

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY OCTOBER 7, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on October 7, 2019 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 Councilors Kim Kramer, Doug Pepple, Tim McQuinn, Ralph Widmer and Phil Vogel. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

Minutes- Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 3, 2019 meeting at 6:00 pm as presented. Phil Vogel seconded the motion. McQuinn-Aye, Kramer-Aye, Pepple-Aye, Widmer-Abstain and Vogel-Aye. Motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-Mayor Houston added "Street Department-Request for Appraisals" as New Business, Item 6.

Citizen Participation-None

Department Head Reports-Parks Department Supervisor Mitch Billue announced 3 programs planned at the park. Ghost Stories will be held at Altherr Nature Park on 10-12, the Road Rally sponsored by the Rotary Club will be held on October 13th, and the School of Rock music performances will be held at 6:00 pm on 10-17 at the amphitheatre. Fire Chief Galen Logan reported that the local emergency planning committee met on October 1st. This is the group that plans for how the community would respond when a disaster strikes. The LECP will be having a tabletop exercise on October 16th. Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12 and the department is planning many activities to highlight the week. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported the street projects are progressing nicely. The Senior Center parking lot construction is also moving along well. A light pole was knocked over at the round-a-bout. Wastewater Superintendent Adam Downey reported that he will be attending an asset management seminar on October 8 2019. A new generator has been installed at the Bryan's lift station. Accu-dig is televising laterals for Project 4 of the LTCP so they can be included in the bid package. Police Chief Randy Soliday reported that Travis Clark and Jeremy Kyburz will be going to a field officer school from October 16-18. Chief Soliday also reported the department applied for a grant from Homeland Security for radios. He was notified that they received the grant in the amount of \$148,000.00. This will help the department purchase half the radios needed. Water Superintendent Rod Pool indicated they will be flushing hydrants on October 15-18. ADA Coordinator Cathy Gross thanked all the partners that helped to make the 10-3 Wellness Event a success. She also indicated she will be presenting/participating in an ADA 1 Event along with an AIM Wellness Committee Meeting.

Committee Reports-Mayor Houston reported the employee handbook committee is reviewing the draft provided by NewFocusHR. Progress is being made.

Old Business-

- 1. Clerk Treasurer-Authorization to Invest Public Funds-City Attorney George Loy** outlined the statutes which provide for the investment of public funds. Resolution 2019-07 would give permission for the Clerk Treasurer to solicit bids and invest per IC 5-13-9-5. Ordinance 2019-10 reauthorizes the investment of public funds for more than 2 years but not more than 5 years. The investment policy of the City is a part of the ordinance. George indicated the Resolution and Ordinance should be moved on to a 2nd reading. Doug Pepple made a motion to move Ordinance 2019-10 to a 2nd reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Tim McQuinn made a motion to move Resolution 2019-07 to a 2nd reading. Phil Vogel seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 2. Public Hearing-Resolution 2019-08-Contract Appropriation-MFD-The public hearing** was opened at 6:24 pm. Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann outlined the reasons for the appropriations request. The Fire Department has engaged in contracts over the years to provide funding for equipment needed for department operations. The contracts are with Union Township, Jefferson Township, and White County. The monies received over the years have been specified for equipment purchases. Jim also indicated that \$250,000 of the request is for payment to reduce the loan amount the County provided to the City in order to help build the station. Mayor Houston indicated that the loan will be paid back in full by the end of 2020. Mayor Houston closed the public hearing at 6:26 pm. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-08. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

New Business

- 1. Discussion of Turkey Vulture Problem-Karly Rushmore-USDA-Karly** made a presentation regarding "Turkey Vultures and Potential Solutions" which outlined various solutions to dealing with them. She said the efforts will take persistence and include the use of different methods to have an impact. The location in question is the telephone building on Illinois Street. There was discussion regarding how long it would take using a combination of methods to see a reduction of the problem. Karly indicated it would depend on what techniques were used and how the birds reacted. Tim McQuinn asked why it was the City's problem if the vultures are perching on the tower of the phone company building. Police Chief Randy Soliday indicated he has been contacted by the building owner for assistance with the problem. Karly suggested the best approach to the problem would be to start addressing it next spring. Joe Maudlin (who owns the property directly to the North) indicated he hopes to have a positive discussion with the new owners. He asked for a letter of support with regards to the turkey vulture issue. Ralph Widmer made a motion to provide a letter of support on removing the turkey vultures from the towers at the telephone company building on Illinois Street. Tim McQuinn seconded the motion, All ayes, motion carried.

- 2. Public Hearing-2020 City of Monticello Budget-**Mayor Houston opened the public hearing at 6:53 pm. Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann outlined the great work done by the Mayor and Department Heads in the preparation of the 2020 Budget. Jim pointed out that a 6.2% increase in the medical insurance premium had to be covered along with the final payment to White County on the loan to Monticello for the new fire station. In addition, the budget includes funds in MVH (\$250,000) to be used as a match with Community Crossings. Another highlight is to put the funding in the fire department budget to purchase the new ambulance due for delivery in early 2020. Mayor Houston commended the Department Heads for their efforts with the 2020 budget as well as the previous ones. The Mayor also thanked members of the salary matrix committee for working with him over a two-year period to create the salary ordinance for public safety employees. He indicated work was also done on the salary ordinance for public works and utility employees by establishing ranges and setting minimums for various job classifications. Council member Doug Pepple inquired as to whether the budget had been vetted by an independent firm. Mayor Houston said that Baker Tilly (Umbaugh) has properly reviewed and vetted the budget. There being no further questions the public hearing was closed at 7:02 pm.
- 3. Resolution 2019-09 Appropriations & Tax Rates for 2020-1st Reading-**Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann discussed the budget information as found on the resolution. A motion was made by Ralph Widmer to move Resolution 2019-09 to a 2nd reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 4. 2020 Salary Ordinances-**Mayor Houston introduced Ordinance 2019-12-An Ordinance Establishing Salaries of Elected Officials of The City of Monticello for the Calendar Year 2020. Tim McQuinn made a motion to move the ordinance to a 2nd reading. Phil Vogel seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. The Mayor then discussed Ordinance 2019-13-An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers, Public Works and Utility Employees of the City of Monticello Indiana for Calendar Year 2020. He indicated salary ranges and adjusted minimum pay levels were built into this ordinance per the wishes of the Council. Phil Vogel made a motion to move the ordinance to a 2nd reading. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Mayor Houston then introduced Ordinance 2019-14-An Ordinance Fixing Salaries of Public Safety Employees of the City of Monticello Indiana for the Calendar Year 2020. Doug Pepple made a motion to move the ordinance to a 2nd reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 5. Parks Department-Ordinance 2019-11-Transfer of Funds-**The ordinance would allow for the transfer of \$2,600.00 from New Equipment 101008441 to Repair of Equipment 101008361 in order to repair a tractor. Doug Pepple made a motion to suspend the rules and pass the ordinance on first reading. Tim McQuinn seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried. Phil Vogel made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-11. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

6. **Street Department-Request for Appraisals**-Mayor Houston informed the Council that the City may have an opportunity to buy the 2 buildings currently owned by Mann Concrete. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur indicated that Mann Concrete will be going out of business at the end of the year. The property is adjacent to the Street department location. The Council will give this consideration and re-address at the next meeting.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters- Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the 2020 Council/Board of Works Meeting Dates and Times. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. McQuinn-Abstain, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Vogel-aye, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Houston asked the Council to consider the one proposal we received on the 2 tax sale properties and determine the next steps. He also asked for direction on the old fire station (appraisal). Finally, that we should be deciding on the next steps with regards to the utility rates.

Adjournment-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello