containing surfactants and/or enzymes into  
the trap, interceptor, or sanitary sewer is prohibited. Food services wishing to use  
aqueous suspensions of grease-consuming bacteria for grease control shall submit a  
written request to the Director and must receive written approval prior to their use.

(3) Users with the potential to discharge flammable substances may be  
required to install and maintain an approved combustible gas detection meter.

**(4) Permits are to be issued for a maximum period of one year. The**

**City shall provide the owner with a permit indicating the requirements that the establishment must meet in order to comply with FOG Best Management Practices. Applications for permit renewal shall be submitted no less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the permit.**

**(5) A fee shall be assessed to each permit issued and shall be paid prior to the issuance of a FOG Permit. This fee shall be set by the Control Board. Failure to pay fees will result in termination of water and wastewater services.**

**(6) The Utility Commission may adopt additional rules to implement the City’s FOG permitting requirements, including fines for violations of these provisions.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce E. Hawkins, Presidents of Council

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Sherman, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew T. Starr, Mayor