

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY AUGUST 5, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held at 120 West Washington Street on August 5, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Aaron Sims. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. While the meeting was conducted in person, it was also available via Zoom and live on Facebook.

Roll Call: Called by Clerk Treasurer Doug Pepple was answered in-person by Mayor Aaron Sims; Councilors Shanda Cortez, Dave Patty, Kim Kramer, Gary Allen and Bill Cheever; and City Attorney George Loy.

Minutes: Councilor Shanda Cortez pointed out an error in referencing the date of the meeting minutes. The draft referred to June 3, 2024 and should have been July 1, 2024. Councilor Bill Cheever moved to approve the minutes with that change and Councilor Kim Kramer seconded. All ayes.

Additions & Deletions: - None

Citizen Participation: - None

Department Head Reports:

ADA Coordinator Diane Bunnell reported efforts continue to find a buyer for “Liz’s Lift.” She encouraged all departments to file their required L.E.P. Disadvantaged Encounter forms with her for the INDOT Title VI Transition report. Due to remodeling at the library, she is seeking a new art venue for next year. Grant application for accessible swings has been submitted.

Park Superintendent Mitch Billue expressed his appreciation for help from the Street Department in removing dead trees at Jordan and Bluewater Parks. He encouraged all to attend the next Parks Board meeting on August 14th to hear representatives from KIRPC explain the Land and Water Conservation Grant that will reference the newly completed 5-Year master plan. R.E.M.C contributed \$12,000 towards water slides and Mitch is pursuing the balance of funding through a Community Cares grant. The most swimming lessons provided in a season prior to this year was 268. This year broke the record with 373! August 9th Luau party to celebrate the pool year – all invited.

Firefighter Nick Green on behalf of Chief Cody Scheurich reported the chief was attending the new required chief’s academy this week. The department is receiving an \$85,000 grant from FEMA for equipment used in the Confined Space Technician course. They are pursuing a \$16,500 Community Foundation Grant EMS training equipment. I.U. Health contributed \$7,500 for the same purpose. This will be used for a “human-like” mannequin. The first in several years, the EMT class was completed. About a dozen people completed the class and now are proceeding to complete requirements to get on the National Registry. A \$250,000 “Safety Pin Grant” was won for the Mobile Integrated Health program referencing a maternal health specialist. The grant for is for two years and may qualify for renewal. Four of our new firefighters have graduated paramedic’s school. Three have already gone on to pass the National Registry test as well.

Police Chief Travis Clark said the two new police vehicles are now being outfitted and will be ready soon. Matt Powell has completed the 2nd phase of Defensive Tactics training which will allow him to be an instructor. MPD and MFD are planning a tour with Regal Manufacturing. Perhaps this will begin a training effort for departments with other facilities.

The Mayor announced Brad Haygood is the new Superintendent for the Water Department. Brad reported the RCA Phase II has progressed well with LGS Plumbing completing the new water mains

Hillcrest. Testing of the main was successful. LGS is and now installing new service lines. 70 new meter heads were changed out within their warranty period due to malfunctioning related to age.

Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley reported the new optometrist building on Executive Court has been connected to the collection system. The plant's area velocity meter sensor, which was under warranty, was re-calibrated by L.E.I. They were validating the gas detection system for the headworks which provides for the safety of employees and meets IDEM requirements. On July 18th the Utilities Discussion Group met with Baker Tilly to review their latest Financial Management Report for Wastewater financials and rate analysis with respect to the IDEM agreed order. Lab Technician, Dave Fagan has completed in-house testing for DMRQA44 an IDEM quality assurance requirement. With attorney Loy, a new tap fee ordinance will be presented to the Council soon.

Frank Arthur, Street Department Superintendent announced the North Main Street project is wrapping up. The Shoppers' Concourse project is finishing the drainage element, concrete work will follow. Community Crossings Grant application was submitted which could result in an award of approximately \$840,000.00. Round-about work is finally moving now. Milestone is moving their crew and equipment from the North Main Street project to Beechwood Drive for the rebuild of that street and sidewalks. That project should be completed by mid-October. New light poles are being pursued for South 6th Street and Gordon Road primarily financed through an HSIP Grant if awarded. Total cost for that would be roughly \$2,000,000.

Committee Reports: – None

Old Business: - None

New Business:

1. Streets of Monticello (SOMA) Presentation – Brandi Page presented a check to the City for \$15,318.90 as a result of their recent golf outing. This makes the total funds from SOMA for Christmas lighting to \$58,657.48 over the last 4 years.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters:

1. Clerk Treasurer Doug Pepple reminded all of the pending State and Federal audits beginning on August 12th. They will be using the Council Chambers for a work area. They expect to be done by the end of the month.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully,

Doug Pepple

Clerk Treasurer, City of Monticello