



**City Council  
Legislative Session**

**Agenda**

**April 13, 2026  
7:30 PM**

**VIDEO BROADCASTING & RECORDING**

Meeting videos are broadcast live and published on YouTube.com  
<https://www.youtube.com/@cityofmountvernon3369>

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Mount Vernon City Council  
 Committee Meeting Schedule  
 April 13, 2026

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic Under Discussion</b>	<b>Committee</b>
6:00 – 6:10 p.m.	Executive Session to Consider the Promotion, Demotion or Compensation of a Public Employee	Employee & Comm. Relations - Keener
6:10 – 6:20 p.m.	Executive Session to Discuss Pending or Imminent Litigation	Employee & Comm. Relations - Keener
6:20 – 6:40 p.m.	Ord. 2026-10 Amendment to 183.013 of the Codified Ordinances Income Tax	Finance & Budget - Mahan
6:40 – 6:50 p.m.	Ord. 2026-09 Amendment to 763 and 773 of the Codified Ordinances Taxi Cabs	Utilities - Ruckman
6:50 – 6:55 p.m.	Ord. 2026-06 Amendment to 755.04 of the Codified Ordinances Curb-Side Recycling	Utilities - Ruckman
6:55 – 7:05 p.m.	Resolution 2026-29 Blackjack Wetland Project	Parks & Recreation - Hager
7:05 – 7:15 p.m.	Resolution 2026-30 Veterans Walk of Honor Project	Parks & Recreation - Hager

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

**INVOCATION**

Invocation: Pastor Marvin Haught, pastor of the Brandon Baptist Church, and Fire Dept. Chaplain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

City Council Minutes March 23, 2026

**RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE**

**PROCLAMATION**

A proclamation designating the week of April 13-19, 2026 as International Dark-Sky Week in the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio.

**PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-29**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR THE BLACKJACK WETLAND PROJECT (PID 1510202).

Parks & Recreation: Hager, Jacklin

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-30**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE VETERANS WALK OF HONOR PROJECT (PID 2541300); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Parks & Recreation: Hager, Jacklin

**RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-34**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR ROAD SALT FOR 2026; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-35**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO RELEASE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR IDENTIFYING AND SELECTING A QUALIFIED FIRM OR FIRMS TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN PROPERTIES, IDENTIFY AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE SELECTED FIRM OR FIRMS TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN PROPERTIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-36**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO SELL THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 69 SYCHAR ROAD (PARCEL # 66-09207.001) NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-37

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH COLLEGE TOWNSHIP AND KENYON COLLEGE TO PROVIDE FIRE AND EMS SERVICES FOR COLLEGE TOWNSHIP; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Police, Fire, and Civil Defense: Miller, Hager

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-38

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO DISPOSE OF VEHICLES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-39

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF OHIO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-40

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-41

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS RELATED TO BROWNFIELDS REMEDIATION FOR THE MOUNT VERNON JUSTICE CENTER PROJECT AND THE SOUTH SANDUSKY STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (KNO-13D); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Streets & Public Buildings: Severns, Mahan

**ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-06

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 755.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING CURB-SIDE RECYCLING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Utilities: Ruckman, Miller

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-08

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE SERVICES AND RESOURCE

COORDINATOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 763 AND 773 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING TAXI CABS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Utilities: Ruckman, Miller

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-10

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 183.013 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-11

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING VEHICLE STORAGE WITHIN THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use & Development: Jacklin, Keener

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1102 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Land Use & Development: Jacklin, Keener

**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**

April 7, 2026

**Mount Vernon City Council  
 Committee Meeting Schedule  
 April 13, 2026**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic Under Discussion</b>	<b>Committee</b>
6:00 – 6:10 p.m.	Executive Session to Consider the Promotion, Demotion or Compensation of a Public Employee	Employee & Comm. Relations - Keener
6:10 – 6:20 p.m.	Executive Session to Discuss Pending or Imminent Litigation	Employee & Comm. Relations - Keener
6:20 – 6:40 p.m.	Ord. 2026-10 Amendment to 183.013 of the Codified Ordinances Income Tax	Finance & Budget - Mahan
6:40 – 6:50 p.m.	Ord. 2026-09 Amendment to 763 and 773 of the Codified Ordinances Taxi Cabs	Utilities - Ruckman
6:50 – 6:55 p.m.	Ord. 2026-06 Amendment to 755.04 of the Codified Ordinances Curb-Side Recycling	Utilities - Ruckman
6:55 – 7:05 p.m.	Resolution 2026-29 Blackjack Wetland Project	Parks & Recreation - Hager
7:05 – 7:15 p.m.	Resolution 2026-30 Veterans Walk of Honor Project	Parks & Recreation - Hager

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**



**March 23, 2026**

**VIDEO BROADCASTING & RECORDING**

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<https://www.youtube.com/@cityofmountvernon3369/streams>

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Mount Vernon City Council  
 Committee Meeting Schedule  
 March 23, 2026

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic Under Discussion</b>	<b>Committee</b>
6:35 – 6:40 p.m.	Ord. 2026-07 Amendment to 133 of the Codified Ordinances	Employee & Community Relations - Keener
6:40 – 6:50 p.m.	Ord. 2026-05 Community Development / Public Information Officer Position	Employee & Community Relations - Keener
6:50 – 7:15 p.m.	Ordinance 2026-04 Bond Anticipation Notes	Finance & Budget - Mahan

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION**

Invocation to be given by Pastor Doug Pummell, Mulberry Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All recited in unison.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Minutes City Council 2026\_03\_09

Keener made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 9, 2026 City Council Meeting. Hager seconded. Accepted by unanimous voice vote.

**RECEIVE PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Employee & Community Relations Committee Minutes 3/09/2026  
Finance and Budget Committee Minutes 03/09/2026

Committee Reports received without comment.

**LIQUOR CONTROL LICENSE**

**PROCLAMATION**

**PERSONS SPEAKING ON MATTERS OF CITY CONCERN**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR THIRD READING**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-29**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR THE BLACKJACK WETLAND PROJECT (PID 1510202).

Parks & Recreation: Hager, Jacklin

Hager gave Resolution 2026-29 its first reading and requested a 10-minute committee meeting on April 13.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-30**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE VETERANS WALK OF HONOR PROJECT (PID 2541300); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Parks & Recreation: Hager, Jacklin

Hager gave Resolution 2026-30 its first reading and requested a 10-minute committee meeting on April 13.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-31**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO CREATE ADDITIONAL LINES PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 5705.09(F); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

Mahan made a motion to suspend the rules and take Resolution 2026-31 to its third and final reading. Ruckman seconded. Auditor Brinkman clarified that this establishes budget lines for funds already received. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote. Brinkman clarified that this a housekeeping measure to log grants and loans properly.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	First Ward James Mahan
<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. 2026-32**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE AUDITOR OF**  
**THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO MAKE SUPPLEMENTAL**  
**APPROPRIATIONS.**

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

Mahan made a motion to suspend the rules and take Resolution 2026-32 to its third and final reading. Ruckman seconded. Auditor Brinkman clarified that this allows for expenditure of funds that have already been received. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote. Brinkman clarified that items 1 and 3 go to the recently created budget line (from Resolution 2026-31). Line 2 is money that carried over from the previous fiscal year. Line 4 is carryover, as well.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	First Ward James Mahan
<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

**ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04**  
**AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO**  
**EXCEED \$29,000,000 IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS**  
**FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A POLICE STATION AND**  
**RELATED FACILITIES; FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING THE SAME;**  
**IMPROVING THE SITES THEREOF; AND ACQUIRING REAL PROPERTY**  
**AND INTERESTS THEREIN AS MAY BE NECESSARY IN CONNECTION**  
**THEREWITH; AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING RELATED**  
**MATTERS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Adopted [7 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	First Ward James Mahan
<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

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05**  
**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND**  
**TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT/PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER; AND DECLARING**  
**AN EMERGENCY.**

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

Keener noted that this seems like an important roll for the City, and the position has been discussed in committee meeting.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>Motion to Adopt</b>
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<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

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-06**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 755.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING CURB-SIDE RECYCLING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Utilities: Ruckman, Miller

Ruckman gave Ordinance 2026-08 its second reading, and requested a 5-minute committee meeting on April 13.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-07**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 133 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

Keener made a motion to suspend the rules and take Ordinance 2026-07 to its third and final reading. Ruckman seconded. Keener noted that the reason for the suspension is because this committee is not currently able to function. Rules suspended by unanimous roll call vote.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<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

**ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-08**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE SERVICES AND RESOURCE COORDINATOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Employee & Community Relations: Keener, Ruckman

Keener gave Ordinance 2026-08 its first reading.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-09**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 763 AND 773 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING TAXI CABS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Utilities: Ruckman, Miller

Ruckman gave Ordinance 2026-09 its first reading, and requested a 10-minute committee meeting on April 13.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-10  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 183.013 OF THE CODIFIED  
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING  
AN EMERGENCY.

Finance & Budget: Mahan, Severns

Mahan gave Ordinance 2026-10 its first reading, and requested a 20-minute committee meeting on April 13.

**REMARKS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION**

- Mayor Starr noted that Jacklin will replace Mahan on the Patriotic Memorial Committee. Certain software will assist in some of the heavy lifting for event planning associated with parades. The Next Washington Forum is March 31st at 6 p.m. Titled: The Room Where it Happens. The Mayor's first State of the City Address will be on March 25. He has received other requests for the address, and is happy to take the address on the road. Last Friday was the MORPC state of the region address. In terms of development and transportation, there are exciting improvements coming. It is a hopeful time.
- Treasurer Stuller noted that the process to approve the Police Station has been very deliberative. He thanked Council for asking good questions and their work throughout that process.
- Auditor Brinkman echoed the Treasure's sentiments, and thanked Council for their feedback.
- Law Director Broeren reminded City parties to get legislation out to him and the City Clerk as soon as possible. He noted that the Board of Property Maintenance Appeals will meet on March 24 at 4:00 p.m. There is scaffolding around the buildings damaged by the recent windstorm to prevent additional pieces from falling into the sidewalk or street. There is interest in setting up a taxi cab company in the city. Ride-sharing is exempted from local legislation.

**REMARKS FROM COUNCIL**

- Hager noted that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Hiawatha on Saturday at 9:30 a.m with staggered starts for various age groups. The event is rain or shine.
- Mahan thanked council and administration for their work on city facilities. Administration has been looking for the best way to do the work, and has labored to make it happen.
- Keener expressed appreciation for administration's flexibility with the various facilities projects. Knox County Convention and Visitor's Bereau has a new Adventure Guide. Keener encouraged residents to engage with the guide, and thanked Olivia Toth for her work.
- Jacklin noted the resiliency of the community following the windstorm, and how neighbors were helping neighbors clean, clear, and repair. It was encouraging.
- Ruckman wished all a Happy Easter.
- Miller noted that he toured the old police station, noting its state, and expressing gratitude that a new one will be built to replace the current building.
- Severns noted that the Police Station project has been in the works since 2021. He is glad to see it moving forward. After the storm, he thanked neighbors and City crews who cleared multiple roads that had trees and branches in them. The crews already have full work loads, but then demonstrate adaptability when they need to address emergency situations.
- Scott Zimmerman noted that there is tire recycling on Saturday, March 28 from 8 - Noon at Ariel Foundation Park. The cost is \$2 per tire.

**ADJOURN AT THE CALL OF THE PRESIDENT**

Keener made a motion to adjourn. Hager seconded. Adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

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Bruce E. Hawkins, President of Council

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Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council





## A PROCLAMATION

### DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 13-19, 2026 AS INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY WEEK IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, OHIO.

**WHEREAS**, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and

**WHEREAS**, the experience of standing under a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, encouraging a growing interest in science and nature, particularly among young people and visitors from outside the local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution has scientifically established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts on the ecology and human health of all communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mount Vernon has been an affiliate of the Xerces Society's Bee City USA initiative since 2022, committing to support native pollinators through recognized best practices; and

**WHEREAS**, 80 percent of the world's population, including many people in Central Ohio, lives under a dome of light pollution—excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness—and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution represents a waste of natural resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution affects the circadian rhythms of nocturnal pollinators such as moths and fireflies and artificial light impacts their feeding, breeding, and pollinating patterns; and

**WHEREAS**, recent studies have shown that nocturnal pollination is just as important as diurnal pollination, with about 50% of all pollination occurring at night; and

**WHEREAS**, nocturnal pollinators face population decline due to the effects of artificial light; and

**WHEREAS**, Ohio has over 3,000 species of moths and 24 species of fireflies; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinators contribute an estimated 29 billion dollars annually to the US farm economy and are responsible for reproducing more than 75 percent of crops that sustain our food supply; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 100 million to 1 billion birds die annually in the United States as a direct result of light pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, DarkSky International, the globally recognized authority on light pollution, recognizes International Dark-Sky Week to raise awareness of the effects of light pollution, provide free education, resources, and solutions to the public, and encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by Mount Vernon Mayor Matthew Starr and the Mount Vernon City Council that April 13-19, 2026 be designated INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY WEEK in the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio; and that each resident be encouraged to consider how they may make simple changes in their lives to protect our dark sky as a precious natural resource by following the Five Principles of Responsible Outdoor Lighting, including useful, targeted, low-level, controlled, and warm colored lighting.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Zac Sherman, Clerk of Council

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
LeNan Hager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Starr, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Taylor Jacklin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amber Keener

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Mahan

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale Miller

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Ruckman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mel Severns



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-29

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Parks & Recreation  
Hager, Jacklin  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-109

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR THE BLACKJACK WETLAND PROJECT (PID 1510202).**

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 contracts for the Blackjack Wetland project (PID 1510202).

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 2026-30

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Parks & Recreation  
Hager, Jacklin  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-110

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE VETERANS WALK OF HONOR PROJECT (PID 2541300); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

SECTION 1: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the Veterans Walk of Honor project (PID 2541300).

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 that bids and contracts must be solicited at the earliest possible time to avoid future cost increases, and to begin work while weather permits, 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, 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 2026-34

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Finance & Budget  
Mahan, Sevens  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-145

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR ROAD SALT FOR 2026; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, State of Ohio, submits this written agreement to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) annual road salt bid in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5513.01(B) and agrees to all of the following terms and conditions in its participation of the ODOT road salt contract:

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

SECTION 1: The City of Mount Vernon, Ohio (hereinafter "Political Subdivision") agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions established by ODOT in the road salt contract and acknowledges that upon award of the contract by the Director of ODOT it shall be bound by all such terms and conditions included in the contract.

SECTION 2: The Political Subdivision acknowledges that upon the Director of ODOT's signing of the road salt contract, it shall effectively form a contract between the awarded salt supplier and the Political Subdivision.

SECTION 3: The Political Subdivision agrees to be solely responsible for resolving all claims or disputes arising out of its participation in the ODOT road salt contract and agrees that each party hereto shall be responsible for liability associated with that party's own errors, actions, and failures to act.

SECTION 4: The Political Subdivision's electronic order for Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) will be the amount the Political Subdivision agrees to purchase from its awarded salt supplier at the delivered bid price per ton awarded by the Director of ODOT.

SECTION 5: The Political Subdivision hereby agrees to purchase a minimum of 85 percent of its electronically submitted salt quantities from its awarded salt supplier during the contract's effective period.

SECTION 6: The Political Subdivision agrees to place orders with and directly pay the awarded salt supplier on a net 30 basis for all road salt it receives pursuant to ODOT salt contract.

SECTION 7: The Political Subdivision acknowledges that should it wish to rescind this participation agreement it will do so by written, emailed request no later than Friday, May 1, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. The written, emailed request to rescind this participation agreement must be received by the ODOT Office of Contract Sales, Purchasing Section email: [Contracts.Purchasing@dot.ohio.gov](mailto:Contracts.Purchasing@dot.ohio.gov) by the deadline. The Department, upon receipt, will respond that it has received the request and that it has effectively removed the Political Subdivision's participation request. Furthermore, it is the sole responsibility of the Political Subdivision to ensure ODOT has received this participation agreement as well as the receipt of any request to rescind this participation agreement. The Department shall not be held responsible or liable for failure to receive a Political Subdivision's participation agreement and/or a Political Subdivision's request to rescind its participation agreement.

SECTION 8: 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 the City must indicate its participation in this program no later than May 1, 2026 to be eligible for the savings it will produce, 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 2026-35

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-148

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO RELEASE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR IDENTIFYING AND SELECTING A QUALIFIED FIRM OR FIRMS TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN PROPERTIES, IDENTIFY AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE SELECTED FIRM OR FIRMS TO DEMOLISH CERTAIN PROPERTIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, On March 24, 2026, the Board of Property Maintenance Appeals determined that the buildings on permanent parcel numbers 66-05506.000, 66-03852.000 and 66-03852.001 were unsafe structures that were unfit for human habitation, condemned the buildings and ordered the City to demolish the buildings within 90 days of the Board's Order.

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 release a Request for Qualifications for identifying and selecting a qualified firm or firms to demolish the buildings on permanent parcel numbers 66-05506.000, 66-03852.000 and 66-03852.001.

Section 2: That the Safety Service Director is hereby further authorized, upon identifying and selecting a qualified firm or firms, to negotiate and enter into a contract to demolish the buildings on permanent parcel numbers 66-05506.000, 66-03852.000 and 66-03852.001.

Section 3: 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 comply with the Board of Property Maintenance Appeals' 90-day window for demolition, 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 2026-36

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-150

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO SELL THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 69 SYCHAR ROAD (PARCEL # 66-09207.001) NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE; 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 be and herewith is authorized and directed to sell the property at 69 Sychar Road (Parcel # 66-09207.001) 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 for the further reason that an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the various departments of the municipal government, and for the further reason to close on the property in a timely manner, 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 2026-37

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Police, Fire, and Civil Defense  
Miller, Hager

Category: Resolution

Prepared By:

Zac Sherman, City Clerk

Doc ID: 2026-154

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH COLLEGE TOWNSHIP AND KENYON COLLEGE TO PROVIDE FIRE AND EMS SERVICES FOR COLLEGE TOWNSHIP; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

SECTION 1: That the Safety Service Director be, and he herewith is, authorized and directed to enter into contract with College Township and Kenyon College to provide for fire and EMS services for College Township from the Mount Vernon Fire Department. A copy of the contract is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A.

SECTION 2: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and for the further reason to provide uninterrupted fire and EMS services to a neighboring township and said Resolution shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it received 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

## **CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES**

College Township and Kenyon College

5 Years: June 1, 2026 – May 31, 2031

THIS AGREEMENT is made by and between the City of Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, a Municipal Corporation, (hereinafter "City"), the Township of College, Knox County, Ohio (hereinafter "Township"), and Kenyon College, an educational institution, located in Gambier, Ohio (hereinafter "Kenyon") (and singly "Party" and jointly "Parties").

WHEREAS, the Township and Kenyon desire the services of the Mount Vernon Fire Department, a fire department established by the City, in case of fire or medical emergency occurring within the area known as College Township being located outside the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to provide such services based upon the following terms; and

WHEREAS, the Township and Kenyon are willing to pay a reasonable sum for such services;

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED by and between the Parties as follows:

1. For the period of June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2031, the Township and Kenyon will pay to the City \$500,000 for every twelve (12) months of the Agreement.
2. The Township and Kenyon collectively shall pay the City these sums in semi-annual installments within 30 calendar days of receipt by the Township and Kenyon of the invoice from the City. The Township and Kenyon collectively will be invoiced in the amount of \$250,000 every six (6) months beginning on June 1, 2026. Exhibit 1 (attached) includes the payment schedule for this Agreement. Exhibit 2 (attached) outlines the terms of Kenyon's contribution to this payment and becomes an integral part of this Agreement.
3. The City agrees to provide three (3) personnel twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week and 365 days per year to staff the Fire Station located at 102 East Brooklyn Street, Gambier, Ohio. Staffing shall consist of, one (1) sworn officer or acting officer, and two (2) additional Firefighter/Paramedics/EMTs. Should the Township desire to relocate the fire station to another location within their jurisdiction, the City agrees to staff that alternate location as it staffed the original location, so long as the facility meets minimum standards to operate as a fire station.
4. For the term of this Agreement and any extensions, the City agrees to maintain a volunteer program for the students of Kenyon. This volunteer program operates on a 12-month basis and will be limited only to students of Kenyon. The volunteer program will continue so long as there is interest among the students of Kenyon and so long as the program has no adverse effect on the operations of the Mount Vernon Fire Department. Prior to any decision to end the student volunteer program the City and Kenyon agree to meet to address

any adverse effects or other issues and identify a resolution. Only after all alternatives are considered will the City be permitted to end the student volunteer program.

5. The City agrees to provide necessary supplies, training and learning opportunities for interested students of Kenyon through the student volunteer program. This includes both formal and informal training activities for the students. Once adequately trained and certified, student volunteers will be permitted to sign up for shifts or otherwise respond to incidents alongside City personnel.
6. The Township will retain ownership of the Fire Station within its jurisdiction. This includes any maintenance, improvements, utilities, debt payments, and insurance on said facility. The Township will ensure the Fire Station meets minimum standards for occupancy as a fire station.
7. Any equipment purchased by the City, whether stored at the Fire Station or stored at other City facilities shall remain property of the City.
8. All Fire/EMS equipment related to the operations of the fire service, including emergency vehicles, are owned by the City and covered under the City's insurance.
9. The City agrees that the Fire Station will serve as a shared space with the Township. The Township will provide garage bays for exclusive use by the City for fire protection and EMS. The remaining space will be for exclusive Township use. The meeting room will be shared by the City and Township. The Township agrees to notify the City each year of its regular meeting schedule and provide reasonable notice for any special meetings that arise. The City and Township will identify a space for exclusive use by the Township for recordkeeping and administrative needs. Special meetings that arise. The City and Township will identify a space for exclusive use by the Township for recordkeeping and administrative needs.
10. The Township and the City agree that the City will continue the practice of billing for EMS Transport for the life of this Agreement. The City will retain all proceeds from EMS billings.
11. The City, through the Mount Vernon Fire Department, agrees to furnish fire and emergency medical services to persons and property within the Township for the period from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2026, in the event that such services are needed and sought by the Township.
12. The Mount Vernon Fire Department will exert the same diligence in protecting the persons and property of the Township within the designated coverage area as is required to exert to protect persons and property within the City. All parties will use their best efforts to maintain the ISO level 4 rating within the Village of Gambier.

13. Inspections of and familiarization with properties within the Township may be conducted at the discretion of the Mount Vernon Fire Chief or his or her designated agent.
14. It is understood and agreed to by all Parties that the City being available and ready to dispatch fire and emergency medical assistance in cases of fire or medical emergencies occurring in the Township is sufficient to fulfill the City's duty to furnish fire and emergency medical services regardless of whether any fire or medical emergencies actually occur during the covered periods.
15. This Agreement between the City, the Township and Kenyon shall be effective upon the execution by authorized representatives of all parties and shall remain in effect through May 31, 2026.
16. This Agreement will automatically renew at the then current terms, conditions and cost in five (5) year increments unless either party submits a request to terminate the Agreement no later than six (6) months of the Agreement's expiration. Review of the terms of the Agreement, including all fees, will continue every three (3) years. No provision in this Agreement shall prevent the Parties from agreeing to modify any of terms of this Agreement at any time.
17. Should any Party wish to terminate this Agreement, the City will continue to provide fire and emergency medical services to persons and property within the Township for a period up to one (1) year, at the then current annual rate, to allow the Township and Kenyon to arrange for alternative services.
18. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code §125.111, the City agrees that any subcontractor of the City and any person acting on behalf of the City or any subcontractors of the City, will not discriminate, by reason of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, national origin, or ancestry against any citizen of Ohio in the employment of any person qualified and available to perform the work under this Agreement. The City further agrees that the City, any subcontractor of the City, and any person acting on behalf of the City or any subcontractor of the City, shall not, in any manner, discriminate against, intimidate or retaliate against any employee hired for the performance of work under this Agreement on account of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, national origin, or ancestry. The protections of this paragraph will extend to the participants of the volunteer program.
19. The City agrees to comply with all applicable state and federal laws regarding a drug-free workplace. The City shall make a good faith effort to ensure that any City employee while on duty for the City and providing services pursuant to this Agreement will not purchase, transfer, use or possess illegal drugs or alcohol or abuse prescription drugs in any way.
20. The City, by executing this Agreement, certifies that the City is currently in compliance and will continue to comply with the requirements of Ohio Ethics law as provided by §102.04 of the Ohio Revised Code.

21. This Agreement will be governed by and construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of Ohio without regard to conflicts of laws, and any action will be brought in Knox County, Ohio.
22. The failure of any Party to insist at any time upon the strict observance or performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement will not (a) impair any such right or remedy, (b) be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of that right or remedy, nor (c) affect the enforceability of that provision or of the remainder of this Agreement. Every right and remedy given by this Agreement to the Parties may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient by the Parties.
23. The invalidity or unenforceability of any term or provision of this Agreement will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision.
24. The terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement constitute the entire understanding between the Parties with respect to the matters contained herein and supersede all prior agreements and representations whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be modified except in writing signed by authorized representatives of all Parties.
25. The City shall not use or disclose Protected Health Information ("PHI") except as provided within this Agreement solely to fulfill the specific contractual activities specified or as otherwise required under Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA") regulations or other applicable law. All subcontractors and agents of the City are limited to the uses or disclosures that the City is permitted to conduct.
26. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to waive or limit any immunity from, or limitation on, liability available to any Party, whether set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2744, or otherwise.
27. Notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, any and all payments which the Township is required to make under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds as certified by the Township Fiscal Officer. In the absence of availability as certified herein, this Agreement shall be immediately terminated without liability for damages, penalties or other charges to the Township. In the event this is a multi-year contract, this Agreement shall be subject to annual appropriation and in the event funds are not available, this Contract shall terminate immediately without liability for damages, penalties or charges to the Township.
28. The Township and Kenyon agree to hold any City employees performing services in conjunction with this Agreement individually harmless for any and all liability that may arise from performing their duties or failing to do so.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized officials.

**City of Mount Vernon, Ohio**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Safety Service Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Township of College, Ohio**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved as to Form:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Law  
Counsel for City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved as to Form:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Knox County Prosecutor  
Counsel for Township

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio**

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved as to Form:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Counsel for Kenyon College

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Exhibit 1**

Agreement Payment Schedule

<b>Invoice Date</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>
June 1, 2026	\$250,000
December 1, 2026	\$250,000
June 1, 2027	\$250,000
December 1, 2027	\$250,000
June 1, 2028	\$250,000
December 1, 2028	\$250,000
June 1, 2029	\$250,000
December 1, 2029	\$250,000
June 1, 2030	\$250,000
December 1, 2030	\$250,000

**Exhibit 2**

Kenyon College's Contribution to College Township's Payments

*[To be added]*



City Council  
City of Mount Vernon  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Scheduled

RESOLUTION 2026-38

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Finance & Budget  
Mahan, Severns  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-156

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO DISPOSE OF VEHICLES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Sections 721.01 and 721.15 authorize municipalities to dispose of personal property and vehicles no longer needed for municipal use.

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

SECTION 1: That the Council finds that the City of Mount Vernon Police Department owns the following vehicles that are no longer needed for public use. Council also finds that the value of the vehicle is in excess of \$1,000.00.

- 1) 2012-Gray-Ford-Fiesta VIN-3FADP4BJ1CM117944
- 2) 2013-White-Ford-F150 VIN-1FTEW1CM2DFA40446
- 3) 2005-Blue-Chevy-Colorado VIN-1GCDT196358120860
- 4) 1985-Red-ATC-Honda-3 Wheeler VIN-HON9430105

SECTION 2: That the Safety-Service Director for the City of Mount Vernon be authorized and directed to sell or dispose of the vehicles pursuant to any method authorized by Revised Code Section 721.15.

SECTION 3: 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 expediting the sale or trade of these items to return the proceeds to constructive use by 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.

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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 2026-39

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-157

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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 SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Vernon, Ohio desires to participate in the Program to receive financial assistance for the KNO-125040 SR-13 CORPO PROJECT (AKA N Sandusky Street & Upper Fredericktown Road) (PID 2541301).

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 Transportation Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program.

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, or his designee, is authorized and directed to apply to the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.

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

SECTION 3: 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 grant applications are due by May 26, 2026, 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 2026-40

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Finance & Budget  
Mahan, Severns  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-158

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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 Clark, Schaefer, Hackett in the amount of \$10,000.00 from line number 101.1300.54467, General Fund - Annual Report.
2. To Treasurer, State of Ohio, EPA in the amount of \$5,720.00 from line number 720.2820.53111, Wastewater Fund - Dues/Supplies/Incidentals.
3. To Kokosing Industrial Inc. in the amount of \$15,624.00.00 from line number 711.2800.54111, Wastewater OWDA Grant Fund - Contract Services.

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.

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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 2026-41

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Streets & Public Buildings  
Severns, Mahan  
Category: Resolution  
Prepared By:  
Zac Sherman, City Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-159

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**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS RELATED TO BROWNFIELDS REMEDIATION FOR THE MOUNT VERNON JUSTICE CENTER PROJECT AND THE SOUTH SANDUSKY STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (KNO-13D); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Development has advertised the availability of grant funds for remediation of brownfields; and

WHEREAS, certain information about the brownfields must be gathered prior to filing the grant application; and

WHEREAS, the City annually selects contractors through a Request for Qualifications for certain types of work which will be done that year, but the specific projects are unknown at the time of the advertisement for the Request for Qualifications; and

WHEREAS, Tetra Tech was selected as the City's brownfields consultant for 2026 based on its submission to the Engineering Department's Request for Qualifications.

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 contracts with Tetra Tech related to brownfields remediation and the application for ODOD grants for the Mount Vernon Justice Center Project and South Sandusky Street Project (KNO-13D).

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 the ODOD grant applications are due in May and time is of the essence to complete the grant applications, 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

ORDINANCE 2026-6

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM

Utilities

Ruckman, Miller

Category: Ordinance

Prepared By: Zac Sherman, City Clerk

Doc ID: 2026-101

**N ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 755.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING CURB-SIDE RECYCLING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

Section 1. That Section 755.04 (c) of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows (additions in **bold**, deletions in ~~striketrough~~):

c. Recycling Requirement: All haulers permitted to operate within the City are required to offer recycling services to all customers, except as exempted in this chapter, **in the same frequency that the hauler picks up solid waste (i.e. if the hauler picks up solid waste weekly, the hauler must also pick up recycling weekly).**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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  
ORDINANCE 2026-8

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Employee & Community  
Relations  
Keener, Ruckman  
Category: Ordinance  
Prepared By: Zac Sherman, City  
Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-111

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE SERVICES AND RESOURCE COORDINATOR; 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
Services and Resource Coordinator	1	\$21.57	\$25.88	\$30.20 (per hour)

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

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

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

Annual Longevity Increments after five (5) years:

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

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

SECTION 3: Exempt employees are expected to work as necessary, including outside of normal business hours, in the completion of their duties. Exempt employees will work with their supervisor in establishing their work schedule. The normal work week for non-exempt employees shall be forty (40) hours in pay status work on five (5) consecutive eight (8) hour days, Monday through Friday, exclusive of the time allotted for meals, during the period starting at 12:01 A. M. Sunday to 12:00 P. M. Midnight, Saturday, unless otherwise set by the employee's supervisor or appointing authority.

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 that this position serves as a central connection point between residents, City services, and community resources, and is necessary for the unhindered operation of the City, and said position shall become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

ORDINANCE 2026-9

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Utilities  
Ruckman, Miller  
Category: Ordinance  
Prepared By: Zac Sherman, City  
Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-112

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**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTERS 763 AND 773 OF THE CODIFIED  
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING TAXI CABS;  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

**Section 1.** That Chapter 763 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 763 - TAXICABS**

**763.01 LICENSE REQUIRED.**

No person shall operate for hire, upon the streets of the City, a taxicab or automobile for hire without first having obtained a license for the taxicab from the City Inspector.

**763.02 LICENSE FEE; EXPIRATION; TRANSFERABILITY.**

(a) Each taxicab or automobile kept for hire in the City shall be licensed and the owner thereof shall pay to the City Inspector, a license fee set by the Board of Control, annually for each taxicab or automobile kept for hire. The term "taxicab or automobile kept for hire" shall not be held to include motor busses, nor shall such terms be held to include any automobile leased or rented for private use without the services of a driver.

(b) All such licenses shall expire on midnight of the date shown on the license.

(c) Upon the application of the owner of a taxicab or automobile kept for hire, already licensed, the City Inspector may authorize the transfer of the license to another taxicab or automobile kept for hire, owned by the same person, firm or corporation for a fee to be set by the Board of Control

**763.03 INSURANCE REQUIRED.**

No license to operate any taxicab or automobile kept for hire shall be issued or renewed by the City Inspector, and no person shall operate or permit the operation of such unless and until the owner of same shall deposit and maintain on deposit with the City Inspector, a certificate of insurance of an insurance company and/or companies duly licensed to transact such business in the State, certifying that it is insuring the owner of such taxicab or automobile kept for hire and any chauffeur or driver operating the same, against loss from liability imposed by law for damages on account of bodily injuries or death with limits of not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to any one person, and three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for any one accident, and with a limit of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for damages to property resulting from such ownership, maintenance or use of such taxicab or automobile so kept for passenger hire in the City, and agreeing to pay to any judgment creditor, to the extent of the

respective amounts specified in such policy, any final judgment rendered against the assured or such operated by reason of such liability.

#### 763.04 CAB MARKING AND TYPES.

All cabs shall be plainly marked on rear with the name of person, firm or corporation owning same and number of the cab in letters and numerals of not less than three inches each. All cabs shall have four passenger doors and be of or a sedan, station wagon or SUV body type.

#### 763.05 SOLICITATIONS.

No chauffeur or driver of any taxicab, automobile kept for hire, or any other person while on the public streets or highways, or any other public place shall solicit patrons or passengers for such vehicle in any other way than in an ordinary tone or voice or by the display of a sign attached to his vehicle, such sign not to be more than eight inches square in size; and no chauffeur or driver of any taxicab or automobile kept for hire, or other persons, shall solicit patrons or passengers for such vehicle when more than three feet distant therefrom.

#### 763.06 CAB STANDS.

(a) The Safety-Service Director is herewith authorized and directed to designate locations on the public streets as cab stands. Each cab stand shall be appropriately marked by signs erected under the supervision of the Safety-Service Director. It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle other than a licensed taxicab in a cab stand.

(b) A licensed taxicab may be parked in any cab stand while such taxicab is in charge of its driver on duty awaiting a fare.

#### 763.07 DUTIES OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION.

(a) The Utilities Commission is authorized and empowered to establish and adopt such rules and regulations governing its procedure and duties as are reasonable, necessary and not inconsistent with the terms of any other City Ordinances regulating taxicabs or their operation. The Utilities Commission

(b) Decisions of the City Inspector regarding chapters 763 and 773 of these codified ordinances may be appealed to the Utilities Commission within thirty (30) days of the decision. Only the subject of the decision of the City Inspector may appeal the decision to the Utilities Commission. Any appeal must pay the appellate fee set by the Control Board.

#### 763.08 TAXICAB INSPECTIONS.

(a) Every taxicab shall be kept in a safe and sanitary operating condition at all times that it is being used as a taxicab.

(b) An owner or operator of any taxicab licensed, or in the process of being licensed, shall make such vehicle available for inspection upon the request of law enforcement of the City Inspector or his designee.

(c) Results of any inspections shall be forwarded to the Utilities Commission

#### 763.09 LICENSE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION.

The Utilities Commission is authorized and empowered to revoke or suspend the taxicab license of any person, partnership or corporation, or any agent or employee thereof that has violated any provisions of this Chapter or Chapter 773, or any of the other provisions of this Code, or when by

reason of incompetency, negligence or gross misconduct, the Board is of the opinion that in the interest of the Public the license should be revoked or suspended.

#### 763.10 PUBLIC SERVICE STREET REPAIR FUND.

All moneys paid as fees, or fines, as a result of compliance with this Chapter shall be paid into a fund known as the "Public Service Street Repair Fund". All moneys and receipts credited to such fund shall be for the sole purpose of repairing streets, avenues, alleys and lanes within the City.

#### 763.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on each subsequent offense, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

**Section 2.** That Chapter 773 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows:

### **CHAPTER 773 – TAXICAB DRIVERS**

#### 773.01 DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIRED.

(a) Each driver of a taxicab or automobile for hire in the City shall be required to maintain a current and valid driver's license issued by the State of Ohio.

(b) The Ohio driver's license requirement is in addition to the requirement of a current and valid license, issued by the City Inspector, to operate a taxicab or automobile for hire within the City.

(c) No owner of a taxicab or automobile for hire shall employ a driver who has not received, and maintained, proper licensing from the City.

#### 773.02 LICENSE APPLICATION, QUALIFICATIONS.

(a) The application for license for each driver, of any taxicab or automobile for hire, will be available from the City Inspector or found on the City's website.

(b) Every application submitted will be reviewed by the City Inspector, or his designee, for consideration and can be denied for any of the following reasons:

(1) Applicant is under eighteen (18) years of age.

(2) Application is incomplete, inaccurate or is not legible.

(3) Applicant is deemed a risk to public safety and convenience due to criminal record, driving record, current criminal investigations or any unacceptable behavior during the application process.

#### 773.03 LICENSE FEE; REVOCATION.

(a) Upon satisfactory fulfillment of the foregoing requirements and payment to the City of the annual fee set by the Board of Control, the City shall issue a license.

(b) All licenses issued remain the property of the City of Mount Vernon and may be suspended or revoked as provided for in this Code.

(c) Any lost, stolen or severely damaged license shall be reported to the City Inspector or his designee who may charge for the replacement license.

(d) All such licenses shall expire on midnight of the date shown on the license.

773.04 DISPLAY OF LICENSE.

(a) Every driver licensed under this Chapter shall have his license displayed in his taxicab or motor vehicle for hire so it is clearly visible to passengers.

(b) Every driver licensed under this Chapter shall provide his driver’s license, taxicab license, or other documentation at the request of any law enforcement officer.

773.05 DENIAL OF LICENSE, APPEAL PROCESS.

If, for any reason, the City Inspector denies or rejects any application for a taxicab license, a written appeal may be submitted to the Utilities Commission.

773.06 PUBLIC SERVICE STREET REPAIR FUND.

All moneys paid as fees, or fines, as a result of compliance of this Chapter shall be paid into the “Public Service Street Repair Fund.”

773.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on each subsequent offense, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree.

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

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

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

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

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

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



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**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 183.013 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

Section 1. That Section 183.013 of the City Codified Ordinances shall be amended as follows (additions in **bold**, deletions in ~~strikethrough~~):  
183.013 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

(A) The first one percent (1%) of the funds collected under the provisions of this chapter shall be credited in the following manner:

(1) Such part thereof as shall be necessary to defray all the costs of collecting the tax and the cost of administering and enforcing the provisions thereof.

(2) ~~(a)~~ Not more than **Fifty-four percent (54%)** ~~fifty-two (52%)~~ of the net available income tax receipts shall be placed in the General Fund and used to defray operating expenses in and of the City.

~~(b) A provision shall be made for a sufficient amount of income tax receipts to be deposited into the Bond Retirement Income Tax Fund to retire the debt service associated with the issuance of bonds for the construction of a maintenance building for the street department, the water department and the wastewater department. At such time the bonds have been fully retired, this provision shall be repealed, and the receipts shall be credited to the General Fund.~~

(3) At least **fifteen percent (15%)** ~~nineteen and one-half percent (19.5%)~~ of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for capital improvements of the City, including, but not limited to, development and construction of sewers; to provide for improvement and maintenance of public buildings; for equipment necessary for police, fire, street, and service departments; and to provide for parks and playgrounds.

(4) At least three percent (3%) of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for street construction, maintenance and repair funds.

(5) At least one percent (1%) of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for the police pension fund.

(6) At least one percent (1%) of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside

for the fire pension fund.

(7) At least four percent (4%) of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for the cemetery fund.

(8) At least **eleven percent (11%)** ~~nineteen and one-half percent (19.5%)~~ of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for the roads and bridges fund.

**(9) At least eleven percent (11%) of the net available income tax receipts shall be set aside for the Municipal Facilities Improvement Fund.**

Section 2. Any provision in legislation previously adopted which is in conflict with this Ordinance is repealed.

Section 3. The amendment of Section 183.013 as set forth in this Ordinance shall become effective on the first day of the month immediately following the Ordinance’s effective date.

Section 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public, peace, health and safety, and to establish the allocation of city income tax for the upcoming fiscal year, and said Ordinance shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

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

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

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

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

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



SCHEDULED

**Ordinance 2026-11**

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**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON REGARDING VEHICLE STORAGE WITHIN THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Mount Vernon finds it necessary to regulate the storage of large equipment to maintain the aesthetic character and safety of residential neighborhoods.

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

**Section 1.** That the title of Chapter 1309 of the Codified Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows (deletion is in ~~strikethrough~~):

~~Motor~~-Vehicle Storage

**Section 2.** That Section 1309.02 of the Codified Ordinances be replaced with the following:

**1309.02 STORAGE OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND BOATS**

(a) Definitions

- (1) Recreational Vehicle (RV): Includes recreational homes, campers, and travel trailers designed for temporary living quarters.
- (2) Boat: Any vessel or watercraft, including its transport trailer.
- (3) Utility Trailer: A non-recreationalized vehicle designed to be pulled by another, used for transporting goods, equipment, or materials.
- (4) Enclosed Utility Trailer: A utility trailer characterized by a permanent roof and side walls that fully enclose the cargo area.
- (5) Total Trailers: The cumulative count of all boat trailers, RV trailers, and utility trailers on a single property.
- (6) Improved Surface- a surface constructed of concrete, pavers, asphalt, gravel, or other substance as approved by city zoning ordinances.

(b) Storage Location and Limits

- (1) Driveway Storage: Boats, campers (RVs), and Enclosed Utility Trailers may be stored on an improved surface, provided they meet the specific requirements in subsection (c) and the size restrictions in subsection (d).

- (2) General Utility Trailer Restrictions: Except as provided in subsection (3) below, utility trailers are strictly prohibited from being stored in any front yard or driveway. They must be stored:
    - (A) Within a completely enclosed garage; or
    - (B) In the rear yard, provided they are screened from public view.
  - (3) Exception for Enclosed Utility Trailers: An enclosed utility trailer may be stored in a driveway if it meets the following criteria:
    - (A) The trailer box length is under fourteen (14) feet. Any enclosed utility trailer fourteen (14) feet or longer shall be subject to the same restrictions as general utility trailers defined in subsection (2);
    - (B) It is stored in well maintained condition with no visible rust, damage, or structural wear; and
    - (C) It displays no business logos, commercial advertisements, or professional signage.
  - (4) Temporary Utility Trailer Storage: Standard (non-enclosed) utility trailers may be parked in a driveway for up to 72 hours for purposes of use, loading, or maintenance. Moving or repositioning the trailer does not reset this time limit. A minimum of 48 hours must pass between storage events.
  - (5) Storage on a Public Way: No person shall park or leave standing any trailer on a public street for more than 72 hours. After 72 hours, the trailer must be moved at least 500 feet off the public way for at least 24 hours before returning.
  - (6) Numerical Limit:
    - (A) No more than two (2) total trailers may be stored on any residential lot at one time, regardless of type or location.
    - (B) No more than one (1) such unit shall be permitted to be stored in a driveway at any time.
    - (C) Of the two permitted trailers, only one (1) may be a utility trailer.
- (c) Maintenance and Aesthetic Restrictions
- (1) Maintenance Requirements:
    - (A) All stored vehicles and trailers must be in good repair, operable, and bear a current, valid license plate and registration.
    - (B) Enclosed Utility Trailers stored in driveways must be kept in a well-maintained aesthetic condition as determined by the City Inspector or Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer.
    - (C) Vehicles must not be used for living, sleeping, or housekeeping purposes while stored.
    - (D) No fixed connections to water, gas, or sanitary sewer are permitted.
  - (2) Visual Standards:
    - (A) Stored items must be kept clean. Accumulation of debris under or around the vehicle is prohibited.
    - (B) Enclosed Utility Trailers stored in driveways must be free of all business logos, commercial branding, or promotional decals.

(d) Driveway Placement and Fit

- (1) Encroachment Prohibited: No unit parked in a driveway shall extend into or over any public right-of-way, including sidewalks or streets.
- (2) Dimensional Fit: The unit must appropriately fit within the designated improved surface driveway. It shall not be parked on grass or unimproved surfaces.
- (3) Safety Clearances: Units must be parked in a manner that does not obstruct the view of traffic for vehicles exiting the driveway or traveling on adjacent roadways.

(e) Removal

- (1) Notice to Remove. Whenever there are reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of the provisions of this section exists, the City Inspector, Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer and/or the Chief of Police, or their designees, shall give, or cause to be given, written notice to the registered owner of any vehicle that is in violation of this section, or to the owner or person in lawful possession or control of the private property upon which such vehicle is located, or to both the registered owner and the owner or person in lawful possession of such private property, by certified mail with return receipt or by personal service, that such vehicle violates the provisions of this section and that within five days, the vehicle is to be removed to a place of lawful storage or to be housed in a building where it will not be visible from the street.
- (2) Removal by City. In addition to any other penalty prescribed in Chapter 1399, if the registered owner of any vehicle which is in violation of this section, or the owner or person in lawful possession or control of the private property upon which the same is located, fails, neglects or refuses to remove or house such vehicle in accordance with the notice given pursuant to the provisions of subsection (e)(1), the City Inspector, Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer and/or the Chief of Police may remove and dispose of such vehicle as provided in Chapter 359.
- (3) Right of Entry. The City Inspector, Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer and/or the Chief of Police, any contracting agent of the City, any employee of such contracting agent, and any authorized officer, employee or agent of the City, are expressly authorized to enter upon private property for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this section. No person shall interfere, hinder or refuse to allow them to enter upon private property for such purpose and to remove any vehicle pursuant to this section. Any person to whom notice was given pursuant to subsection (e)(1) hereof shall have the right to remove or house such vehicle at his own expense at any time prior to the arrival of the City Inspector, Property Maintenance Enforcement Officer and/or the Chief of Police or their designees for the purpose of removal.

**Section 3.** That Section 1399.03 of the Codified Ordinances be amended to read as follows (additions are in **bold**, deletions are in ~~striketrough~~):

1399.03 ~~MOTOR~~ VEHICLE STORAGE VIOLATIONS.

- (a) Whoever violates Section 1309.01 is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(b) Whoever violates Section 1309.02 is guilty of a minor misdemeanor **for a first offense. Any subsequent violation within a 12-month period shall constitute a fourth degree misdemeanor. Each day such violation continues shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.**

(c) **In any instance where the City incurs any expenses or fines, including but not limited to legal costs and fees, because of any person or entity's violation or failure to comply with any provisions and requirements in chapter 1309, the expenses incurred, plus an administrative fee which shall be no more than the expenses incurred shall be recovered from the person or entity.**

(d) **Any amounts owed to the City of Mount Vernon pursuant to any provision or requirements of chapter 1309, whether for work completed by the City or for assessed penalties or expenses, may be certified by the City Inspector or his designee as a lien against the property with the Knox County Auditor for collection in the same manner as property taxes and assessments.**

**Section 4.** This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public, peace, health and safety by properly regulating storage of vehicles within 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, 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

ORDINANCE 2026-12

Meeting 4/13/2026 7:30 PM  
Land Use & Development  
Jacklin, Keener  
Category: Ordinance  
Prepared By: Zac Sherman, City  
Clerk  
Doc ID: 2026-155

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**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1102 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES  
OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

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

SECTION 1. That Section 1102.03 of the City Codified Ordinances shall be amended as follows (deletion is in ~~striketrough~~):

In addition to any other authority granted to the City Council by ordinance or State law, the City Council shall have the following powers and duties, as it relates to this code:

- (a) Initiate, hear, review, and make decisions related to amendments to the text of this code or the zoning map;
- (b) Hear, review, and make decisions related to Planned Developments in accordance with Chapter 1107: Planned Development Districts;
- (c) Review and accept, where appropriate, any proposed dedication of streets, utilities, and other public improvements required by this code;
- (d) Establish fees for development review procedures, certificates, and permits outlined in this code;
- ~~(e)~~ Perform any other duties related to the administration and enforcement of this code as authorized by this code and the ORC.

SECTION 2. That Section 1102.06 of the City Codified Ordinances shall be created as follows:

**1102.06 Control Board**

In addition to any other authority granted to the Control Board by ordinance or State law, the Control Board shall have the powers and duties to establish fees for development review procedures, certificates, and permits as it relates to this code.

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

SECTION 4: This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public, peace, health and safety, and to establish a process to appropriately assess fees for development within the City, and said Ordinance shall, therefore, become effective upon its date of passage and approval by the Mayor, provided that it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to the Council of the City of Mount Vernon; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

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

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

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