

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY APRIL 5, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on April 5, 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 Mayor Cathy Gross, Councilors Bill Cheever, Ken Houston, Kim Kramer, Doug Pepple and Ralph Widmer. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

Minutes-Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 15, 2021 as presented. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. Roll call vote-Cheever-aye, Houston-aye, Pepple-abstain, Kramer-aye, and Widmer-aye, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-None

Citizen Participation-None

Department Head Reports-Water Superintendent Wade Cohagan reported that Merrill Brothers has pumped out the back wash tanks to remove unwanted substances from the plant. Wade also said the department has been patching street cuts. Council at Large member Ken Houston requested that the residents along South Main be updated on the progress of the project and when their driveways will be repaired. Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley discussed the progress on the collection systems project with work underway at St Mary's Street and Tioga Road. Bob explained the project involves work to be done on lines A, B, C and D. Bob said the Wastewater Plant received the IWEE Award for 2020. This is a safety award accomplished by a detailed audit performed by the IWEE. Job well done to Dave Fagan for working on this project. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported that the addition to the building is progressing. Frank said he sent out for quotes for sidewalk and street projects and hopes to have them for the next Board of Works meeting on April 19, 2021. Ken Houston requested the new sidewalks for South Main Street be completed with the west side being prioritized first. Ralph Widmer expressed concern regarding the condition of Ohio Street between Bluff and Maple. Frank Arthur indicated this street is a part of the 2021 paving program. Parks Department Superintendent Mitch Billue thanked the Fire Department for their help on conducting a prescribed burn at Altherr Nature Park. Mitch also stated he is planning on opening the City Pool and will be documenting regulations for pool patrons. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported the department has finished defensive tactics training. The Officers with canines assisted with a search at Tri County High School. Jason also indicated he is working with Safety Officer Bob Hickman to review procedures at the City Buildings. Fire Chief Galen Logan reported that Captain Rocky Strange retired as of March 27th. Yaritza Sanchez began her career on the same day. The Safe Haven Baby Box project is getting closer to completion with all the funds being raised for the box itself and the construction aspect of the work. ADA Coordinator Katharine Tardiff reported that all the art has been received for Disability Awareness Month and images have been sent to the judges. Thanks to Tony Stroup for his help!

Committee Reports-None

Old Business

- 1. Discussion of Festivals-**Mayor Gross explained that she feels the Spirit Festival should be allowed with certain guidelines. She stated that the festival committee would need to provide signage throughout the festival grounds urging the use of masks and social distancing. Free masks would be made available at the information booth. Each vendor would need to provide hand sanitizer at their booth. Doug Pepple asked Festival Chairperson Darin Griesey if he was aware the requirements as presented by the Mayor. Mr. Griesey stated that he was and many vendors have been using these protocols anyway. Ralph Widmer asked who would be enforcing the wearing of masks. Mayor Gross indicated the wearing of masks would be recommended as per Governor Holcomb's guidelines and not mandated. Ralph Widmer made a motion to approve moving forward with the festival with the guidelines as discussed. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.

New Business

- 1. Cindy Beck-Consideration of Welcome Magazine Ad-**Cindy explained that 10,000 copies will be printed and distributed throughout the area in high traffic locations. Cindy indicated the City ran a ½ page vertical ad in 2020 with the cost being \$210.00. It was noted that the photography used will be changed for 2021. The cost of the ad will be split 3 ways with Council, Mayor and Clerk Treasurer paying the invoice from Business and Promotion. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve the Ad. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 2. Discussion of Bucket Shakes-**Mayor's Secretary Lori Cheever reported that the Knights of Columbus members will be doing the bucket shake themselves and not the CDC patrons. The Knights agreed to mask and social distance. Mayor Gross indicated she felt the bucket shake would be a safe means to have a fundraiser. Ken Houston expressed concerns about having bucket shakes but would be willing to consider specific rules and guidelines with the bucket shakes. There was discussion regarding limiting the number of bucket shakes per year and developing additional criteria for having them. The criteria used in the past involves safety, being 18 and older, where a person stands, wearing reflective vests, times, signage, and specific streets. Ralph Widmer brought up requiring the organization having a 501C3 status. Ken Houston made a motion to table action on this matter in order that criteria and protocols be documented. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters- Mayor Gross brought up her suggestion to continue wearing masks at City Buildings for the next 2 weeks. She also said the bell is being relocated on Bluff Street and trees are being cleared at the Riverwalk location. It was also noted that Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley's daughter has been accepted to attend Vanderbilt. She will be studying pre-law.

Adjournment-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello