City of Mount Vernon, New York

1 ROOSEVELT SQ. RM. 104 CITY HALL, MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK 10550 & VIA FACEBOOK.COM/MOUNTVERNONNY



Meeting Agenda - Final

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 7:00 PM

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL

City Council

NICOLE BONILLA, M.B.A. City Clerk

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF THE MOUNT VERNON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025.

Scheduled for 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, Mount Vernon, New York.

*** This meeting was held in the City Council Chambers, with virtual participation via ZOOM and CMVNY Facebook. The meeting was not closed to the public.***

PRESIDING: Danielle Browne, President

OTHERS: Nicole Bonilla, City Clerk; Antoinette Anderson, Legislative Aide; Johan Powell,

Deputy Corporation Counsel.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Danielle Browne called the meeting to order and provided general house-keeping rules, including encouraging citizens to share the meeting on social media and what to do "in case of emergency". Council President Browne explained the 3-minute-plus-1 public comment rule. She then asked a Councilperson to lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council President then proceeded to the Public Speakers session of the evening (listed below as public comment).

PUBLIC COMMENT

REFERRAL SESSION

Roll Call administered by City Clerk Nicole Bonilla

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND ACTION THEREON

To the Council:

LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

1. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Advertisement Bids for the Resurfacing of Various Streets in the City of Mount Vernon, New York: 2025-2026

Code: LPW

2. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with Partners in Safety for Drug and Alcohol Testing Services for the Department of Public Works to Comply with U.S. Department of Transportation Regulations

Code: LPW

3. Department of Public Works: An Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of Three (3) Trees from Neighbors That Care, Inc. for Planting on South Columbus Avenue Near the Graham School Parking Lot

Code: LPW

4. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing and Supporting the "HIV-Aids Awareness Walk - Breaking Stigmas One Step at a Time" to be Held on Saturday, June 21, 2025

Code: LPV

5. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mount Vernon Recreation Department to Co-Sponsor the Annual Juneteenth Walk and Celebration and Interfaith Health Fair in Partnership with the Yusuf Shah Islamic Center and to Appropriate Funds for the Event - (Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

Code: LPW

6. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Department of Recreation to Co-Sponsor 'City Fest 2025' in Partnership with Friends of Mount Vernon, Recreation and Youth Programs, Inc., and for Related Purposes - (Saturday, September 13, 2025, with a rain date of Sunday, September 14, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

Code: LPW

7. Board of Water Supply: An Ordinance Retroactively Authorizing Attendance at the 2025 Mayors Water Council Meeting

Code: LPW

8. Board of Water Supply: An Ordinance Authorizing the Amendment of the Salary of the Senior Account Clerk Position in the Board of Water Supply

Code: LPW

To the Council:

HUMAN RESOURCES

9. Department of Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Department of Recreation to Sponsor the Annual Summer Breeze Concert Series and Accept Monetary Donations to Support said Series

Code: HR

To the Council:

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODES

10. Department of Public Safety: An Ordinance Authorizing the Acceptance of Twelve (12) Parking Spaces from the Montefiore Health System for the Use of the Mount Vernon Police Department

Code: PSC

11. Department of Public Safety: An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Equipment from FARO Technologies for the Criminal Investigation Unit of the Department of Public Safety and Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirements

Code:

PSC

12. Department of Public Safety: An Ordinance Authorizing Two (2) Members of Service from the Department of Public Safety to Attend the Avigilon Unity Training in Somerville, Massachusetts - (May 13, 2025, to May 15, 2025)

Code:

PSC

To the Council:

FINANCE AND PLANNING

13. Office of the Comptroller: An Ordinance Authorizing the Adoption of the Installment Plan Standard Terms and Conditions for Delinquent Tax Payment Agreements

Code:

FP

14. Office of the Comptroller: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Payment Plan Agreement with the New York State Department of Civil Service for Outstanding Health Insurance Premium Arrears

Code:

FP

15. Office of the Comptroller: An Ordinance Authorizing the Comptroller to Enter into a Partnership with Aflac to Offer Voluntary Supplementary Dental Benefits to Employees through Payroll Deduction

Code:

FP

ADD-ON

HUMAN RESOURCES

16. Youth Bureau: An Ordinance Granting Permission to the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau (MVYB) to Utilize City Hall Plaza on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, to Host the Youth Mental Wellness Fest "Vibe Check" through the Ready4Life Program

Code:

HR

LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

17. City Clerk: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon to Appoint Nia Howard Fenton to the Tree Advisory Board Pursuant to Chapter 252, Section 252-17 of the Code (April 23, 2025 to April 22, 2028)

Code:

LPW

HUMAN RESOURCES

18. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Catherine Coleman Flowers for Her Extraordinary Work

Code:

HR

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODES

19. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, Designating Itself as Lead Agency for Proposed Zoning Amendments Regarding Indoor Amusement Uses in the CB, LI-7.5, and I Zoning Districts, Referring the Amendments to the City Corporation Counsel, City Planning Board, and Westchester County Planning Board, and Scheduling a Public Hearing - (May 14, 2025)

Code:

PSC

20. City Council: A Resolution for Home Rule Request in Support of State Senate Bill No. S7322 and Assembly Bill No. 7348 - (Transfer Tax Increase on Deeds)

Code:

FP

FINANCE AND PLANNING

21. City Council: A Resolution for Home Rule Request in Support of State Senate Bill No. S7321 and Assembly Bill No. 7341 - (Hotel Occupancy Tax)

Code:

FP

OTHER BUSINESS/CLOSING COMMENTS

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT BIDS FOR THE RESURFACING OF VARIOUS STREETS IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK - 2026

Whereas, in a letter dated April 3, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works requested legislation for authorization to advertise bids for the resurfacing of various streets in the City of Mount Vernon, New York - 2026, following applicable procurement laws and regulations; and

Whereas, the infrastructure of the City of Mount Vernon requires continual maintenance and improvement to ensure the safety, accessibility, and quality of life for its residents; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the need to resurface various streets throughout the city to enhance road conditions, improve traffic flow, and provide safer transportation routes for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians; and

Whereas, funding for the resurfacing project is available through the following sources:

- New York State Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS);
- New York State Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR) Program;
- New York State PAVE-NY Program;
- New York State Pave Our Potholes (POP) Program;
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and

Whereas, the resurfacing project shall comply with Westchester County's Minority Participation Policy and may be subject to the AFL-CIO Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with The Building and Construction Trades Council of Westchester and Putnam Counties, New York; and

Whereas, the final list of streets to be resurfaced will be determined and submitted upon selection and acceptance of the lowest qualified bidder; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the City of Mount Vernon to proceed with the resurfacing of streets to enhance the city's infrastructure and public safety; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization to Advertise for Bids**. The Department of Public Works is hereby authorized and directed to advertise bids for resurfacing various streets in the City of Mount Vernon, New York 2026, following applicable procurement laws and regulations.
- **Section 2. Funding Sources.** As allocated, the resurfacing project shall be funded through the New York State CHIPS, EWR, PAVE-NY, POP programs, and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
- **Section 3.** Compliance with Applicable Policies. All contracts awarded under this ordinance shall be subject to the Westchester County Minority Participation Policy and may be subject to the AFL-CIO Project Labor Agreement (PLA) as applicable.

Section 4. Selection of Contractor. The contract for resurfacing shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and qualified bidder in accordance with the City's procurement policies and procedures. The final list of streets to be resurfaced shall be determined upon acceptance of the selected bidder.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PARTNERS IN SAFETY FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO COMPLY WITH U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS

Whereas, in a letter dated April 7, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works requested authorization for the Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, Shawyn Patterson-Howard, to enter into an agreement with Partners in Safety to provide drug and alcohol testing services to the Department of Public Works in compliance with 49 CFR Part 40 and Part 382; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to ensuring the safety of its employees, assets, and the general public through adherence to state and federal regulations; and

Whereas, the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) mandates compliance with drug and alcohol testing requirements as defined in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, specifically Part 40 and Part 382; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works (DPW) of the City of Mount Vernon operates commercial motor vehicles subject to these federal regulations; and

Whereas, compliance with these regulations is essential to maintain federal funding, uphold public safety, and mitigate the risks associated with the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol in safety-sensitive positions; and

Whereas, Partners in Safety is a qualified vendor providing drug and alcohol testing services, including random testing performed by a SAMSHA-certified laboratory, alcohol testing using approved evidential breath testing devices, record management, Medical Review Officer (MRO) services, and Reasonable Suspicion Training for supervisors and foremen; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon Department of Public Works intends to piggyback off the Town of Carmel's current contract with Partners in Safety, which is in effect from October 24, 2024, through October 24, 2026, in accordance with procurement guidelines; and

Whereas, funding for this acquisition is available in the budget under A1640.485 - CDL Drug Testing; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization**. The Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, Shawyn Patterson-Howard, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Partners in Safety to provide drug and alcohol testing services to the Department of Public Works in compliance with 49 CFR Part 40 and Part 382.
- **Section 2. Scope of Services**. The scope of services to be provided by Partners in Safety shall include, but is not limited to:
 - Random drug testing performed by a SAMSHA-certified laboratory.
 - Random alcohol testing using approved evidential breath testing devices.
 - Comprehensive record management services.
 - Medical Review Officer (MRO) services.
 - Reasonable Suspicion Training for DPW supervisors and foremen.



Section 3. Procurement. This agreement shall be executed through a cooperative purchasing arrangement, utilizing the Town of Carmel's existing contract with Partners in Safety dated October 24, 2024, and expiring October 24, 2026.

Section 4. Funding. The cost of services rendered under this agreement shall be funded from account number A1640.485 – CDL Drug Testing.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adoptec Poteat: Yea

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

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AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT A DONATION OF THREE (3) TREES FROM NEIGHBORS THAT CARE, INC. FOR PLANTING ON SOUTH COLUMBUS AVENUE NEAR THE GRAHAM SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Whereas, in a letter dated April 17, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works requested legislation for authorization to accept the donation of three (3) Bradford Pear Trees from Neighbors That Care, Inc., with gratitude and recognition of the intent to commemorate members of the community; and

Whereas, Neighbors That Care, Inc., a community organization dedicated to the betterment of the City of Mount Vernon and the welfare of its residents, has offered to donate three (3) Bradford Pear Trees to the City; and

Whereas, these trees are intended to be planted on South Columbus Avenue near the Graham School parking lot, in honor and commemoration of individuals from the neighborhood who have passed away; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works has agreed to facilitate the planting and continued care of said trees in the designated location; and

Whereas, the donation involves no financial cost or burden to the City of Mount Vernon, and no stipulations are attached other than the preferred location and a request for planting by May 3, 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes and appreciates the generosity and civic-mindedness of Neighbors That Care, Inc., and desires to formally accept this donation and ensure its proper implementation; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1.** Acceptance of Donation. The City of Mount Vernon hereby accepts the donation of three (3) Bradford Pear Trees from Neighbors That Care, Inc., with gratitude and recognition of the intent to commemorate members of the community.
- **Section 2.** Planting Location and Deadline. The trees shall be planted on South Columbus Avenue near the Graham School parking lot, as requested, and the Department of Public Works shall coordinate the planting to occur on or before May 3, 2025.
- **Section 3. Maintenance and Care**. The Department of Public Works shall be responsible for the planting, maintenance, and ongoing care of the trees in accordance with city horticultural and public works standards.
- **Section 4.** No Cost to City. This donation shall not incur any financial obligation to the City of Mount Vernon, and the City shall not be liable for any future claims related to the donation, except those arising from its own maintenance duties.
- **Section 5. Effective Date**. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

sa Thompson: Yea /ea Ordinance Adopted

Doxinit. Tea Poteat: Yea Browne: Yea Ord

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED

Date

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST LOLEBONLLQ
City Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING THE "HIV-AIDS AWARENESS WALK – BREAKING STIGMAS ONE STEP AT A TIME" TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025

Whereas, in a letter dated April 11, 2025, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Recreation requested authorization for said Department to coordinate and host the "HIV-AIDS Awareness Walk – Breaking Stigmas One Step at a Time" on Saturday, June 21, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the significance of fostering public awareness, education, and compassion surrounding HIV and AIDS; and

Whereas, the Department of Recreation, in partnership with the City Council's Human Resource Committee and the Westchester Community Health Center (WCHC), seeks to host an HIV-AIDS Awareness Walk entitled "*Breaking Stigmas One Step at a Time*"; and

Whereas, the event is intended to promote community unity, raise awareness, foster empathy, and advocate for individuals and families affected by HIV and AIDS; and

Whereas, community-based organizations in collaboration with WCHC will provide access to vital resources, educational materials, and support services during the event; and

Whereas, this initiative reflects the City's commitment to public health, equity, inclusion, and the dismantling of social stigmas that negatively impact the lives of residents; and

Whereas, the walk will begin at Mount Vernon City Hall, proceed to Stevens Avenue, turn left, continue along Gramatan Avenue (utilizing the sidewalks), and conclude at Hartley Park; and

Whereas, the City Council acknowledges the need for logistical and safety support to ensure the event is conducted efficiently and securely for all participants; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Event Authorization**. The City Council hereby authorizes the Department of Recreation to coordinate and host the "HIV-AIDS Awareness Walk Breaking Stigmas One Step at a Time" on Saturday, June 21, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **Section 2. Event Route**. The approved walk route shall begin at Mount Vernon City Hall, proceed to Stevens Avenue, turn left, continue along Gramatan Avenue (on the sidewalk), and end at Hartley Park.
- **Section 3.** Collaborative Partnerships. The event shall be co-sponsored by the City Council's Human Resource Committee and the Westchester Community Health Center, with additional involvement from local community-based organizations providing onsite resources and educational outreach.

- **Section 4. Departmental Support**. The following departments are hereby requested to provide support services for the event:
 - Police Department: To provide a safety escort, manage pedestrian crossings, and ensure public safety throughout the walk.
 - **Department of Public Works (DPW)**: To provide necessary street barriers, manage logistical support, and oversee post-event cleanup services.
- **Section 5. Public Engagement**. The City of Mount Vernon encourages the participation of community members in the walk and supports ongoing efforts to promote HIV-AIDS awareness, reduce stigma, and enhance inclusivity and support for all residents.
- **Section 6. Effective Date**. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval by the City Council.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Coursel

Date Date

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President

ATTENDERONING

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25
Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea
Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea
Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

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AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MOUNT VERNON RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO CO-SPONSOR THE ANNUAL JUNETEENTH WALK AND CELEBRATION AND INTERFAITH HEALTH FAIR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YUSUF SHAH ISLAMIC CENTER AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE EVENT

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Recreation requested authorization for said Department to co-sponsor the Annual Juneteenth Walk and Celebration and the Interfaith Health Fair in partnership with the Yusuf Shah Islamic Center, to be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and

Whereas, Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and is a day of reflection, celebration, and recommitment to the principles of freedom, justice, and equality; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the importance of Juneteenth and supports community-wide efforts to honor the legacy and resilience of African Americans through public commemorations; and

Whereas, the Annual Juneteenth Walk and Celebration, in partnership with the Yusuf Shah Islamic Center, has served as a meaningful expression of unity, cultural pride, and historical recognition for the Mount Vernon community; and

Whereas, the Interfaith Health Fair brings together diverse faith communities to promote health, wellness, and mutual support across all backgrounds; and

Whereas, the event scheduled for Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., includes a walk beginning at City Hall, proceeding along Stevens Avenue to Gramatan Avenue, and concluding at Hartley Park, followed by the ceremonial raising of the Juneteenth Flag at Hartley Park and subsequently at City Hall Plaza; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon supports the continued visibility of the Juneteenth Flag at City Hall Plaza as a lasting tribute to the significance of the celebration; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Safety, including the Mount Vernon Police Department, is requested to assist in ensuring the safety and orderly conduct of the walk and event; and

Whereas, funding for the event shall be made available through Budget Code A7620.457 in an amount not to exceed \$1,500; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization of Co-Sponsorship.** The City of Mount Vernon hereby authorizes the Department of Recreation to co-sponsor the Annual Juneteenth Walk and Celebration and the Interfaith Health Fair in partnership with the Yusuf Shah Islamic Center, to be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.
- **Section 2. Event Activities**. The City shall support the walk beginning at City Hall, proceeding along Stevens Avenue to Gramatan Avenue, and concluding at Hartley Park, as well as the raising of the Juneteenth Flag at Hartley Park and subsequently at City Hall Plaza.

- Section 3. Flag Display. Following the event, the Juneteenth Flag shall be displayed at City Hall Plaza as a continuing symbol of remembrance and celebration.
- Section 4. Interdepartmental Support. The Mount Vernon Police Department is requested to assist with safe street crossing, patrolling, and ensuring public safety during the event, subject to availability.
- Funding. Funds for the event, not to exceed \$1,500, shall be allocated from Budget Code A7620.457.
- Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted Thompson: Yea Gleason: Yea Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25 Poteat: Yea

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION TO CO-SPONSOR 'CITY FEST 2025' IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FRIENDS OF MOUNT VERNON, RECREATION AND YOUTH PROGRAMS, INC., AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Recreation requested authorization for said Department to co-sponsor *City Fest 2025: Business, Food, and Culture Expo* in partnership with Friends of Mount Vernon, Recreation and Youth Programs, Inc., on Saturday, September 13, 2025, with a rain date of Sunday, September 14, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon Department of Recreation seeks to cosponsor "City Fest 2025: Business, Food, and Culture Expo" in collaboration with Friends of Mount Vernon, Recreation and Youth Programs, Inc., and

Whereas, the event is scheduled for Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, September 14, 2025, and

Whereas, City Fest aims to promote community engagement, local businesses, culture, and entertainment through outdoor festivities that include vendors, performances, and exhibitions, and

Whereas, various City departments will be required to assist with the preparation, execution, and safety of the event, and

Whereas, the City Council finds that the goals and purpose of City Fest 2025 serve the public interest and merit official support and authorization; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization to Co-Sponsor**. The City Council hereby authorizes the Department of Recreation to co-sponsor *City Fest 2025: Business, Food, and Culture Expo* in partnership with Friends of Mount Vernon, Recreation and Youth Programs, Inc., on Saturday, September 13, 2025, with a rain date of Sunday, September 14, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- **Section 2. Street Closures**. The following streets shall be closed to vehicular traffic from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the day of the event:
 - Gramatan Avenue from Lincoln Avenue to Sidney Avenue
 - Oakley Avenue from Crary to Gramatan Avenue
 - North Street from Crary to Gramatan Avenue to North 5th Avenue
 - North 3rd Avenue from Sidney Avenue to Oakley Avenue

The Department of Public Safety and Department of Parking are hereby directed to post street closure signs at the above locations no later than Monday, September 8, 2025.

Section 3. Use of Public Space. Permission is granted for the use of street beds and sidewalks within the closed areas for the purposes of setting up booths, tents, tables, and chairs to accommodate outdoor dining, food, merchandise, and art vendors.

Section 4. City Department Assistance. The following City Departments are authorized and directed to provide necessary support and services in connection with City Fest 2025:

- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Public Works
- Department of Water
- Fire Department

Such assistance shall include, but is not limited to, public safety, sanitation, water access, and fire safety.

- Section 5. Promotional Banners. Permission is granted to display banners and signage promoting City Fest 2025 throughout the City of Mount Vernon, in compliance with applicable city codes and regulations.
- **Section 6. Stage Placement**. Permission is granted for the placement of a stage on Gramatan Avenue, between Lincoln Avenue and Oakley Avenue, directly in front of "the Circle." *The Circle itself shall remain open and unobstructed.*
- **Section 7. Budget Allocation**. An amount not to exceed \$25,000 shall be allocated for City Fest 2025 from Budget Code A7620.457. This allocation shall be used for event costs incurred by the Department of Recreation, which shall also provide personnel and resources as part of the co-sponsorship.
- **Section 8. Effective Date**. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

Date
Mayor

Mayor

Conficil derson 7

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Président

ATTEST: LOLBONLa

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AN ORDINANCE RETROACTIVELY AUTHORIZING ATTENDANCE AT THE 2025 MAYORS WATER COUNCIL MEETING

Whereas, in a letter dated March 24, 2025, the Commissioner of the Board of Water Supply requested legislation retroactively authorizing three (3) employees of the Board of Water Supply to attend the 2025 Mayors Water Council Meeting in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, from April 3 to April 4, 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the importance of staff development and training in matters related to water supply management, infrastructure, and policy; and

Whereas, the 2025 Mayors Water Council Meeting will address key topics including Lancaster's Green Infrastructure Program, EPA water regulations, water affordability, and public risk communications; and

Whereas, three (3) employees of the Board of Water Supply have been selected to attend this meeting to enhance their knowledge and skills in critical water management policies and practices; and

Whereas, there is no registration fee for this event, and the anticipated hotel accommodations are not expected to exceed \$1,000 for all three attendees, with expenses to be charged to Budget Code 001-581-581001 (Staff Development & Training); and

Whereas, the City Council finds that participation in this meeting is in the best interest of the City of Mount Vernon and its residents; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The City Council hereby retroactively authorizes three (3) employees of the Board of Water Supply to attend the 2025 Mayors Water Council Meeting in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, from April 3 to April 4, 2025.

Section 2. Expenses. All related expenses, including hotel accommodations not to exceed \$1,000 in total, shall be charged to Budget Code 001-581-581001 (Staff Development & Training).

Section 3. Retroactive Approval. This ordinance shall serve as retroactive approval for the attendance of the three (3) employees at the event.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25
Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Nay
Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea
Browne: Nay Ordinance Adoptec

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/9/25
Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Nay
Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea
Browne: Absent
Ordinance Not Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

APPROVED

APPROVED

APPROVED

Date

Latter Lates

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST COLEBONILA

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE SALARY OF THE SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK POSITION IN THE BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the importance of maintaining fair and competitive compensation for its employees; and

Whereas, the salary for the Senior Account Clerk position in the Board of Water Supply was previously determined based on a salary grade that was adjusted before the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in 2024; and

Whereas, the current salary for the Senior Account Clerk position is set at \$59,630.87 (Grade 7B, Step 1), which does not reflect the appropriate salary grade adjustment; and

Whereas, in a letter dated April 7, 2025, the Commissioner of the Board of Water Supply requested authorization for the salary of the Senior Account Clerk position in the Board of Water Supply to be amended from \$59,630.87 (Grade 7B, Step 1) to \$71,384.38 (Grade 11A, Step 1), effective immediately; and

Whereas, it is necessary to correct the salary and adjust it to \$71,384.38 (Grade 11A, Step 1) in accordance with the proper salary structure; and

Whereas, the additional funds required to implement this correction are available in the Board of Water Supply's 2025 Budget under Code 001-521-521002, Administrative Staff (Salaries); and

Whereas, the City Council finds that this amendment serves the best interests of the City and its employees by ensuring equitable compensation; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Amendment to Salary**. The salary for the Senior Account Clerk position in the Board of Water Supply shall be amended from \$59,630.87 (Grade 7B, Step 1) to \$71,384.38 (Grade 11A, Step 1), effective immediately upon passage of this Ordinance.
- **Section 2. Budget Allocation**. The funds necessary for this salary correction shall be allocated from the Board of Water Supply's 2025 Budget under Code 001-521-521002, Administrative Staff (Salaries).
- **Section 3. Implementation**. The Board of Water Supply and the Department of Human Resources shall take all necessary actions to implement this salary adjustment and ensure proper administrative processing.
- **Section 4. Effective Date**. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Browne: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED

APR 2 2025

Date

Watter Aman

Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST: COLEBONICIO

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION TO SPONSOR THE ANNUAL SUMMER BREEZE CONCERT SERIES AND ACCEPT MONETARY DONATIONS TO SUPPORT SAID SERIES

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Recreation requested authorization for said Department to sponsor and coordinate the Annual Summer Breeze Concert Series during the summer of 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to fostering cultural enrichment, community engagement, and recreational activities for its residents; and

Whereas, the Department of Recreation seeks to sponsor the Annual Summer Breeze Concert Series to provide free musical entertainment to the public; and

Whereas, the proposed concert series will be held at the following designated locations:

- City Hall Plaza
- 4th Street Playground
- Hartley Park
- Gramatan Avenue (between Broad Street and Center Street); and

Whereas, the concerts will occur weekly on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., beginning July 8, 2025, and ending August 26, 2025, with rain dates scheduled for the following Thursdays at the same time and locations; and

Whereas, community-based organizations, agencies, and local businesses have expressed interest in supporting this initiative through monetary donations; and

Whereas, the City wishes to authorize the acceptance of such donations to help offset production and operational costs associated with the concert series; and

Whereas, the City recognizes the need for appropriate security, traffic control, and public works support during the concert events; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization to Sponsor Concert Series. The Department of Recreation is hereby authorized to sponsor and coordinate the Annual Summer Breeze Concert Series during the summer of 2025, with concerts scheduled for Tuesdays from July 8, 2025, through August 26, 2025, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., including rain dates to be held on the Thursdays immediately following any postponed event.

Section 2. Designated Locations. The designated locations for the Summer Breeze Concert Series shall be:

- City Hall Plaza
- 4th Street Playground
- Hartley Park
- Gramatan Avenue (between Broad Street and Center Street)

Section 3. **Funding and Budget:**

- (a) The total cost of the concert series shall be charged to Budget Code A7620.457, Cultural Civic Adult Education.
- (b) Total expenditures for the concert series shall not exceed the allocated budget plus any monetary donations received.
- (c) All donations received in support of the series shall be recorded under Revenue Code A2705.2 and shall be used solely for purposes related to the concert series.
- Acceptance of Donations. The City is hereby authorized to accept monetary donations from community-based organizations, agencies, and local businesses to defray the costs associated with the production and operation of the Summer Breeze Concert Series. All such funds shall be deposited and recorded as outlined in Section 3.

Section 5. **Public Safety and City Services:**

- The Police Department is requested to provide additional police patrols and public safety presence during each concert event.
- The Police Department and Department of Public Works shall be notified in advance of any events requiring barricades, crowd control, sanitation, or logistical support.
- **Promotion**. The Department of Recreation is authorized to publicly promote the concert series, including but not limited to the placement of banners and other promotional materials throughout the city.
- Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Page | 2

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF TWELVE (12) PARKING SPACES FROM THE MONTEFIORE HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE USE OF THE MOUNT VERNON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety requested authorization for the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Mount Vernon, to accept the donation of twelve (12) parking spaces from Montefiore Health System, as described herein, for the exclusive use of the Mount Vernon Police Department; and

Whereas, Montefiore Health System has generously offered to donate twelve (12) parking spaces located on the Lower Level of the Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital Garage for the exclusive use of the Mount Vernon Police Department (MVPD); and

Whereas, the designated parking spaces will be adjacent to the gate entrance of the garage and clearly marked "POLICE" for ease of identification and security purposes; and

Whereas, Montefiore Health System will also provide twelve (12) garage access cards to the MVPD, granting 24/7 access to the facility for official police vehicles; and

Whereas, the donation is made without any financial cost, condition, or stipulation to the City of Mount Vernon or the Mount Vernon Police Department; and

Whereas, the acceptance of this donation will enhance the operational efficiency and security of the Mount Vernon Police Department by providing dedicated parking for official vehicles; now, therefore, Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- Acceptance of Donation. The Mayor on behalf of the City of Mount Vernon hereby accepts the donation of twelve (12) parking spaces from Montefiore Health System, as described herein, for the exclusive use of the Mount Vernon Police Department.
- Authorization to Execute Necessary Documents. The Mayor of the Section 2. City of Mount Vernon, or their designee, is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents to formalize the acceptance of the donated parking spaces and garage access cards on behalf of the City of Mount Vernon.
- Usage and Management. The Mount Vernon Police Department shall Section 3. have exclusive use of the donated parking spaces and shall manage the distribution and use of the twelve (12) garage access cards in accordance with departmental policies and procedures.

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its Section 4. adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adoptec

Jote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

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AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FROM FARO TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety requested authorization for said Department to purchase the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner and supporting items from FARO Technologies for a total cost of \$89,805.69; and

Whereas, the Department of Public Safety has identified the need for advanced forensic technology to enhance crime scene investigations; and

Whereas, the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner is a state-of-the-art device that provides precise measurement and 3D documentation of crime scenes, thereby improving the accuracy and efficiency of forensic investigations; and

Whereas, the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner is widely utilized by law enforcement agencies across the country due to its superior capabilities in crime scene reconstruction and evidence documentation; and

Whereas, FARO Technologies holds a General Services Administration (GSA) contract #47QTCA18D003S, which allows the City of Mount Vernon to procure the equipment under a cooperative purchasing agreement; and

Whereas, the procurement of the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner is in the best interest of the City of Mount Vernon as it will enhance the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Criminal Investigations Unit; and

Whereas, the total cost of \$89,805.69 for the purchase of the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner and supporting items shall be satisfied from Budget Code H3120.203-C666; and

Whereas, pursuant to the City of Mount Vernon Procurement Policy adopted on April 24, 2024, the City seeks to waive the competitive bidding requirements for this purchase given the availability of the equipment through an approved procurement cooperative; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization to Purchase. The City Council of Mount Vernon hereby authorizes the Department of Public Safety to purchase the FARO Focus Core 100m USA laser scanner and supporting items from FARO Technologies for a total cost of \$89,805.69.

Section 2. Waiver of Competitive Bidding Requirements. In accordance with the City of Mount Vernon Procurement Policy, the City Council waives the competitive bidding requirements for this purchase due to the availability of the equipment through the General Services Administration (GSA) cooperative purchasing agreement.

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Section 3. Funding. The total expenditure of \$89,805.69 shall be paid from Budget Code H3120.203-C666.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25 Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

ASSISTANT Corporation Counsel

ASSISTANT Corporation Counsel

Date

Page | **2**

gouncilperson
THIS ØBDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

ATTERCOLEBOURCE

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TWO (2) MEMBERS OF SERVICE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ATTEND THE AVIGILON UNITY TRAINING IN SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Whereas, in a letter dated April 10, 2025, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety requested authorization for two (2) Members of Service from the Department of Public Safety to attend the Avigilon Unity Training in Somerville, Massachusetts, from May 13, 2025, to May 15, 2025; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to enhancing the operational efficiency and technological capacity of the Department of Public Safety; and

Whereas, the Avigilon Unity Training provides specialized instruction on installation best practices, system configuration, and optimization techniques for the Avigilon Unity Video solution; and

Whereas, the training will be held from May 13, 2025, to May 15, 2025, at 450 Artisan Way, Suite 200, Somerville, Massachusetts, and includes both lecture and hands-on practical exercises to ensure comprehensive skill development; and

Whereas, the participation of two (2) Members of Service in this training will directly benefit the City's public safety initiatives by improving system implementation and efficiency; and

Whereas, the total cost for the training, including hotel accommodations and ground transportation (gas/tolls), will not exceed \$3,000 and will be funded through Budget Line A3120.451 (Training); and

Whereas, the Members of Service will be authorized to use a Department vehicle for travel to and from the training location; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization.** The City Council hereby authorizes two (2) Members of Service from the Department of Public Safety to attend the Avigilon Unity Training in Somerville, Massachusetts, from May 13, 2025, to May 15, 2025.
- **Section 2. Funding**. The total cost of the training, including hotel accommodations and ground transportation (gas/tolls), shall not exceed \$3,000 and shall be funded through Budget Line A3120.451 (Training).
- **Section 3. Travel Authorization**. The Members of Service attending the training are authorized to use a Department vehicle for travel to and from the training location.
- **Section 4. Effective Date**. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

/ote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

Date

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST: ColeBonillo

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE INSTALLMENT PLAN STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR DELINQUENT TAX PAYMENT AGREEMENTS

Whereas, in a letter dated April 11, 2025, the Comptroller requested authorization to establish and adopt a uniform set of terms and conditions governing installment payment agreements for delinquent property taxes in the City of Mount Vernon; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to promoting fair and consistent practices in the administration of delinquent property tax accounts; and

Whereas, property owners with outstanding property tax liabilities have been offered the opportunity to enter into installment payment plans, in accordance with applicable state and local laws, including the In Rem Law; and

Whereas, the Comptroller's Office has submitted a list of delinquent parcels to the Honorable City Council and has identified parcels whose owners have requested and have been approved for participation in an installment plan; and

Whereas, these approved parcels were excluded from the list submitted to the County Clerk's Office for enforcement actions in accordance with their participation in payment plans; and

Whereas, the Comptroller's Office is now preparing to execute formal installment agreements with the approved property owners and requires the adoption of standardized terms and conditions to ensure legal compliance, consistency, and clarity in administration; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as COMP2025 04: Installment Plan Standard Terms and Conditions Ordinance.
- **Section 2. Purpose**. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish and adopt a uniform set of terms and conditions governing installment payment agreements for delinquent property taxes in the City of Mount Vernon.
- Section 3. Adoption of Standard Terms and Conditions. The City Council hereby authorizes the adoption of the *Installment Plan Standard Terms and Conditions* as proposed and attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit A. These conditions shall apply to all payment plans approved by the Comptroller's Office for delinquent taxes, in compliance with the In Rem Law and all other applicable statutes and regulations.
- **Section 4. Authorization to Execute Agreements**. The Comptroller, or their designee, is authorized to execute installment payment agreements with approved property owners using the Standard Terms and Conditions adopted herein.
- Section 5. Administration and Enforcement. The Comptroller's Office shall be responsible for the administration, monitoring, and enforcement of all installment agreements executed under this Ordinance. Any material breach of these agreements by a property owner shall be grounds for termination of the agreement and resumption of enforcement actions as permitted by law.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

/ote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

Date

Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CHY COUNCIL

President

City Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE FOR OUTSTANDING HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM ARREARS

Whereas, in a letter dated April 15, 2025, the Comptroller requested authorization for the Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon to enter into a Payment Plan Agreement with the New York State Department of Civil Service, substantially in the form attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance, to address the City's outstanding health insurance premium liabilities from the 2021 fiscal year; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon participates in the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) and is obligated to make timely premium payments as a condition of participation; and

Whereas, due to limited cash flow and ongoing fiscal challenges, the City has carried a liability related to unpaid health insurance premiums incurred during the 2021 fiscal year; and

Whereas, since January 2022, the Comptroller's Office has engaged in regular communication with the New York State Department of Civil Service to address the outstanding arrears and to keep the City's participation in NYSHIP in good standing; and

Whereas, the New York State Department of Civil Service has agreed to enter into a payment plan agreement with the City of Mount Vernon, commencing April 25, 2025, and concluding on March 30, 2030, to resolve the outstanding premium liability in a fiscally responsible manner; and

Whereas, the negotiated agreement includes monthly installment payments of \$209,570.61, to be made in addition to the City's regular monthly health insurance premiums, and this arrangement is deemed reasonable and necessary to maintain vital health insurance benefits for City employees and retirees; and

Whereas, the City Comptroller recommends that the City Council approve the agreement and authorize the Mayor to execute said agreement to avoid further financial and administrative complications; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a Payment Plan Agreement with the New York State Department of Civil Service, substantially in the form attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance, to address the City's outstanding health insurance premium liabilities from the 2021 fiscal year.

Section 2. Terms of Agreement.

The payment plan shall:

- Commence on April 25, 2025, and conclude on March 30, 2030;
- Include monthly installment payments of \$209,570.61;
- Be in addition to the City's ongoing obligation to make current NYSHIP premium payments during the term of the agreement;
- Be subject to such additional terms and conditions as set forth by the New York State Department of Civil Service and agreed to by the City.

Section 3. Budget Appropriation. The Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to ensure that funds are appropriated and disbursed in accordance with the payment plan and the City's financial policies.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Board of Estimate and Contracts.

Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED AS TO FORW

Approved Approved

APPROVED

Date

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CHTY COUNCIL

President

Page | 2

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMPTROLLER TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP WITH AFLAC TO OFFER VOLUNTARY SUPPLEMENTARY DENTAL BENEFITS TO EMPLOYEES THROUGH PAYROLL DEDUCTION

Whereas, in a letter dated April 17, 2025, the Comptroller requested authorization to enter into a partnership agreement with Aflac to offer voluntary supplementary dental benefits to City employees through payroll deductions; and

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the importance of providing quality, affordable benefits options to its employees to enhance overall employee wellbeing; and

Whereas, Aflac currently partners with the City of Mount Vernon to offer voluntary supplemental insurance benefits, such as Short Term Disability and Hospital Insurance, during an annual enrollment period held in June; and

Whereas, numerous City employees have expressed interest in additional dental benefits beyond those currently available; and

Whereas, Aflac has proposed a voluntary supplementary dental benefits plan to meet this employee demand, to be offered on a trial basis; and

Whereas, participation in this plan will be entirely voluntary, incur no cost to the City, and will be administered through pre-tax payroll deductions, resulting in reduced taxable income for participating employees; and

Whereas, the City Comptroller, in collaboration with payroll staff, has reviewed the proposed process and is prepared to facilitate the necessary payroll deductions; and

Whereas, all employee communication, education, and enrollment activities will be managed by Aflac Representatives and the City's Benefits Specialist; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Authorization. The City Comptroller is hereby authorized to enter into a partnership agreement with Aflac for the purpose of offering voluntary supplementary dental benefits to City employees through payroll deductions.

Section 2. Terms of Participation.

- a. The supplementary dental benefits plan shall be made available on a voluntary basis during the established annual benefits enrollment period.
- b. The plan will be offered on a trial basis in 2025, with continued offering contingent upon sufficient employee interest and participation.
- c. Employees who enroll in the plan shall have the option to retain their coverage for life, regardless of City participation in future years.
- **Section 3.** Payroll Deduction. The City Comptroller's office, specifically payroll staff, shall implement and manage the necessary payroll deductions for participating employees. These deductions shall be pre-tax and consistent with applicable tax and labor regulations.
- **Section 4.** Communication and Enrollment. All employee communications, plan education, and enrollment processes shall be conducted by the City's Benefits Specialist in collaboration with Aflac Representatives.

Section 5. No Cost to the City. There shall be no financial obligation or cost to the City of Mount Vernon associated with the offering or administration of this voluntary benefits plan.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25 Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

APPROVED Date

Date

Mayor

Page | 2

Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST: LOLBOMLES

ATR 2 3 2026

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING PERMISSION TO THE MOUNT VERNON YOUTH BUREAU (MVYB) TO UTILIZE CITY HALL PLAZA ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025, TO HOST THE YOUTH MENTAL WELLNESS FEST "VIBE CHECK" THROUGH THE READY4LIFE PROGRAM

Whereas, in a letter dated April 21, 2025, the Executive Director of the Youth Bureau (MVYB) requested legislation for authorization to use City Hall Plaza on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., to host the Youth Mental Wellness Fest, entitled *Vibe Check*, under the Ready4Life Program; and

Whereas, the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau, through its Ready4Life Program, has proposed hosting a community-focused Youth Mental Wellness Fest entitled *Vibe Check*; and

Whereas, the event is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at City Hall Plaza, a central and accessible location for youth and families in the community; and

Whereas, May is recognized nationally as Mental Health Awareness Month, a time dedicated to promoting awareness, understanding, and support for mental health and well-being; and

Whereas, the MVYB seeks to create a safe, engaging, and educational environment for youth and parents, emphasizing the importance of mental wellness and connecting attendees to local resources and support systems; and

Whereas, the proposed event will feature interactive wellness activities such as kickboxing, paint therapy, journaling, yoga, reiki, game tables, and sound bath sessions, all aimed at promoting emotional expression, stress reduction, mindfulness, and community support; and

Whereas, the event will be held in partnership with various local organizations, including but not limited to the Mount Vernon Police Department Wellness Division, Planned Parenthood, Children's Village Sanctuary, Health First, Westchester Jewish Community Services, Montefiore, and the Westchester Health Center, and will include a licensed therapist booth to provide brief mental health consultations; and

Whereas, all costs associated with the event shall be funded through the Ready4Life budget under code A7335.458; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

- **Section 1. Authorization to Use Cit Hall**. The Youth Bureau is hereby granted permission to use City Hall Plaza on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, between the hours of 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., to host the Youth Mental Wellness Fest, entitled *Vibe Check*, under the Ready4Life Program.
- **Section 2.** Event Purpose and Objectives. The purpose of the event is to promote mental health awareness and education among youth and parents through interactive and therapeutic activities, community engagement, and access to local wellness resources.

Section 3. Partnerships and Participating Organizations. The Mount Vernon Youth Bureau is authorized to collaborate with local and regional organizations providing wellness services and mental health support, including the Mount Vernon Police Department Wellness Division, Planned Parenthood, Children's Village Sanctuary, Health First, Westchester Jewish Community Services, Montefiore, Westchester Health Center, and any additional vetted partners.

Section 4. Funding. All expenses related to the event shall be charged to and accounted for under the Ready4Life Program Budget Code A7335.458.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Boxnitt: Yea Greason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED
Date

Page | 2

Council person

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTESTOLOBONILLA

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON TO APPOINT NIA HOWARD FENTON TO THE TREE ADVISORY BOARD PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 252, SECTION 252-17 OF THE CODE

Whereas, Chapter 252 of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon governs the preservation, protection, and enhancement of the City's trees and establishes the Tree Advisory Board to advise the City on policies and actions affecting public trees and urban forestry; and

Whereas, Section 252-17 of the Mount Vernon City Code authorizes the City Council to appoint members to the Tree Advisory Board; and

Whereas, the City Council recognizes the importance of ensuring the continued function and effectiveness of the Tree Advisory Board by appointing qualified and committed individuals to serve; and

Whereas, Nia Howard Fenton has demonstrated an interest in and commitment to the goals of the Tree Advisory Board and possesses the qualifications and experience necessary to contribute meaningfully to the Board's work; and

Whereas, the City Council wishes to appoint Nia Howard Fenton to serve on the Tree Advisory Board for a term of three (3) years; Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That

The City of Mount Vernon, in City Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Appointment. According to Chapter 252, Section 252-17 of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon, the City Council hereby appoints Nia Howard Fenton to the Tree Advisory Board for a three-year term, commencing on April 23, 2025, and expiring on April 22, 2028.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assigned Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

Date

By Manual Dawa

Mayor

Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY COTY COUNCIL

President

City Clerk



A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK, HONORING CATHERINE COLEMAN FLOWERS FOR HER EXTRAORDINARY WORK

Thereas, the great City of Mount Vernon, NY joins together to recognize the extraordinary work, service, and leadership of *CATHERINE COLEMAN FLOWERS*; and

**Dhereas, CATHERINE COLEMAN FLOWERS is an internationally recognized environmental justice advocate, MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipient, and acclaimed author who has dedicated her life to championing equitable access to clean water, sanitation, air, and soil for marginalized communities; and

Ipereas, as the founder of the Center for Rural Enterprise and Environmental Justice (CREEJ), Ms. Flowers has led groundbreaking efforts towards advancing equitable access to clean water, air, sanitation, and soil, working tirelessly to reduce health and economic disparities in underserved rural communities. Her impactful leadership has earned her national recognition, including her appointment as Vice Chair of the Biden Administration's inaugural White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council. Ms. Flowers' powerful voice has reached national and global audiences through features in major media outlets, including CBS's 60 Minutes, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Guardian, and PBS NewsHour; and

Ms. Flowers' contributions as a board member of leading environmental organizations and as Practitioner in Residence at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment continue to inspire the next generation of environmental leaders. Through her compelling books Holy Ground and Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secret, she has brought critical attention to the urgent need for environmental equity while inspiring a hopeful path forward; and NOW THEREFORE, be it

Resolved, that the City Council joins with the citizens of the City of Mount Vernon, NY, to honor *CATHERINE COLEMAN FLOWERS* for her unwavering commitment to environmental and social justice, her visionary leadership, tireless and courageous advocacy, and her enduring legacy of hope, equity, and transformative change.

Browne: Yea Ordinance Adoptec

Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea

Poteat: Yea

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25

APPROVED AS TO FORM

APPROVED

Date

Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL
President

ATTENT OF ORDINAL A

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON DESIGNATING ITSELF AS LEAD AGENCY FOR PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS REGARDING INDOOR AMUSEMENT USES IN THE CB, LI-7.5, AND I ZONING DISTRICTS, REFERRING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY CORPORATION COUNSEL, CITY PLANNING BOARD, AND WESTCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD, AND SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon proposes to amend Chapter 267 (Zoning) of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon ("Code") to permit and regulate indoor amusement uses in the City's CB Commercial Business, LI-7.5 Landscaped Industrial, and I Industry Districts in the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is necessary and desirable, as a matter of public policy, to permit and regulate indoor amusement uses as special permit uses in the City of Mount Vernon; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in conjunction with its Staff, prepared a draft "Ordinance to Amend Chapter 267 (Zoning) of the Code of the City of Mount Vernon to Permit and Regulate Indoor Amusement Uses in the CB, LI-7.5, and I Districts" ("Code Amendment"), a copy of which is annexed to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Code Amendment is classified as a Type I Action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617 ("SEQRA"); and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to designate itself as Lead Agency for the review of the Code Amendment under SEQRA pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.6(b)(1); and

WHEREAS, the City Council is required to refer the Code Amendment to the Corporation Counsel and Planning Board for their respective reviews and reports pursuant to Section 267-59 of the Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 267-59 of the Code requires the Corporation Counsel and the Planning Board to report its recommendations to the City Council with respect to the Code Amendment within 30 days after referral; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is also required to refer the Code Amendment to the Westchester County Planning Board pursuant to Section 267-62 of the Code, and Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is desirous of scheduling a Public Hearing on the Zoning Amendment for May 14, 2025 pursuant to Section 267-60 of the Code; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby designates itself as Lead Agency for review of the Code Amendment under SEQRA; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Clerk to refer the Code Amendment to the City of Mount Vernon Corporation Counsel and Planning Board for their respective reports pursuant to Section 267-59 of the Code; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Clerk to refer the Code Amendment to the Westchester County Planning Board in accordance with Section 267-62 of the Code, and Section 239-m of the General Municipal Law; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the City Council shall hold a Public Hearing on the Code Amendment on May 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall, Council Chambers – Room 206, 1 Roosevelt Square N., Mount Vernon, New York, 10550, where public comment will be heard regarding the Code Amendment, and written comments on the Code Amendment are requested, and will be accepted by the City Council up to ten (10) days following the close of the Public Hearing; **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall arrange to fulfill the notice requirements for the Public Hearing pursuant to Section 267-61 of the Code; BE IT **FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25 Boxhill: Yea Gleason: Yea Poteat: Yea Thompson: Yea Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted

Approved As TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

Date Du D

Page | 2 (4935-0616-3769, v. 2) Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

President

ATTEST: Cole Bonilla

RESOLUTION FOR HOME RULE REQUEST IN SUPPORT OF STATE SENATE BILL NO. S7322 AND ASSEMBLY BILL NO. A7348

WHEREAS, the State Department of Taxation and Finance requested that the New York State Legislature enact a special state law authorizing the City of Mount Vernon Pretlow introduce a State Bill authorizing an increase to the Transfer Tax Fee on deeds in the City of Mount Vernon to 1 1/2 percent; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Jamaal Bailey has introduced Bill No. S7322 before the New York State Legislature to Pretlow introduce a State Bill authorizing an increase to the Transfer Tax Fee; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow introduced Bill No. A7348 before the New York State municipalities to Pretlow introduce a State Bill authorizing an increase to the Transfer Tax Fee; and

WHEREAS, the Bills, if passed by our State Legislature, would authorize the City of Mount Vernon to allow the City of Mount Vernon to adopt and amend local laws imposing an increase in the Transfer Tax Fee on deeds in the City of Mount Vernon to 1 1/2 percent; and

WHEREAS, said Bills shall empower the City to implement an increase to the Transfer Tax Fee; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT A HOME RULE REQUEST IS MADE TO THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

TO THE LEGISLATURE:

Pursuant New York State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey and Assembly Member James Gary Pretlow, as elected representatives of the City of Mount Vernon, introduce legislation to authorize the City to Pretlow introduce a State Bill authorizing an increase to the Transfer Tax Fee on deeds in the City of Mount Vernon to 1 1/2 percent.

It is hereby declared that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation and that the facts establishing such necessity are as follows:

The local government does not have the power to enact such legislation by local law; and

Implementing a hotel and motel tax rate would benefit the City by providing additional revenues for use within the City of Mount Vernon, and complying with the law is in the best interests of the City and is essential to improving the City's financial stability.

Such request is made by the Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, and concurred with by a majority of the total membership of the City Council; AND BE IT FURTHER

AFR 2 3 2025

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be directed to forward copies of this home rule request, certified by the Mayor and the City Clerk of the City of Mount Vernon, as follows:

- two (2) copies to the New York State Senate, and
- two (2) copies to the New York State Assembly.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

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Browne: Yea Ordinance Adopted Vote Taken As Follows: 4/23/25 Boxhill: Yea Poteat: Yea

RESOLUTION FOR HOME RULE REQUEST IN SUPPORT OF STATE SENATE BILL NO. S7321 AND ASSEMBLY BILL NO. A7341

WHEREAS, the State Department of Taxation and Finance requested that the New York State Legislature enact a special state law authorizing the City of Mount Vernon to adopt and amend local laws imposing a tax upon persons occupying hotel or motel rooms, bed and breakfast, and other tourist rental stay facilities; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Jamaal Bailey has introduced Bill No. S7321 before the New York State Legislature to adopt and amend local laws imposing a tax upon persons occupying hotel or motel rooms, bed and breakfast, and other tourist rental stay facilities; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow introduced Bill No. A7341 before the New York State municipalities to adopt and amend local laws imposing a tax upon persons occupying hotel or motel rooms, bed and breakfast, and other tourist rental stay facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Bills, if passed by our State Legislature, would authorize the City of Mount Vernon to allow the City of Mount Vernon to adopt and amend local laws imposing a tax upon persons occupying hotel or motel rooms, bed and breakfast, and other tourist rental stay facilities; and

WHEREAS, said Bills shall empower the City to implement a hotel and motel tax rate of up to five and eight seven five percent (5.875%) of the per-diem rental rate for each room; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT A HOME RULE REQUEST IS MADE TO THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

TO THE LEGISLATURE:

Pursuant New York State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey and Assembly Member James Gary Pretlow, as elected representatives of the City of Mount Vernon, introduce legislation to authorize the City to adopt a local law giving the authority to implement the hotel and motel tax rate at a rate of up to five and eight seven five present (5.875%) of the per-diem rental rate for each room.

It is hereby declared that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation and that the facts establishing such necessity are as follows:

The local government does not have the power to enact such legislation by local law; and

Implementing a hotel and motel tax rate would benefit the City by providing additional revenues for use within the City of Mount Vernon, and complying with the law is in the best interests of the City and is essential to improving the City's financial stability.

Such request is made by the Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, and concurred with by a majority of the total membership of the City Council; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be directed to forward copies of this home rule request, certified by the Mayor and the City Clerk of the City of Mount Vernon, as follows:

- two (2) copies to the New York State Senate, and
- two (2) copies to the New York State Assembly.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

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Councilperson
THIS ORDINANCE
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST: COLLBONILA
City Clerk