

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Monday February 1, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Houston and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann, was answered by Mayor Ken Houston, Councilors Phil Vogel, Doug Pepple, Tim McQuinn, and Kim Kramer. Ralph Widmer and City Attorney George Loy were not in attendance.

**Minutes**-Phil Vogel made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2016 meeting as presented. Kim Kramer seconded. All ayes, motion passed.

**Additions & Deletions**-None

**Citizen Participation**-None

**Department Heads Reports**- Water Superintendent Rod Pool indicated we have had five main breaks since 1-1-16 which is down from last year. The most recent one was at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Ireland streets. Joe Mowrer of Wastewater said that there are 4 catch basins on 6<sup>th</sup> Street that are experiencing sink holes which will require repairs. The new plant construction project is going well. Frank Arthur from the Street Department mentioned that the crew is trimming branches from the alleys. They are considering the purchase of a stump grinder. There are approximately 50 stumps to be removed. Frank has been working with City Attorney George Loy on revising the permit process as it pertains to cutting of the streets by contractors. Fire Chief Galen Logan indicated that four firefighters passed the White Belt Certification with training provided through Ivy Tech. Former firefighter and council member Larry Smith has had serious health issues over the past days and weeks. Police Chief Randy Soliday said that he and Assistant Chief Tim McFadden attended training classes on how to manage the emotional challenges of police work. There has been an increase in suicides with police officers prompting more training and help on this matter. State mandated training will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Additional training on "scenario based" events will be held at Woodlawn. Mitch Billue of the Parks presented the Council with figures on the Amphitheatre Project. A total of \$60,000.00 has been provided with grants from the White County Community Foundation. 67 triaxles of dirt has come from the wastewater plant construction project. With an estimated project cost of \$79,000 only \$7,632.00 has been spent from the Altherr funds. Mitch has had 28 reservations for pavilion rentals so far this year. ADA Coordinator Cathy Gross said that the Lafayette Spinners will be here to play on March 10<sup>th</sup>. The Police and Fire Departments will play a challenge game on that evening. Rod Pool added to his report that Well # 2 is not working and they are determining the issues at this time. Rod also asked that the Council consider the importance of a new well field. It is very important to plan for the future. Ten acres at a minimum would be required.

**Committee Reports**-None

**Old Business**-None

**New Business:**

1. Tootsie Roll Drive-Knights of Columbus-Steve Goodwin-June 2, 3, and 4

The Council members discussed allowing the Knights of Columbus to use Main and Fisher. There were concerns from last year on this intersection. It was decided that the Knights of Columbus should have their meeting on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the exact dates they want for the Tootsie Roll Drive. In 2015 it was held during the second weekend of June. The background on the use of Main and Fisher as a location will be researched as to the pros and cons in order to give the Knights of Columbus a yes or no.

2. Discussion of the house at 124 Dewey Street-Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann indicated that Wells Fargo owns the property and sent a letter to the City indicating they would give the property to the City. Phil Vogel suggested a letter be sent to Wells Fargo asking if they would consider tearing the house down or financially assist the City in doing so. The property in question is on the City's list of abandoned properties. The Mayor and Clerk Treasurer will prepare a letter to Wells Fargo.

**Accounts Payable Vouchers**-None

**Miscellaneous and all other matters**-Phil Vogel brought up the matter of the former Monticello Floral location. The owners started to clean up the property, but did not complete the work. Mayor Houston indicated he would check on the status of the property clean up with the Police Department and consult with City Attorney George Loy on our next steps.

Doug Pepple asked about the status of the IT quotes. They are due to the Board Of Works by 2-16-2016. Doug would be interested in having a decision made as soon as possible so other matters dealing with IT can move forward.

Mayor Houston brought up the directive by the State Board of Accounts on a policy for variances, losses, shortages and thefts. Also, the Mayor indicated there were new regulations put forth by the US Department of Labor on White Collar wages and benefits. Once more information is gathered on this action will be required by the City.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

James D Mann  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello