

MOUNT VERNON CITY COUNCIL

Council Minutes

April 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the Mount Vernon City Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by mayor Weston Frank. The following council members were present: Austin Kayser, Dave Renken, Sherri Kayser, Roger DeKok and Cameron Deinert. Absent was council member Matt Geidel. City employees present: Maintenance Officer Ryan Stahl and Finance Officer Laura Mayclin. The following were present for public participation: Sheriff Steve Harr, Glen Meinke, Rhonda Baker, Dani Stange, and Chase Jons.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. All motions are unanimously approved unless otherwise stated.

Motion by Renken, seconded by Deinert, to approve the agenda.

Glen Meinke attended the meeting to discuss the upcoming grading of an alley. He was concerned that the properties on the north side will have the potential for flooding if it gets graded. Stahl noted that the plan is to grade the south edge to allow the water to move on down the alley. Since the work is scheduled to be done tomorrow (April 8) Frank suggested Stahl and Meinke could work together to get the best solution. Stahl and Meinke agreed to meet in the morning.

Sheriff Harr reported a few dog calls, but nothing serious. He also mentioned a recent juvenile break in. The juveniles were caught, and this will hopefully not occur again. NOTE from Sheriff Harr: It is advised to lock cars and homes to prevent theft, especially as we move out of winter into better weather.

Rhonda Baker and Dani Stange attended the meeting to discuss the encroachment of property on 6th Avenue. Baker said they used the shed on Stange property to determine the property line for building their apartments on Main Street. Unfortunately, the shed had been built on the city property, which is the most west extension of 6th Ave, should the city decide to extend it. Therefore, the apartment in the northmost position was built on city property. At last month's meeting, council decided to send a letter acknowledging the error in the building site, but they were not planning to follow up with further action, with the exception of addressing building code ordinance and permits so we might avoid this situation going forward. Council wants to come to a resolution that is best for both the city and the community. Council discussed various options for handling this specific situation and decided to agree to the following. Motion by Deinert, seconded by A. Kayser to vacate the property, seeking reimbursement for all costs incurred from the Bakers. Renken opposed the motion, which passed by a 4-1 vote.

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Description</u>
Weston Frank	170.85			wages
Cameron Deinert	60.03			wages
Austin Kayser	60.03			wages
Dave Renken	60.03			wages
Sherri Kayser	60.03			wages
Roger DeKok	60.03			wages
Matt Geidel	60.03			wages
Ardis Overweg	627.28			wages
Ryan Stahl	4,367.53	235.49		wages
Laura Mayclin	1,405.67			wages
Davison Rural Water		7,997.50		water
SD Retirement	727.24			retire
Verizon	62.77			util
Santel	231.42		47.24	util
Northwestern Energy	2,310.43	277.90	198.13	util
City of Mitchell	937.44			garb
SD State Treasurer (DOR)	288.23			sales tax

SD-DOH		15.00		Lab
CorTrust	2,173.41	39.02		941
SD Unempl Ins	67.00			Unempl Ins
SD 811	4.20			Locates
Menards	2,026.35			supplies
Westy's	373.66			Fuel
Ardis Overweg	241.07			supplies
Mother Earth News	39.95			supplies
Smithsonian	39.99			supplies
A&G Diesel	48.15			Repairs
SD Fed Prop	553.50			supplies
Mustang Welding	120.30			Repairs
Carquest	102.68			Repairs
Doug's	39.56			Maint.
Cortrust Visa	1,552.60	112.00	2,390.27	supplies
Udrive Technology	100.04			Util
Badger Meter		39.24		Repairs
Dakota Pump			780.00	Maint.
J&W Mktg	160.00			Mgmt
Davison County	640.11			Repairs
Ryan Baker	10,468.26			New Bldg
Hohbach Elect	1,154.35			Maint.
SDRS	37.12			retire
Roadhunter	950.00			Park Dept Project

OLD BUSINESS

1. Council continues to work toward dealing with code enforcement issues. They are looking in their wards for possible nuisance properties, hoping the spring citywide cleanup will help some.
2. Council will be working on building permits to help prevent future issues.
3. REMINDER: April 22 is election day. Early voting is occurring now through April 21 at the Davison County Courthouse. This is a simple yes or no vote to have an ambulance district, which will see to our ambulance needs in Mount Vernon.
4. Motion by S. Kayser, seconded by DeKok to approve the 2nd reading of the FEMA Floodplain Ordinance. A separate notice will be posted with more information regarding this ordinance.
5. Mayclin sent follow up information to ISO in regards to the fire department training. We are hopeful that this information will help lower the ISO rating. We are awaiting a response from ISO to see what the next steps are.
6. Frank asked council to consider what is a reasonable amount to charge per unit for utilities on multi-family properties. Mayclin will seek additional information from SDML on same.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Maintenance Officer Stahl reported that Renken is still planning to assist Geno with garbage while he is gone in the coming weeks. Geno will be working as necessary, but not a normal schedule. Stahl mentioned that he would like to put steel exterior over the old shop building at 2nd and Main Street this summer, while he has help. The cost would be about \$5,000, with them doing it themselves. He plans to have the county grade the gravel roads in town tomorrow. Council mentioned looking into portable speed bumps for slowing traffic throughout town.
2. Mayclin inquired as to the pay rate for Geno, while he covers for Stahl. Stahl suggested paying Geno the same rate he is at, especially since it won't be full-time. Council agreed, saying that it would be a different rate if he helps Stahl out during the summer with mowing, etc. Mayclin also mentioned that she had received notification that the mosquito control funding has been reduced and there may not be funding in the future.

3. Spring Citywide Cleanup is scheduled for May 17, 2025. We will put flyers out with specifics.
4. Council is concerned about rental properties in town that pose a public hazard and/or nuisance. They are preparing and sending a list to Frank to look into these properties. Frank is checking with the attorney to see what our options are.
5. Council discussed which organizations to contribute to this year, deciding on the following \$1,000 donations: Senior Citizens, American Legion, and MV Baseball Association. Renken was opposed to the donation for the baseball association because of all the funds that have gone to improve the baseball fields in the last couple of years.
6. No executive session for personnel and legal SDCL 1-25-2.1 and 2.3 was required.

Motion by Renken, seconded by A. Kayser to adjourn at 9:16 pm.

Weston Frank
Mayor

Laura Mayclin
Finance Officer

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