

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on January 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cathy Gross and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was conducted using the Zoom virtual meeting format.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann, was answered by Councilors Kim Kramer, Bill Cheever, Ralph Widmer, Ken Houston and Doug Pepple. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

Minutes-Bill Cheever made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 4, 2021 as presented. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-None

Citizen Participation-None

Department Head Reports-Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported that he is working on a Community Crossings Application for \$216,000.00 which involves street preservation. The application is due by the end of January 2021. Frank also said that Hamstra Contractors will be starting on the demolition of the old street department building very soon. In addition, Frank outlined the options and challenges of sidewalk development on the Fisher Street hill leading to Bluewater as well as along 3rd Street. Some of the initial quotes have been expensive. Parks Department Superintendent Mitch Billue reported the Rotary Club is assisting with the development of free WIFI at the City Park. Mitch indicated he would like to purchase a new tractor. The current mower/tractor would be traded in. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported the Sam Manion is moving along well with his training. Jason said the Rich Lee is working with Joe Rogers of Area Plan on two properties which have been problems off and on for some time. Also, the first drafts of revised SOP's have been sent to George Loy and the Board of Works members. Chief Galen Logan reported he, Craig Green, Jacob Norwell, and Ryan Blake will be meeting with the representatives from Lexipol on the 21st to discuss the departments' SOG's. Wastewater Treatment Supervisor Bob Lindley reported that Cleary Construction will be starting project 4 with ground breaking beginning the week of January 18th. Bill Lutz is the Commonwealth engineer on site for the project. Water Superintendent Rod Pool reported there have been 5 water main breaks so far during the winter season. ADA Coordinator Katherine Tardiff indicated she has translated Executive Orders 2052 and 2053 into Spanish. ADA Indiana is offering scholarships and training for interested individuals as they continue to expand outreach/education throughout the State.

Committee Reports-None

Old Business-Ken Houston inquired about time lines/schedules for the old fire station and the street department addition projects. Mayor Gross said that Curt from Hamstra is working on this for the City.

New Business

- 1. Discussion on COVID 19 Policy-Return to Work/Vaccinations-**Council member Ken Houston questioned whether elected officials fall under the details of the employee handbook especially if the City adds COVID-19 policy guidelines as an addendum to the employee manual. City Attorney George Loy indicated the Governor's Executive Orders for COVID policies would impact elected and non- elected officials as it pertains to mitigation, testing and procedures. George indicated this matter should be researched and discussed further.
- 2. Personnel Policy Manual Discussion-**Mayor Gross indicated she would appreciate having more time to review the documents. Council member Ralph Widmer suggested that questions/thoughts/comments be communicated among the members of the council and board of works and then a committee meeting be set up to discuss them. Ralph feels the vacation policy information needs corrected. Doug Pepple suggested the changes and corrections be sent to CT Jim Mann and a committee meeting be set after March 1, 2021.
- 3. Accounts Payable Vouchers-**Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the accounts payable vouchers as presented. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Miscellaneous and all other matters-Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann asked the Council to consider an invoice from RecDesk which involves a new software program that the Parks Department would like to begin using. Mitch Billue explained the program would allow city patrons to reserve and pay for pavilion rentals, renting the Anhier Building space, and would lead to reserving programs at the pool. It would also be a benefit to current and future parks department programming. Mayor Gross indicated there was an oversight as the appropriation lines were entered for the Parks budget. Doug Pepple suggested that the Clerk's office should make sure to improve the controls on entering budgets and make note of this error for future action. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve the RecDesk invoice in the amount of \$4,800.00 to be paid from 2020 Council funds. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay, and Widmer-nay. Motion carried.

Adjournment-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello