

NORTH VERNON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CARNEGIE GOVERNMENT CENTER
DECEMBER 12, 2016

The meeting was opened by Mayor Mike Ochs with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk-Treasurer Gerkin completed roll call:

Mayor- Mike Ochs

Clerk-Treasurer- R Shawn Gerkin

Attorney- Larry Greathouse

Councilmembers-Brian Hatfield

Jack Kelley

Jerry Lamb

Connie Rayburn

Trent Wisner (arrived at 6:05)

Assistant Clerk-Treasurer- Rita Elmore (absent)

Guests present: Jeff Shinolt, Dave Kopitzke, Barbara King, Tyler Stock, Randall Marshall, Ashley Trepanier, Janet Lewellyn, Jessica Heyward, Kyle Heyward, Sarah Horan, Tracy Eder, Angie Trepanier, Norman Trepanier Sr., Brenda Rawlinson, Sheila Wilson, Ron Trepanier, Russell Vaught, Wes Thayer, and Anthony Bagby.

Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to accept the minutes of the November 28, 2016 City Council meeting as written and presented, seconded by Councilman Lamb. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief James Webster informed Council that the Safety Board had approved the hiring of Shane Trepanier at their last meeting and requested the approval of the hire from Council. After a brief discussion of Mr. Trepanier's history through the hiring process; Councilman Kelley made the motion to approve the hiring of Mr. Trepanier as the City's newest police officer, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Ochs performed the oath of office ceremony with Officer Trepanier with his wife and family in attendance.

Tyler Stock presented Council with an idea for a beautification project for the City of North Vernon. Mr. Stock, with the help of Councilman Kelley, has identified 17 spots in the City that have a common garden area. His plan is to have businesses and individuals be willing to sponsor an area in exchange for placement of an advertisement in the area, similar to what is currently being done in the Town of Vernon. The City would only be responsible for purchasing the advertisement signs and the purchase of mulch. The sponsor would be responsible for spreading the mulch, water flowers, pulling weeds, and cleaning trash from their specified area. Council agreed to the idea. No motions or action was taken at this time.

Councilman Lamb made the motion to appoint Keith Stearns and Pat York as Council appointments to the North Vernon Redevelopment Commission for 2017, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire Chief Mike Cole presented Council with several transfer requests. The first 6 transfer requests discussed were to clean up negative amounts in the fire budget. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the transfer of funds, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0. Chief Cole then requested the transfer of funds from 11 additional lines to appropriation 101-000-07-216 (equipment) for purchase of a 2014 Chevrolet 1500 truck from Country Chevrolet. Chief Cole explained that the current chief vehicle was showing some age and wear. He also explained that it was important to have a vehicle large enough for medical equipment, as well as four wheel drive to get to various places during the winter months. Chief Cole had obtained a price of \$30,000.00 for the truck from Country, and another price of \$29,700.00 from a Ford from Garlitch Ford. It was pointed out that the Chevy truck had a higher wholesale

value. At that point, Councilman Hatfield made the motion to purchase the Chevy truck from Country Chevrolet, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0. Councilman Hatfield subsequently made the motion to approve the 11 transfer requests to equipment to purchase the truck, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin presented a transfer request from Street Commission Rick Marksberry for transfer of funds within the Waste Disposal budget. The request included a transfer amount of \$5155.11 from 270-000-01-206 (diesel) to appropriations for uniforms, CDL costs, bank charges, drug testing, and landfill charges, as well as \$325.05 from 270-000-01-204 (oil/garage) and 270-000-01-207 (tires/tubes/batteries) to landfill charges. Councilman Kelley made the motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Councilwoman Rayburn. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Webster asked Council for a motion to transfer a total of \$15,807.29 from various funds to appropriations for equipment and overtime. Chief Webster explained that the shortage of officers and a health issue with one of the current officers caused the need for more overtime than expected. Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Webster and Clerk Treasurer Gerkin discussed with Council the possibility of transferring any additional funds from within the police budget at the end of the year to the City's Rainy Day Fund, in hopes of setting aside enough money in time to expand the police station. It was agreed a request for that transfer would be presented to the Board of Public Works & Safety at a future meeting.

Golf Director Robin Brown explained to Council the erosion problem occurring from water runoff from the airport problem. The runoff of water is not only causing annual problems such as the need to reseed areas of grass being killed, but causing damage to the course (specifically on holes #3 and #8). The golf committee received a bid from Dave O'Mara's Contractors Inc. to repair the problem at a cost of \$38,000.00. Mr. Brown explained he would go to the NVRC for financial help in solving the problem.

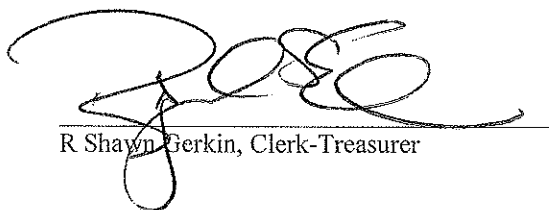
Councilwoman Rayburn pointed out a problem with trains parking and running all night on the CSX tracks. Chief Webster agreed the noise is a violation of the City's noise ordinance. Mayor Ochs vowed to try to contact the railroad and see if the trains could be moved.

Clerk Treasurer Gerkin reminded Council they are required to sign an annual certification that they have complied with the City's nepotism notice by years end. Also, he reminded those in attendance the second meeting of December has been cancelled due to the Christmas holiday.

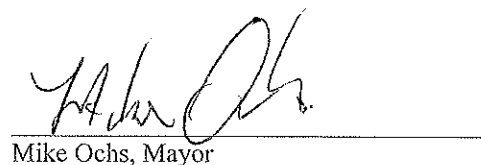
Councilwoman Rayburn made the motion to pay the claims presented, seconded by Councilman Wisner. Motion to pay the claims carried 5-0.

Councilman Hatfield made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Kelley. Motion to adjourn carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.



R Shawn Gerkin, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Ochs, Mayor