

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY MAY 6, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held at 120 West Washington Street on May 6, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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 by Mayor Aaron Sims; Councilors Shanda Cortez, Bill Cheever, Gary Allen, Dave Patty and Kim Kramer; and City Attorney George Loy.

Minutes: Shanda Cortez moved to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2024 Council meeting. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions: - Attorney George Loy recommended the Council acknowledge receipt of the petition to vacate portions of Railroad Street. Councilor Bill Cheever moved to acknowledge receiving the said petition. Councilor Dave Patty seconded the motion. All ayes, motion was passed.

Committee Reports - None

Citizen Participation: - None

Department Head Reports:

ADA – Diane Bunnell announced the next event will be the bowling & corn hole event fund raiser for funds to buy an adult changing table for the city parks. The event is scheduled for June 15.

Parks – Superintendent Mitch Billue is interviewing candidates for summer employment. Pool preparation continues.

Fire – Chief Cody Scheurich reported 13 of our fire fighters completed compliance-based rescue training and are now certified by the state. The cost of the training was \$82,000 for the 5 day quest training. A grant will reimburse the department 95%. White County EMA conducted comprehensive radio training; 20 of our people attended. The department will receive approximately \$48,000 in Medicaid reimbursements. The department needs new auto-extrication equipment at an estimated cost of \$50,000. Happily, Cody said the department assisted in the delivery of baby.

Police – Chief Travis Clark explained April 12 new K9 “Aron” was acquired. They also participated in the EMA radio training as well. He attended the week-long “Chief’s School” in Plainfield. Firearms training, phase one, conducted by officer Pyle was completed. An intern has been employed and directed by Field Training officer Cox.

Water – Brad Haygood announced LGS Plumbing working on the RCA Project Phase II are moving hydrants and capping off old water mains. The City, with Commonwealth Engineers, received an ACEC of Indiana Award for the RCA project. Under-performing meters are being replaced and locate requests are starting to increase.

Wastewater – Superintendent Bob Lindley said there are some collection system matters are fouled due to grass clipping. The public is urged to keep clippings off the streets. Bio solids were applied to the City farm on April 22nd. An estimated 410 cubic yards were applied. Bob and Brad Haygood attended an IFA Regional meeting in Mulberry – required to qualify for SRF grant funding. We will be hosting the fall meeting.

Street – Superintendent Frank Arthur reported Spring Cleanup is completed: a typical 35-40 roll off dumpsters were filled this year. Central Paving completed some patching and paving projects for this spring. They will be back in the fall to pave the streets involved in the RCA project. New employee, Evan Wiley, completed training and tests for pesticide application. The department will begin spraying for mosquitos next week. INDOT awarded the department a little over \$1 million in the Community Crossings grant. They will make another application in July. HSIP Grant will be funded significantly by the state and he will apply for grants this year to enhance traffic control systems.

Old Business: - None

New Business:

Poppy Month Proclamation – Mayor Sims read the proclamation.

ADKEV Statement and Abatement Review – ADKEV’s Bonnie Cothran reviewed their statements of benefits which were deemed to be worthy of renewal. Councilor Gary Allen moved to renew their abatements which was seconded by Councilor Shanda Cortez. The vote: all ayes except Councilor Bill Cheever who abstained. The motion passed.

Veterans’ 5K “Hard Charger” Benefit – Veterans Affairs Officer Nathan Baker requested the Councils permission for this event to benefit Courage Rock Stables. This is the 4th annual event. Councilor Bill Cheever moved to allow the event which was seconded by Councilor Dave Patty. All ayes, motion was passed.

Knights of Columbus Bucket Shake – Steve Goodwin of the Knights of Columbus sought permission for this Tootsie Roll sale which will benefit our local CDC. Councilor Bill Cheever moved to allow the event which was seconded by Councilor Gary Allen. All ayes, motion was passed.

Police - CHIRP Grant – Chief Clark described the CHIRP Grant and permission to participate in the county application for it. The CHIRP Grant will pay for the extra hours the police use to enforce traffic around school bus stop arms.. The only cost to the city is the equipment used. Councilor Shanda Cortez moved to allow the event which was seconded by Councilor Gary Allen. All ayes, motion was passed.

Police – Transfer of Funds Ordinance #2024-09 – Unused funds for salary could be used to update the vehicle fleet and an unusual opportunity is available to purchase 2 vehicles from LaPorte Dodge. This being the first reading of the ordinance, Councilor Bill Cheever moved to pass this on to a second reading which was seconded by Councilor Shanda Cortez. All ayes, motion was passed.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters:

May 16th – Mental Health Proclamation to be read in Delphi with their mayor.

May 18th – Proclamation for National Kids to Parks Day. Mayor Sims read the proclamation.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully,

Doug Pepple

Clerk Treasurer, City of Monticello