

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY MARCH 15, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on March 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm 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, and Ralph Widmer. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

Minutes-Ken Houston made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 1, 2021 as presented. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. Roll call vote-Cheever-aye, Houston-aye, Widmer-abstain, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-None

Citizen Participation-None

Department Head Reports-Fire Chief Galen Logan reported the department has completed certifications on ACLS cardiac care training. This is done every two years. The new fire engine passed final inspection on March 2 and 3 and the department will take delivery in April. This truck will be paid for by Union Township. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported the new carriers for the bullet resistant vests have been delivered. This makes a difference on a patrolman's back. The department also completed nighttime firearms training. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur indicated February was an expensive month with 1,300 gallons of diesel fuel used (normal 500), 220 tons of salt, 130 tons of sand, and the employees averaged 55 hours per week. Frank said he is obtaining quotes for street paving and sidewalk replacement. He hopes to have these for April's Board of Works meeting. Frank also said lights were replaced in the parking lot behind the post office and it has made a big improvement. ADA Coordinator Katherine Tardiff reported that she is planning for Disability Awareness Month in May. The "In Our Own Voice" program will be brought to White County for the first time. It will be held on May 19th at the library. Parks Supervisor Mitch Billue reported that Rec Desk online reservations went online as of March 15th. So far there have been 26 reservations and 2 weddings managed through this program. Mitch also indicated that free WIFI is now available at the City Park due to the partnership of N2N Technologies, Lightstream, and the Rotary Club. Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley reported Cleary Construction has resumed action with project 4 and a progress meeting was held on March 10th. Bob said the department is doing maintenance on pumps at Bryan's lift station and rebuilding ultraviolet disinfectant systems at the plant. Water Superintendent Rod Pool reported that "locates" have increased due to improved weather. Rod said in his "parting shot" to the Council to keep moving forward on well field development. He said no additional wells can be dug at the current location. Mayor Gross congratulated Rod on his 40 years of service.

Committee Reports-None

Old Business-None

New Business

- 1. Discussion of Festivals**-Mayor Gross indicated that it was her understanding the matter of festivals would be for discussion only and that no decision would be made unless it was the will of the Council to do so. She also stated that information from the CDC was sent to the Council regarding mitigation protocols where planning for gatherings and events are concerned. And, Darin Griesey was present via Zoom as he had requested permission to hold the Spirit Festival. Ken Houston indicated he did not receive the “special detail” form. (Note: Let the record show that the Clerk Treasurer made an error and did not send the special detail form and any other documents pertaining to the festival request by Mr. Griesey). Darin outlined some of the festival details for the Council and asked if there were any questions. Mayor Gross stated it is her understanding that State and Federal Health Officials are moving to a festival/event re-opening for the July 4th timeframe. Ken Houston stated that he would like to have input from the entire Council on this matter. He said there are details from the CDC guidelines that need to be considered such as masking, social distancing, hand sanitizing, concerns regarding loud music and such. Bob Hickman commented that he will stand behind the CDC guidelines and that how, when and under what circumstances a festival would be held is a political decision. Bob indicated the CDC guidelines change nearly every day. Ralph Widmer said he would be in favor of having the festival as long as guidelines can be established. Bill Cheever stated that the State has already issued guidance on gatherings based upon Executive Order 21-06. Bill said there is a blueprint for having festivals/gatherings by the State and we can locally make them more stringent. Bob Hickman asked the Council and Mr. Griesey to consider pages 6-7 of Executive Order 21-06 where the details of a COVID Response Plan are laid out. ADA Coordinator Katherine Tardiff pointed out further details on page 8 of the Executive Order. Mayor Gross stated the discussion has been very good on the matter of festivals and additional discussions will follow before the next Council meeting. Ken Houston made a motion to table action on this request by Darin Griesey until the next Council meeting. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

- 2. Discussion of Commonwealth Task Order 2021-1 Phase 2 W Washington Street Project for Community Crossings-**Ken Houston asked to clarify what line items would be used to pay for the \$89,579.00 requested as a result of the task order. It would be split from Council line item 101001312-Engineering and line item 402001451-CCD. Ken Houston made a motion to approve the expenditure as presented for Task Order 2021-1. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

- 3. Accounts Payable Vouchers-**Ralph Widmer made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters-Mayor Gross read a letter of commendation from Lt. Mike Hill referencing the heroism displayed by Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Mohler as he worked to extricate a semi driver from the cab during a traffic accident on I-65 South of Wolcott.

Adjournment-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello