

MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL

Council Minutes

September 11, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mt. Vernon City Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Weston Frank, with the following council members present: D. Anderson, Sherri Kayser, D. Renken, D. Moke and R. DeKok. Also present were employees: Maintenance Officer R. Stahl, Finance Officer L. Mayclin, and Librarian Ardis Overweg. Attending for public participation were: Steve Harr, Jaylon Tollefson, and Chase Jons.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited to begin the meeting. All motions are unanimously approved unless otherwise stated.

Motion by Renken, second by Kayser to approve the agenda.

Council had a discussion about boulevard trees, deciding if the city sees any trees that are a problem/hazard we will offer to help by, after the homeowner has removed them, the city will haul the debris to the dump. We had a recent issue with a dog running at large, eventually cornering two juveniles. The problem was properly called in, then investigated by the sheriff's department. The offending pet owner plead guilty to the charges and was sentenced. This is the second animal situation being handled by law enforcement this year. Reminders: If you have a problem with a pet running at large in the city, please call it in. If you are a pet owner, please keep your pets in your control at all times.

The contract for the Sheriff's Department will be renegotiated in the 2025 budget.

Jons reported that we would need to get a full report from SPN for the work on Northview Rd. He questioned how good drainage patches would work and suggests that one option would be to remove the south side curb at the ditch. Council also discussed adding an access to the west end of Northview at the black top road, though the county has rejected that idea previously, saying it is too close to the access on the other side of the ditch at 7th Ave and the blacktop. Anderson said he would contact other residents on Northview to see what they think about the removal of the curb and additional access to the west.

Overweg gave an update on the city library, which is located within the school library. The City Library hours are Monday 3-6 pm, Wednesday 3-6 pm and Saturday 9-12 am. She says they have activities for the kids throughout the year and presented a packet of information to the council members. Council members wondered if there was anything they could do to help get the word out. Anderson said he would be willing to kick off a new reading program, where guests from the city come in and read books to the kids. Several council members said they would be willing to read. Mayclin said she would make the library more visible on the city website.

Motion by Anderson, second by Renken to approve the following consent items for August: Financial Statement, Council Minutes, General Fund Balances, Credits Report/Bank Statement and Payment of Bills. Bills:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Water</u> <u>Deposits</u>	<u>City Tax</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Description</u>
Weston Frank	170.85					wages
David Anderson	60.03					wages
Connor Powell	60.03					wages
Dave Renken	60.03					wages
Sherri Kayser	60.03					wages
Roger DeKok	60.03					wages
Darin Moke	60.03					wages
Ardis Overweg	589.79					wages
Ryan Stahl	3,229.42	230.87				wages
Laura Mayclin	998.21					wages
Glen Wentland	192.77					wages
MV School	75.00					rent

Davison Rural Water		7,072.70			water
SD Retirement	536.60				retire
Verizon	61.12				util
Santel	234.89			45.58	util
Northwestern Energy	1,261.40	96.09	22.66	230.10	util
Davison Co Sheriff	1,800.00				fees
L&L	5,151.00				garb
Forum Communications	42.96				publ
SD State Treasurer (DOR)	288.90				sales tax
CorTrust	1,602.64	38.26			941
Westy's	44.16				Fuel
Ardis Overweg	153.72				books
3E				710.00	Repairs
Menards	204.77				Maint
Carquest	102.96				Repairs
John Deere Financial	8,741.90				Lease
SD DOH		30.00			Lab
Kalissa Mayclin	50.00				Maint
Ryan Stahl - Exp	195.80				Deposit Refund
SDPAA	163.85				Insurance
J&W Mktg	320.00				Mgmt
Morgan Theeler	399.00				Legal
MVG&O	738.41				Fuel
Cortrust Visa	262.79	250.59			Maint
Davison County	204.00				Maint
Zach Scott Const	9,091.56				Repairs
Metering & Technology		287.68			Maint
SDRS	104.51				retire
Elfstrand's Ace Hardware	723.33				Maint
Dave Steele	4,500.00				Supplies

OLD BUSINESS

1. The Elevator will be using The Hall for their meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. We will be trying to get more information about renting The Hall to the public.
2. Stahl and Mayclin submitted the list of trees to the Conservation District for ordering. Stahl will meet with them when they are ready to plant the trees. Mayclin will get the tree ordering information to Anderson, so he can look into grants.
3. After finding several instances of ordinances in need of attention, Frank will be looking over them all thoroughly and bringing corrections to the council for approval. One such ordinance is 1.8 on the Parks Department. Mayclin will look through old records to determine what happened to the board, as it hasn't been in use for many years.
4. The new city space is supposed to be ready to begin moving in soon. We will need to talk to someone about moving the tower (currently at the school) with the water meter reading equipment. Anderson suggested using money from Economic Development department for the cost of moving. Mayclin suggests we should look into a night drop box, secure doors and surveillance at the new office space.
5. Motion by Anderson, second by Renken to have the 2nd reading and adoption of the 2023 Budget Ordinance.
6. The new flood maps have come back from FEMA. Anderson followed up with them after the maps came back last month, and they were not accurate. They appear to be accurate at this time and should be in effect in 7-10 months.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Stahl will be looking at lead lines over the coming months. The county would like to place a street light at the end of main (at Hwy 16) and asked if the city would cover the cost of monthly electricity through Northwestern Energy. Council approved it. Council approved the purchase of a large Christmas light show with Renken making a motion and Kayser seconding the motion to add that bill for \$4,500 to Dave Steele in the August bills. Anderson will look into grant money to have a community event in celebration of the Holidays. Council is looking at holding the event on December 16.
2. Mayclin reported on the upcoming SDML Conference, which is for all city employees/representatives.
3. Mayclin reported that she has looked into the cost of text alerts through several companies. The one that looked like the best option was offered by My Town Text, which offers service for \$50 a month plus \$.04 per text (so each person notified is \$.04.) Council advised to go ahead and get us set up.
4. L&L Sanitation contacted the city to ask about dumpsters from other companies, asking if the city has any ordinances requiring residents to use his service for dumpsters. He was advised that the city doesn't choose the service provider for the residents, but that we would be happy to mention that he does provide that service. Frank suggested he may need to advertise the services he offers. Mayclin is also looking into Ordinance 6.7.9, which council says was changed from 35 gallons many years ago. She will look back at council minutes to see what she finds.
5. The message board at the post office is in need of repairs. Stahl is looking into the message board repairs.
6. Council discussed the ordinance on burning in the city limits, agreeing that it does not seem to prohibit fire pits/tables.
7. The Fall Citywide Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.
8. No executive session for personnel and legal SDCL 1-25-2.1 and 2.3 was required.

Motion by Kayser, second by Moke to adjourn at 10:02 p.m.

Weston Frank
Mayor

Laura Mayclin
Finance Officer

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