

# **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, March 25, 2026**

**7:00 PM**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
CITY HALL**

### **City Council**

*NICOLE BONILLA, MBA  
City Clerk*

*JORDAN A. RIULLANO, JD  
Deputy City Clerk*

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**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF THE MOUNT VERNON CITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026.**

**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:** Derrick Thompson, President

**OTHERS:** Nicole Bonilla, City Clerk; Jordan A. Riullano, Deputy City Clerk; Antoinette Anderson, Legislative Aide; Johan Powell, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Greg Bailey, Asst. Corp. Counsel.

**CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council President Derrick Thompson 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 Thompson explained the 3-minute-plus-1 public comment rule. He 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 Recreation: An Ordinance Authorizing the Department of Recreation to Co-Sponsor the Antigua and Barbuda International Cultural Association (ABICA) International Food Festival

**Code:** HR

2. City Council: An Ordinance Authorizing the Attendance of Councilmembers Cynthia Turnquest-Jones and André Wallace at the Annual Meeting of the New York Conference of Mayors - (May 13 through the 15, 2026)

**Code:** LPW

3. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard

**Code:** LPW

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4. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Tiffany Haddish

**Code:** LPW

5. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Melba Wilson

**Code:** LPW

6. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Renee Neufville

**Code:** LPW

**To the Council:**

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**To the Council:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODES**

7. Office of Emergency Management: An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

**Code:** PSC

**To the Council:**

**FINANCE AND PLANNING**

8. City Council: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, New York, Honoring Maureen Walker

**Code:** FP

9. Department of Planning and Community Development: An Ordinance Authorizing the Travel of the Planning Commissioner to Attend the 2026 American Planning Association National Conference - (April 24 - April 28, 2026)

**Code:** FP

**ADD-ON**

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODES**

10. Office of the Mayor: An Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Authorizing the Immediate Repair and Motor Replacement of Fire Department Engine Company 206

**Code:** PSC

- 11. Comptroller: An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Funds for the Repair of Fire Truck Engine 206 - (COMP2026-4)

**Code:** PSC

- 12. Fire Department: An Ordinance Authorizing the Replacement of the Motor in Fire Department Engine Company 206

**Code:** PSC

**FINANCE AND PLANNING**

- 13. Comptroller: An Ordinance Fixing the County and Special District Tax Rate, Levying Said Tax and Confirming the County and Special District Taxes for the Year 2026 and Ordering the Issuance of a Warrant Therefore

**Code:** FP

**OTHER BUSINESS/CLOSING COMMENTS**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE  
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION TO  
CO-SPONSOR THE ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
(ABICA) INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL**

**Whereas**, in correspondence dated February 11, 2026, the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Recreation formally requested authorization to co-sponsor the ABICA International Food Festival at Hartley Park on Saturday, May 23, 2026, and on the fourth Saturday in May annually thereafter; and

**Whereas**, the Antigua and Barbuda International Cultural Association (ABICA) is a community-based organization composed of Mount Vernon residents of Antiguan and Barbudan heritage, dedicated to promoting cultural and educational events that strengthen the community; and

**Whereas**, ABICA has requested that the City of Mount Vernon, through its Department of Recreation, co-sponsor the ABICA International Food Festival to be held on Saturday, May 23, 2026, and subsequently on the fourth Saturday of May each year; and

**Whereas**, the event will take place at Hartley Park and is intended to celebrate cultural heritage while providing opportunities for local food and craft vendors; and

**Whereas**, ABICA has requested authorization to use Hartley Park from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the day of the event, including set-up and clean-up times, at no cost to the City; and

**Whereas**, ABICA will be responsible for the cost of Mount Vernon Police Department (MVPD) or Auxiliary Officers, vendor permits, and any necessary fire inspections by the Mount Vernon Fire Department (MVFD) for vendors using grills, propane, or other open flames; and

**Whereas**, the Department of Recreation will be responsible for general cleanup of the park following the event;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Authorization of Event.** The City of Mount Vernon, through its Department of Recreation, is hereby authorized to co-sponsor the ABICA International Food Festival at Hartley Park on Saturday, May 23, 2026, and on the fourth Saturday in May annually thereafter.

**Section 2. Use of Park.** The Department of Recreation is authorized to provide ABICA the use of Hartley Park from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., which shall include:

1. **Set-Up:** 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon;
2. **Event Time:** 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.;
3. **Clean-Up:** 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The use of Hartley Park for this purpose shall be at no cost to the City.

**Section 3. Public Safety and Vendor Regulations.**

1. ABICA shall be responsible for the cost of providing MVPD or Auxiliary Officers for the event.
2. All vendors shall obtain a one-day vendor permit through the ABICA vendor package.

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3. Mount Vernon Fire Department (MVFD):

- All fire extinguishers appropriate to the type of cooking equipment shall be inspected prior to the event. Any vendor utilizing propane, grills, or open flames must obtain a pre-event inspection from the Mount Vernon Fire Department (MVFD).
- The MVFD shall conduct mandatory pre-event safety inspections for all vendors using propane, grills, or open flames.
- All food trucks participating in the event must be inspected and approved no later than May 16, 2026, in accordance with the Fire Department of Mount Vernon (FDMV) Mobile Food Preparation Safety requirements.
- All vendors shall comply with applicable fire safety regulations and standards.
- Vendors are required to contact the Fire Prevention Office at (914) 665-2611 to schedule inspections at least one (1) week prior to the event to ensure timely compliance and a safe event environment.

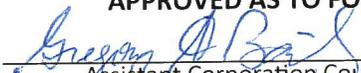
**Section 4. Cleanup.** The Department of Recreation shall be responsible for all post-event cleanup to restore Hartley Park to its original condition.

**Section 5. Severability.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

**Section 6. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council and subsequent approval by the Board of Estimate & Contract.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

  
President

APPROVED

MAR 26 2026

Date

  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
City Clerk

MAR 25 2026

2

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILMEMBERS CYNTHIA TURNQUEST-JONES AND ANDRÉ WALLACE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

Whereas, in correspondence dated March 23, 2026, the Legislative Assistant to the City Council formally requested authorization for Councilmembers Cynthia Turnquest-Jones and André Wallace to attend the 2026 Annual Meeting of the New York Conference of Mayors to be held from May 13 through May 15, 2026, at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing; and

Whereas, the New York Conference of Mayors hosts an Annual Meeting that brings together municipal officials from across the State of New York to discuss matters of municipal governance, legislation, and public policy affecting local governments; and

Whereas, attendance at this conference will provide Councilmembers with the opportunity to engage with elected officials from municipalities throughout the State and beyond, including legislative representatives, while gaining valuable insight into government operations, policy initiatives, and emerging legislation that may affect or benefit the City of Mount Vernon; and

Whereas, Councilmembers Cynthia Turnquest-Jones and André Wallace have requested authorization from the City Council to attend the conference in order to further their knowledge and understanding of issues impacting municipalities and to represent the interests of the City of Mount Vernon; and

Whereas, all costs associated with attendance at the conference, including registration, travel, lodging, and any related expenses, will be fully paid by the attending Councilmembers and shall not be borne by the City of Mount Vernon, thereby resulting in no financial impact to the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Authorization to Attend Conference. The City Council hereby authorizes Councilmembers Cynthia Turnquest-Jones and André Wallace to attend the 2026 Annual Meeting of the New York Conference of Mayors to be held from May 13 through May 15, 2026, at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing.

Section 2. Purpose of Attendance. The purpose of attending the conference is to participate in professional development sessions, engage with municipal officials and legislative representatives, and obtain information and resources relating to municipal governance, legislative developments, and best practices that may benefit the City of Mount Vernon.

Section 3. No Fiscal Impact. All costs associated with attendance at the conference shall be the sole responsibility of the attending Councilmembers. The City of Mount Vernon shall incur no costs or financial obligations related to such attendance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*Gregory A. Baird*  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

*J. S. B. B. B.*  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

*Herick Thompson*  
President

APPROVED  
MAR 26 2026  
Date

*Shirley Ann Howard*  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
*Michele Bonilla*  
City Clerk

2

3

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NY, HONORING  
MAYOR SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD**

**Whereas**, Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to public service, community empowerment, and effective leadership in her role as Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon; and

**Whereas**, throughout her distinguished career, Mayor Patterson-Howard has worked diligently to uplift residents, strengthen neighborhoods, and advocate for equitable access to resources, opportunities, and essential services for all members of the community; and

**Whereas**, her administration has been defined by a strong dedication to transparency, accountability, and inclusive community engagement, fostering trust and meaningful collaboration between local government and the residents it serves; and

**Whereas**, Mayor Patterson-Howard's personal and professional accomplishments reflect resilience, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all who call Mount Vernon home; and

**Whereas**, she serves as an inspiring role model for women and emerging leaders, exemplifying the values of service, perseverance, and leadership, particularly during the observance of Women's History Month; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard in recognition of her outstanding leadership, dedicated public service, and significant contributions to the community; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED**, that this recognition is presented during Women's History Month at the Social Butterfly event in appreciation of her continued commitment to the City of Mount Vernon and its residents; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official minutes of the City Council and a suitably engrossed copy be presented to Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard as a token of the City's esteem and gratitude.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Abstain  
Resolution: Adopted

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

*Breanna A. Bouley*  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

*A. S. Beshell*  
Councilperson

**THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

*Derrick Thompson*  
President

**APPROVED  
MAR 26 2026**

*Shawyn Patterson-Howard*  
BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**  
*Made Bonilla*  
City Clerk

4

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK,  
HONORING TIFFANY HADDISH**

**Whereas,** Tiffany Haddish is an Emmy and Grammy Award-winning actress, comedian, author, and philanthropist whose journey from foster care to international acclaim exemplifies resilience, authenticity, and purpose; and

**Whereas,** she achieved global recognition through her breakout role in *Girls Trip* and made history as the first Black female stand-up comedian to host *Saturday Night Live*, earning widespread acclaim for her talent, originality, and influence in the entertainment industry; and

**Whereas,** through her nonprofit organization, the She Ready Foundation, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to youth empowerment by supporting children in the foster care system with essential resources, mentorship, and opportunities for success; and

**Whereas,** her impact extends beyond entertainment into meaningful humanitarian efforts, using her voice and platform to raise awareness about trauma, mental health, and the challenges facing underserved communities; and

**Whereas,** Tiffany Haddish continues to inspire individuals across the nation, particularly women and young people, through her perseverance, generosity, and dedication to uplifting others; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors Tiffany Haddish during Women’s History Month in recognition of her outstanding achievements, cultural impact, and commitment to service; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that this recognition is presented at the Social Butterfly event in celebration of her enduring influence and her dedication to empowering others beyond the world of entertainment; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that this recognition is presented during Women’s History Month at the Social Butterfly event in appreciation of her continued commitment to the City of Mount Vernon and its residents; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that a copy of this Resolution be entered into the official minutes of the City Council and that a suitably engrossed copy be presented as a symbol of the City’s appreciation and esteem.

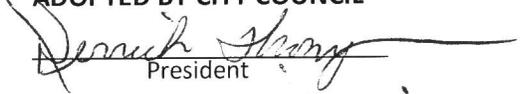
Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Abstain  
Resolution: Adopted

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

  
Councilperson

**THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

  
President

**APPROVED  
MAR 26 2026**

  
Date  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**  
  
City Clerk

4

5

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK,  
HONORING MELBA WILSON**

**Whereas**, Melba Wilson is a renowned restaurateur, entrepreneur, and cultural ambassador, and the founder of Melba’s Restaurant, a celebrated Harlem institution, as well as Melba’s Grand Central; and

**Whereas**, as a proud Harlem native, she has created welcoming spaces where culinary excellence, culture, and community converge, honoring and preserving the rich traditions of Southern comfort cuisine; and

**Whereas**, her leadership and entrepreneurial success have earned national recognition while uplifting her community through job creation, mentorship, and local engagement; and

**Whereas**, her restaurants have attracted celebrities and dignitaries from around the world, and she remains deeply committed to empowering others, serving as a mentor to aspiring entrepreneurs and chefs while advancing community development and preserving cultural heritage through her work; and

**Whereas**, Melba Wilson’s work continues to celebrate cultural heritage and inspire future generations through her dedication, vision, and service; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors MELBA WILSON during Women’s History Month for her outstanding contributions to business, culture, and community; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED**, that this recognition is presented at the Social Butterfly event in celebration of her lasting impact, leadership, and dedication to empowering others.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Abstain  
Resolution: Adopted

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

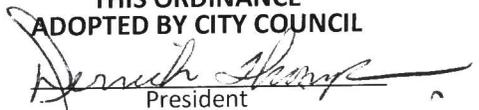
**APPROVED**

**MAR 26 2026**  
Date

  
BY   
Mayor

  
Councilperson

**THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

  
President

**ATTEST:**

  
City Clerk

5

6

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK  
HONORING RENEE NEUFVILLE**

**Whereas,** the City of Mount Vernon, New York, proudly comes together to honor Renee Neufville, an accomplished singer, songwriter, and performer, best known as one-half of the iconic R&B duo Zhané; and

**Whereas,** through her artistry, she helped shape and define the sound of 1990s R&B with timeless hits such as "Hey Mr. D.J." and "Sending My Love," reflecting musical excellence, style, and sophistication; and

**Whereas,** a classically trained musician, Ms. Neufville has also achieved distinction in the world of jazz, touring extensively with the acclaimed Roy Hargrove's RH Factor and demonstrating remarkable versatility across genres; and

**Whereas,** she is widely recognized as a pioneer of the neo-soul and contemporary R&B movements of the 1990s and 2000s, and her contributions—both as a member of Zhané and as a solo artist—continue to inspire and influence today's generation of performers and producers; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

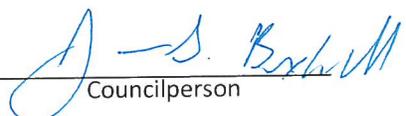
**RESOLVED,** that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors Renee Neufville during Women's History Month in recognition of her outstanding contributions to music, culture, and the arts; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that this recognition is presented at the Social Butterfly event in celebration of her enduring legacy and continued influence.

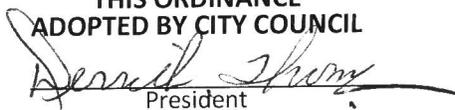
Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Abstain  
Resolution: Adopted

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

  
Councilperson

**THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

  
President

**APPROVED**

**MAR 26 2026**

Date

  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
City Clerk

4

7

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF  
AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) INTEGRATED  
PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEM (IPAWS)**

**Whereas**, in correspondence dated March 11, 2026, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management formally requested authorization for the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office for participation in the IPAWS program; and

**Whereas**, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its residents, businesses, and visitors during emergency situations; and

**Whereas**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), the nation's official system for disseminating critical public alerts and warnings through multiple communication platforms; and

**Whereas**, the IPAWS system enables local governments and authorized emergency management agencies to deliver life-safety alerts through several nationwide communication channels including Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) to mobile devices, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) through television and radio broadcasts, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards; and

**Whereas**, the City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management seeks authorization to integrate the City's existing interoperable emergency notification systems with FEMA's IPAWS Open Platform for Emergency Networks (IPAWS-OPEN) in order to deliver timely, accurate, and coordinated emergency alerts to the public; and

**Whereas**, participation in the IPAWS program will allow authorized personnel within the City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management to issue alerts during emergencies including severe weather events, public safety incidents, evacuations, public health emergencies, and other life-threatening situations; and

**Whereas**, the proposed Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Mount Vernon and the FEMA IPAWS Program Management Office authorizes the City to access and utilize the IPAWS-OPEN system for official emergency alerting purposes; and

**Whereas**, there is no financial cost to the City of Mount Vernon associated with entering into this Memorandum of Agreement, as FEMA is responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of the IPAWS-OPEN infrastructure, while the City will maintain its existing local systems and internet connectivity required to access the platform; and

**Whereas**, the Memorandum of Agreement has been reviewed by the Commissioner of Management Services and the City Law Department, both of which have determined that the agreement is appropriate for execution and consistent with the City's operational and legal requirements; and

**Whereas**, the City Council finds that participation in the FEMA IPAWS program will significantly enhance the City's ability to communicate life-saving information quickly and effectively to the public during emergencies and will strengthen coordination with federal, state, and regional emergency management agencies.

7

7

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Authorization to Execute Agreement. The Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon is hereby authorized and directed to execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office for participation in the IPAWS program.

Section 2. Program Participation. The City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management is hereby authorized to utilize the FEMA IPAWS-OPEN platform in conjunction with the City's existing interoperable emergency notification systems to issue authorized emergency alerts and warnings to the public during emergency situations.

Section 3. Operational Responsibilities. The City of Mount Vernon Office of Emergency Management shall ensure that authorized personnel are properly trained and certified to access and utilize the IPAWS system and shall maintain the City's local interoperable communication systems and connectivity necessary for participation in the program.

Section 4. Cost Impact. There shall be no direct financial cost to the City of Mount Vernon associated with this Memorandum of Agreement. FEMA shall remain responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of the IPAWS-OPEN system.

Section 5. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, or section directly involved in the controversy.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council and subsequent approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*Gregory A. Bailey*  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

*[Signature]*  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

*Derrick Thompson*  
President

APPROVED

MAR 26 2026

Date

*[Signature]*  
By Mayor

ATTEST:  
*[Signature]*  
City Clerk

7

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK,  
HONORING MAUREEN WALKER**

**Whereas,** Maureen Walker rendered exemplary public service to the City of Mount Vernon in her capacity as Comptroller, demonstrating the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to fiscal responsibility; and

**Whereas,** in 1993, Ms. Walker made history as the first woman, the first African American, and the first person of Caribbean descent elected to serve as Comptroller of the City of Mount Vernon; and

**Whereas,** throughout six consecutive terms spanning twenty-four years, Ms. Walker provided steadfast leadership over the City's financial operations, including oversight of the Finance and Payroll Departments, and administration of the City's budget, tax collection, insurance, real estate, and capital financing activities; and

**Whereas,** under her prudent stewardship, the City consistently achieved budget surpluses, maintained an A1 credit rating from Moody's Investors Service, and realized a record General Fund balance of \$19 million in 2015; and

**Whereas,** Ms. Walker advanced the modernization of the City's financial systems by implementing enhanced safeguards against fraud and introducing electronic and online payment systems, thereby increasing operational efficiency and strengthening public confidence; and

**Whereas,** her distinguished legacy of excellence and dedication to the residents of Mount Vernon stands as a lasting model of outstanding public service; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard in recognition of her outstanding leadership, dedicated public service, and significant contributions to the community; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon hereby honors Maureen Walker for her historic achievements and distinguished service to the City; and **BE IT FURTHER**

**RESOLVED,** that the City Council proudly recognizes the unveiling of her official portrait, to be displayed in the Comptroller's Office at City Hall, as a lasting tribute to her significant contributions and enduring legacy.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

  
Councilperson

**THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL**

  
President

APPROVED

**MAR 26 2026**

Date

  
BY \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
City Clerk

9

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRAVEL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSIONER TO ATTEND THE 2026 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Whereas**, in correspondence dated February 3, 2026, the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Community Development formally requested authorization to travel to Detroit, Michigan, from April 24 through April 28, 2026, to attend the 2026 American Planning Association National Conference; and

**Whereas**, the City of Mount Vernon recognizes the importance of professional development, continuing education, and networking opportunities for its municipal officials in order to enhance the quality of services provided to the residents of the City; and

**Whereas**, the Planning Commissioner has requested authorization to attend the 2026 American Planning Association National Conference to be held from April 24 through April 28, 2026, in Detroit, Michigan; and

**Whereas**, the American Planning Association (APA) is a national nonprofit professional organization that serves as an educational and advocacy organization for urban, city, and regional planners across the United States, with more than 40,000 members nationwide; and

**Whereas**, the annual APA National Conference provides educational training, professional development sessions, and networking opportunities for planners and public officials, with attendance typically ranging between 3,500 and 6,500 participants; and

**Whereas**, the Planning Commissioner is a certified planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and a member of its College of Fellows (FAICP), and is required to obtain thirty-two (32) continuing education credits every two years in order to maintain professional certification; and

**Whereas**, attendance at the conference will provide an opportunity for the Planning Commissioner to obtain certification maintenance credits while also advancing development, planning, design, and organizational capacity initiatives that may benefit the City of Mount Vernon; and

**Whereas**, the 2026 conference will be held at the Huntington Place Convention Center and lodging is anticipated at the Courtyard by Marriott Detroit Downtown, subject to availability; and

**Whereas**, the estimated cost of attendance, including hotel accommodations, conference registration, and airfare, is approximately Two Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars and Seventy-Six Cents (\$2,433.76).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Authorization.** The Mount Vernon City Council hereby authorizes the Planning Commissioner to travel to Detroit, Michigan, from April 24 through April 28, 2026, to attend the 2026 American Planning Association National Conference.

**Section 2. Funding.** The City Council authorizes such costs associated with attendance at the conference, including lodging, registration, airfare, and related per diem expenses, in an amount not to exceed \$2,433.76, subject to applicable City financial policies and procedures to be paid from the Austerity Budget Code A1030.402 upon submission of proper documentation, subject to the availability of funds and the Comptroller's approval.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council and approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*Gregory A. Bailey*  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

*A. S. Barkell*  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

*Derrick Thomas*  
President

ATTEST:

*Michelle Bonilla*  
City Clerk

APPROVED

MAR 26 2026

Date

*Mark D. Housel*  
BY Mayor

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

9

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING AN EMERGENCY  
AND AUTHORIZING THE IMMEDIATE REPAIR AND  
MOTOR REPLACEMENT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
ENGINE 206**

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**Whereas**, in correspondence March 23, 2026, the Mayor formally requested the adoption of legislation declaring the existence of an emergency arising from the compromised operational condition of Fire Department Engine 206, which presents an immediate risk to public safety and the City's emergency response capabilities; and

**Whereas**, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to ensuring the safety, health, and welfare of its residents through the effective operation of its Fire Department; and

**Whereas**, Fire Department Engine 206 is a critical piece of firefighting apparatus that plays a vital role in emergency response, fire suppression, and the protection of life and property; and

**Whereas**, the motor of Engine 206 has experienced a failure or significant operational deficiency, rendering the apparatus compromised and unreliable for emergency service; and

**Whereas**, the inability of Engine 206 to function at full capacity presents an immediate risk to public safety and emergency response readiness within the City; and

**Whereas**, the replacement of the motor in Engine 206 constitutes a necessary and urgent repair to restore the apparatus to safe and operational condition; and

**Whereas**, the cost of purchasing a new fire pumper apparatus exceeds One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000), with an anticipated procurement and delivery timeline of approximately two and one-half (2.5) to three (3) years; and

**Whereas**, repairing Engine 206 by replacing its motor is a fiscally responsible and cost-effective alternative that will extend the useful life of the apparatus and avoid significant capital expenditure; and

**Whereas**, the City has recently added two (2) new pumpers to its fleet, thereby increasing the importance of maintaining a reliable spare apparatus to ensure uninterrupted fire protection services during routine maintenance or unexpected equipment failures; and

**Whereas**, immediate action is required to prevent disruption in fire protection services and to maintain the operational readiness of the Fire Department; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to applicable law and the City Charter, the City Council may declare an emergency requiring immediate procurement and repair actions in order to preserve public safety;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Emergency Declaration.** The City Council hereby declares that an emergency exists due to the compromised operational condition of Fire Department Engine 206, which poses an immediate threat to public safety and emergency response capabilities.

**Section 2. Authorization of Repair and Motor Replacement.** The City Council hereby authorizes the immediate repair and replacement of the motor in Fire Department Engine 206 in order to restore the apparatus to full operational status.

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Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

**Section 3. Procurement Authority.** Notwithstanding any provision of the City Code to the contrary, the appropriate City officials, including but not limited to the Comptroller and the Commissioner of the Fire Department, are hereby authorized to take all necessary actions to expedite the procurement of parts, services, and labor required for the repair, consistent with emergency procurement procedures permitted by law.

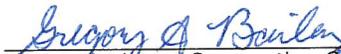
**Section 4. Funding.** The Comptroller is hereby authorized to identify, allocate, and, if necessary, transfer funds from appropriate accounts, including contingency or emergency reserves, to cover the cost associated with the repair and motor replacement of Engine 206.

**Section 5. Continuity Operations.** The Fire Department is authorized to take any additional operational measures necessary to ensure continuity of fire protection services during the repair period, including the utilization of reserve apparatus.

**Section 6. Severability.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof.

**Section 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the City Council, in light of the emergency circumstances set forth herein, and upon subsequent approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

APPROVED

MAR 26 2026

Date

BY   
Mayor

  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

  
President

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

11

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE REPAIR OF FIRE ENGINE 206

Whereas, in correspondence dated March 23, 2026, the Comptroller formally requested legislation authorizing the transfer of funds in the amount of Sixty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$67,684.13) from the Contingency Account to the Fire Department Repairs to Plant and Equipment Account for the purpose of repairing Fire Engine 206.

Whereas, the City of Mount Vernon is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents through the proper maintenance and operation of essential public safety equipment; and

Whereas, Fire Engine 206 is a critical asset within the Mount Vernon Fire Department's fleet, necessary for effective emergency response and fire suppression services; and

Whereas, the City has identified the need for repairs to Fire Engine 206 in order to maintain its operational readiness and reliability; and

Whereas, the Office of the Comptroller has reviewed the financial requirements associated with said repairs and has recommended the transfer of funds to support this necessary expenditure; and

Whereas, sufficient funds are available within the Contingency line to accommodate such transfer without adversely affecting other budgetary obligations; and

Whereas, the City Council finds it to be in the best interest of the City to authorize the transfer of funds to ensure the timely repair and continued service of Fire Engine 206;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Authorization of Fund Transfer. The City Council hereby authorizes the transfer of funds in the amount of Sixty-Seven Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Four Dollars and Thirteen Cents (\$67,684.13) from the Contingency Account to the Fire Department Repairs to Plant and Equipment Account for the purpose of repairing Fire Engine 206.

Section 2. Account Designation. The transfer shall be made as follows:

Table with 3 columns: From, Amount, To. From: Account No. A1990.493 (Contingency), Amount: \$67,684.13, To: Account No. A3410.414 - (Fire Department - Repairs to Plant and Equipment)

Section 3. Purpose. The funds transferred pursuant to this Ordinance shall be used exclusively for the repair and restoration of Fire Engine 206 to ensure its safe and effective operation.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council and subsequent approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Signature of Gregory A. Boulay, Assistant Corporation Counsel

Signature of Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Signature of President

APPROVED MAR 26 2026 Date

Signature of Mayor

Signature of City Clerk

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026 Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea Resolution: Adopted

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AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE MOTOR IN FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE 206

Whereas, in correspondence dated March 16, 2026, the Commissioner of the Fire Department formally requested authorization for the Mount Vernon Fire Department to replace the motor of Engine 206, including all associated parts and labor, at a total cost of \$68,482.60 through Black Rock Truck Group, Inc.; and

Whereas, the Mount Vernon Fire Department relies on the operational readiness of its fleet to protect the lives and property of the City's residents; and

Whereas, Engine 206 is a critical firefighting apparatus that has responded to numerous emergencies and is essential to the City's emergency response capabilities; and

Whereas, in correspondence dated March 23, 2026, the Mayor formally requested that the City Council declare an emergency due to the compromised operational condition of Engine 206, which poses an immediate threat to public safety; and

Whereas, a recent evaluation by the Fire Department's maintenance team determined that the motor of Engine 206 has seized, rendering the vehicle inoperable; and

Whereas, maintaining a fully operational spare apparatus is necessary to ensure uninterrupted service during routine maintenance or unexpected breakdowns of the primary fleet; and

Whereas, the replacement of the motor in Engine 206, at a total cost of \$68,482.60, represents a fiscally responsible alternative to purchasing a new pumper, which averages approximately \$900,000; and

Whereas, Black Rock Truck Group, Inc., the awarded vendor under Westchester County Purchasing Contract RFB-WC-24016 (Freightliner OEM Truck Parts, expiration 02/28/2027), will provide the motor, necessary parts, and labor for the replacement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK:

Section 1. Authorization of Motor Replacement. The City Council hereby authorizes the Mount Vernon Fire Department to replace the motor of Engine 206, including all associated parts and labor, at a total cost of \$68,482.60 through Black Rock Truck Group, Inc.

Section 2. Funding. The cost of the motor replacement shall be funded through the Fire Department Repairs to Plant and Equipment Account (A3410.414).

Section 3. Emergency Declaration. Due to the compromised operational status of Engine 206 and the immediate threat to public safety, this Ordinance is declared an emergency measure. Accordingly, it shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council and subsequent approval by the Board of Estimate and Contract.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption and approval as provided in Section 3.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

*Gregory A. Bailey*  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

*[Signature]*  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

*Derrick Thompson*  
President

APPROVED  
MAR 26 2026  
Date

*[Signature]*  
BY Mayor

ATTEST:  
*[Signature]*  
City Clerk

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**AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE COUNTY AND SPECIAL DISTRICT TAX RATE, LEVYING SAID TAX AND CONFIRMING THE COUNTY AND SPECIAL DISTRICT TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2026 AND ORDERING THE ISSUANCE OF A WARRANT THEREFORE**

**Whereas**, by letter dated March 23, 2026, the Comptroller has requested legislation fixing the tax rates for the County and Special District taxes for the year 2026; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to Section 239 of the Charter of the City of Mount Vernon, as amended by Local Law No. 5 of 1976, the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon is required to levy and cause to be raised a tax for the County and Special District taxes for the year 2026; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to Section 239 of the Charter of the City of Mount Vernon, as amended by Local Law No. 5 of 1976, the City of Mount Vernon is required to confirm said County and Special District taxes and issue a warrant therefor; **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That**

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

Section 1. There shall be levied and caused to be raised by tax upon property subject to taxation in the City of Mount Vernon the sum of \$27,814,244.

Section 2. That the tax rate for the year 2026 on all taxable property in the City of Mount Vernon is hereby fixed at thirteen and four hundred ninety-seven thousandths cents (.13497) upon each dollar of assessed valuation of real or personal property valued at \$147,075,763 within the City of Mount Vernon, to be collected from the several owners thereof, and taxable for County and Special District tax purposes pursuant to law, and at twenty-nine hundred sixty-four thousandths cents (.02964) upon each dollar of assessed valuation of exempt real and personal property valued at \$41,202,172 assessed for Sewer District purposes only, and at one and five hundred seventy-five thousandths cents (.01575) upon each dollar of assessed valuation of exempt real and personal property valued at \$9,551,540 assessed for Refuse Disposal District No. 1 only.

Section 3. The taxes for the year 2026 for County and Special District purposes as provided in Section 2 hereof as apportioned and extended by the Comptroller against the respective assessments are the same as set forth in the assessment roll, be and each of them are, in all respects confirmed, and a warrant shall thereupon issue to be signed by the President of the City Council and the Mayor directing the Comptroller to collect the amount of said taxes as provided by law, and said assessment roll, together with the taxes so apportioned and extended, together with the said warrant, shall be the County and Special

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District Tax Roll for the year 2026, and the City Clerk is directed to deliver the same forthwith to the Comptroller.

Section 4. The said warrant shall be returned to the City Council on or before December 31, 2026, unless extended.

Section 5. Pursuant to Section 245 of the Charter of the City of Mount Vernon, the Comptroller shall, within 15 days from the return of said warrant, make and deliver to the City Council a return of all taxes and assessments mentioned in the County and Special District Tax Roll for the year 2026 remaining unpaid at the time of the making of said return.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

Vote Was Taken As Follows: 03/25/2026  
Gleason: Yea Thompson: Yea  
Turnquest-Jones: Yea Wallace: Yea  
Resolution: Adopted

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Gregory A. Bentley  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

J. S. Bralitt  
Councilperson

THIS ORDINANCE  
ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Derrick Sharp  
President

APPROVED  
MAR 26 2026

Matthew H. Howell  
BY Mayor

ATTEST:  
M. Colebourne  
City Clerk