

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
MONDAY DECEMBER 6, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on December 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:17 pm by Mayor Cathy Gross 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, Ralph Widmer, Ken Houston, Kim Kramer, Doug Pepple and City Attorney George Loy.

**Minutes**-Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 15, 2021. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Houston-aye, Pepple-abstain and Widmer-aye.

**Additions & Deletions**-Mayor Gross requested that under new business, item number 9 be deleted from the agenda.

**Citizen Participation**-None

**Department Head Reports**-ADA Coordinator Diane Bunnell reported that she is continuing receiving online training, working on Disability Awareness Month activities, and making community contacts. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported that leaf and brush pick up continues with the current count at 130 loads. Frank said that Hawk Enterprises will be working on the bases as traffic signal installation will be starting at W Washington and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The traffic signals for Hanawalt and 6<sup>th</sup> streets has been discussed by the White County Commissioners who have agreed upon \$60,000.00 for the project pending approval by the County Council. An additional \$60,000.00 will come from White County Economic Development along with another \$60,000.00 from the City. Frank also thanked everyone who assisted with the Christmas lights this year. Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley thanked the public for their patience during the past weeks with US 24 and the project South down Bluff Street. The paving is complete there and down the Tioga hill. 570 cubic yards of bio-solids have been spread over the City’s land by Pherson Farms. Water Superintendent Wade Cohagen reported that the RCA Project is nearly complete. Brad Haygood’s application to take the State exam has been sent in and Wade is waiting on having it be accepted so the exam can be scheduled. Park Superintendent Mitch Billue indicated the department has been working on several maintenance projects involving the Altherr Nature Center, Rotary Cove, and the Timko bridge. The Rotary Club has pledged \$8,000.00 towards a retaining wall project that will total \$13,500.00. Mitch also reported that the Land & Water Conservation Fund requires that a power line be buried at Altherr Nature Center. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported that the Shop With a Cop program was held on 12-5-2021 and 65 children were helped with a total of \$18,500.00 contributed by the FOP. Fire Chief Galen Logan indicated the department in partnership with Leadership White County received a \$5,250.00 grant from the White County Community Foundation. The grant will help pay for infant and toddler car seats and the installation expense which will be done by the Fire Department. Galen said the department has been recognized as a licensed Mobile Integrated Healthcare Facility by the Dept of Homeland Security.

## Committee Reports-None

### Old Business-

1. **White County Building & Planning-Joe Rogers-Zoning Amendment A67**-Administrator Joe Rogers summarized the reason behind the amendment as to simplify the procedure for the public and developers to work through the subdivision process. A Plat Committee would be added to the Subdivision Ordinance. The Plat Committee would take over functions of the Tech Review Committee and the Plan Commission. Ralph Widmer made a motion to approve zoning amendment A67. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

### New Business-

1. **White County Council on Aging-Gale Spry**-Gale Spry announced that Teresa Puterbaugh will be taking over as Director of the Council on Aging. Mayor Gross and Council member Ken Houston congratulated Gale on her long-term commitment to the citizens of the community.
2. **Fire Department-Homeland Security Agreement-Paramedicine Program**-Council member Ken Houston acknowledged that the program is very positive and asked about the long-term sustainability from a financial perspective. Chief Logan indicated the goal of the program is to have financial stability on an ongoing basis. Mayor Gross said she has had discussions with IU Arnett, St Franciscan, and the Purdue Clinics about funding assistance for the paramedicine program. There is growing interest. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
3. **Fire Department-Purdue Partnership-Paramedicine Program**-Chief Logan reported that this program is for 9 months and will fund 1 employees' wages and supplies to administer vaccinations. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the grant program with Purdue. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
4. **Police Department-1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Transfer Ordinance 2021-14**-Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter outlined the details of the transfer request. Funds will be moved in order to purchase new squad cars due to increases in the cost. And, funds will be moved to pay for assistance provided by Lexipol, a vendor assisting the department with SOP's. Ken Houston made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-14 for first reading and move it to a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

5. **Fire Department-1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Transfer Ordinance 2021-15**-Fire Chief Galen Logan outlined the details of the transfer request. Funds will be used to purchase medical supplies and to replenish the budget because of high expense for repairs of an ambulance. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-15 on first reading and move it a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
6. **Council-1st Reading of Transfer Ordinance 2021-16**-Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann presented the details of the transfer request. \$8,000.00 is requested to be transferred from Health Insurance to Gasoline. It was discussed that this is due to higher costs per gallon and greater consumption by the police and fire departments. \$42,000.00 is being requested from Health Insurance to transfer to Engineering. Council member Ralph Widmer asked why we were short in the engineering line item. Jim Mann said we did not budget enough for the South Main Street sidewalks project and for all of the engineering services that City Engineer Jason Miller provides. Mayor Gross added that additional engineering was started for preliminary design costs on new projects. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-16 on first reading and move it to a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
7. **Consideration of Hamstra Proposal-Phase 3 Renovation-Clerk Treasurer**-Bill Cheever outlined the details of the Building Committee's action and indicated the plan details for renovation have been approved by the committee. The budget of \$188,499.00 has not been approved by all committee members. Mayor Gross indicated the use of ARP funds for the Clerk Treasurer and Police Department renovations have been discussed and approved by the finance committee. Bill Cheever stressed that his proposal only includes funds for the Clerk Treasurer renovation. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve the Hamstra proposal to renovate a section of the old fire station for the Clerk Treasurer's office space with a not to exceed figure of \$200,000.00. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Cheever-aye, Kramer-aye, Pepple-aye, Houston-nay and Widmer-aye.
8. **Update on Outsourcing Payroll-Clerk Treasurer**-Mayor Gross indicated that no action is being sought on this matter at this time. The quotes were sent out to all the Council and Board of Works members for review and to allow discussion on the matter. Ralph Widmer commented the he has had experience with APS and believes they would do a good job. Ken Houston asked if the quotations could be clarified to provide actual costs and will the outsourcing of payroll reduce the expenses to Baker Tilly. Mayor Gross and Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann both said that no assurances could be made on the reduction of expenses.

9. **FSSA Grant Opportunity**-Deleted from the agenda

**Miscellaneous and All Other Matters**-None

**Adjournment**-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

James D Mann  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello