

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
FRIDAY OCTOBER 1, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on October 1, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cathy Gross at 4:00 pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held at 120 W Washington Street and conducted in person and virtually using the Zoom virtual meeting format.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann, was answered “present and in person” by Mayor Cathy Gross, Councilors Bill Cheever, Kim Kramer, Ralph Widmer, Doug Pepple, Ken Houston and City Attorney George Loy.

Minutes-Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of September 20, 2021 as presented. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-None

Citizen Participation-Alex Alexander asked the Council if there was any plan to create a dog park. Mayor Gross said there were no active plans to develop a dog park although it has been discussed by the Parks Board over the years. Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue indicated there is no space available within the current park land areas to develop a dog park. Council member Ken Houston recommended they put together a committee and begin to work up a proposal. Duane Dickensheets inquired about whether there are any vacant lots available within the City.

Department Head Reports-Fire Chief Galen Logan reported that Leadership White County began classes at the Fire Department conference room on September 15th. Galen also indicated they had a successful audit review with medical director Dr. Mark Estes on September 17th. Fire Prevention week starts on October 3rd and completes on the 9th. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported that the interview process for a patrolman is progressing and they are waiting on polygraph result. Safety Officer Bob Hickman reported on developing a plan for OSHA training with the Street Department especially as we enter into leaf pick up season. Bob discussed the need for consideration the use of Occupation Health Clinics such as ROCC in Lafayette. This will save on expense as we avoid using ER departments. Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue reported there was a great crowd (37) at the Hoots & Howls” program. Fifty people attended the astronomy program. Mitch also said there is an Eagle Scout candidate working on one of the piers at Bluewater Park. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported the new street lights are operational on West Washington. There will be one more brush pick up on October 11th and then leaf pick up will begin. Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley reported on the Collection Systems projects throughout the City. Water Superintendent Wade Cohagen reported the RCA project is progressing with line testing to begin the week of October 11th.

Committee Reports-None

Proclamation-Mayor Gross read a proclamation regarding Fire Prevention Week-October 3-9

Old Business-

- 1. 2022 Monticello City Budget-2nd Reading of Ordinance 2021-08-**Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-08 on second reading. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.
- 2. Second Reading Salary Ordinance 2021-09-Establishing the Salaries of Elected Officials for Calendar Year 2022-**Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-09 on second reading. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.
- 3. Second Reading of Salary ordinance 2021-10-Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers, Public Works and Utility Employees for Calendar Year 2022-**Ken Houston inquired about the Street Department salary line item. Mayor Gross said that in 2022 there will be a retirement which means a new hire will be at a much lower rate than in 2021 and therefore the increase will not be a straight 5%. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-10 on second reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-aye, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.
- 4. Second Reading of Salary Ordinance 2021-11-Salaries of Public Safety Officers and Employees for Calendar Year 2022-**City Attorney George Loy explained that Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter and Fire Chief Galen Logan reviewed the salary ordinance from the first reading and made several corrections. Mayor Gross indicated that the “housekeeping changes” made result in a net decrease in the salaries. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-11 on second reading. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.
- 5. Consideration of Employee Policy Handbook-**Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann requested the Council set a date of November 1st for taking action on the Handbook. This would give everyone approximately 30 days to review. Ralph Widmer indicated feedback would be welcomed by the Department Heads.

New Business-

- 1. Consideration of Trick or Treat and Trunk or Treat-**Mayor Gross requested the Council consider approving the time for Trick or Treat from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. This would help improve safety for those participating. Ken Houston made a motion to approve the 5:00-7:00 pm time frame on October 30th. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Trunk or Treat-Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter outlined a plan for the trunk and treat event which creates a safe route for the kids and also tries to maintain social distancing. Mayor Gross added that additional volunteers will be recruited in order to keep everyone safe. Those opening their trunks will be masked and have hand sanitizer. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the logistics (route) for the trunk or treat event planned for October 30 from 3:00-5:00 pm. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay, and Widmer-aye. Motion carried.

- 2. Consideration of Riverfront Development Resolution 2021-07-**City Attorney George Loy reviewed the resolution with the Council and Mayor Gross. He explained the boundaries of the new development area and cited the statutory language in the resolution that connects to alcoholic beverage permitting. Council member Ken Houston inquired about whether there is a specific number of permits that can be issued. City Attorney George Loy said that he did not know if there is a specific number. Mayor Gross said that additional information can be obtained. It was decided to table the matter.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters- None

Adjournment-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello