

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
MONDAY JUNE 17, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on June 17, 2019 at 6:07 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ken Houston and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann, was answered by Mayor Ken Houston, Councilors Kim Kramer, Doug Pepple, Tim McQuinn, Phil Vogel and Ralph Widmer. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

**Minutes**-Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 3, 2019 meeting at 6:00 pm as presented. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

**Additions & Deletions**-Mayor Houston reported that Trilogy under Old Business will be deleted and re-scheduled for July 1, 2019.

**Citizen Participation**-None

**Department Head Reports**-ADA Coordinator Cathy Gross reported the City along with the Fire Department and the Opioid Task Force applied for a grant with AIM to do a “prevention project”. Good news! We will be receiving \$3,400.00. Wastewater Supervisor Adam Downey reported that Blue River Technologies has brought in a bio-solids dewatering bag to clean the digesters. Mike Key is celebrating 30 years of employment with the City Wastewater Department. Park Department Supervisor Mitch Billue indicated there were approximately 200 people attending the School of Guitar event on June 14<sup>th</sup> at Altherr Nature Park. Mitch also reported that trusses have been set for the roof at the Nature Center with the help of Monticello Farm Service. Water Superintendent Rod Pool said they have been busy with locates and repairing street cuts made repairing water main breaks. Fire Chief Galen Logan reported that the State Pension Board has approved Bob Edwards and Dave Dulin. The second annual fire truck pull will be held at the Spirit Festival on June 22<sup>nd</sup> with the proceeds going to White County Special Olympics. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported a section of the curb on Illinois Street was replaced to help repair a water problem. He said the department will be removing trees on the 100 block of S Main Street. He also indicated that he and the Mayor will be going to LaPorte to meet with INDOT next week. Assistant Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported Officer Chris Blake and canine Pete are in their 4<sup>th</sup> week of training.

**Committee Reports**-None

**Old Business-**

1. **Trilogy-Statement of Benefits-Deleted**, rescheduled for July 1 2019

## New Business

1. **Ingrid Landis-Permission for Main Street Tour**-Jeff Alexander stepped in for Ingrid and requested permission for the Main Street Tour for July 26, 2019. Street closures requested are Broadway from Bluff to Illinois and Main from Harrison to Washington. Phil Vogel made a motion to approve the Main Street Tour event on July 26, 2019 from 5:00 pm to midnight with the street closures as requested. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
2. **Jim Brown-Amvets-White Clover Days**-Lori Cheever represented Amvets and requested permission to hold the fundraiser on July 5 and 6 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on the corners of Washington & Main and Washington & Illinois Streets. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the request. Tim McQuinn seconded the request. All ayes, motion carried.
3. **Public Hearing-OCRA-CDBG Funds-Water System Improvements Project-RCA Neighborhood**-KIRPC Executive Director Edwin Buswell opened the public hearing at 6:37 pm. He explained the project involves 4,000 lineal feet of new waterlines, laterals, hydrants and connectors. The City will provide a match of \$262,550.00 towards a total project cost of \$862,550.00. Edwin asked if there were any questions from the public. There being no questions from the public the hearing was closed at 6:41 pm. Mayor Houston indicated Resolution 2019-06 requires action on the Council's part to support the application to OCRA. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
4. **Street & Wastewater-W Washington Neighborhood Improvements Project-Preliminary Design with Commonwealth**-Street Commissioner Frank Arthur outlined the project as new sidewalks, curbs and stormwater improvements from west of Railroad Street on Washington Street crossing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the Faith Covenant Church and across Buss ditch to Walmart. The Task Order from Commonwealth will provide the City a preliminary design to determine whether we have the capacity to run storm water from Broadway to Marion Street on several north-south streets. Tim McQuinn made a motion to approve the request of funds in the amount of \$69,272.00 from the trash fee account. Phil Vogel seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
5. **Discussion of Bidding Process-Tax Sale Properties**-City Attorney George Loy indicated we will be receiving a tax deed for each property. He stated that the sale of the property is the responsibility of the Board of Works. The Council may provide recommendations as to the next steps with these properties. Mayor Houston indicated the desire of the Council would be to have these properties rehabbed and put back on the tax rolls. George stated the procedure to receive bids would be to prepare a "request for proposal". Phil Vogel made a motion to permit the City Attorney to prepare a "request for proposal" with the 2 tax sale properties. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

6. **Discussion on Mowing Charges**-City Attorney George Loy indicated the labor rate should be twice the hourly rate because when the City Parks employees mow a yard they are being taken away from regularly scheduled duties. Ralph Widmer asked if the mowing could be done by a third party service. Phil Vogel suggested a fine would have to be added to the third party service. Discussion among the Council members, Mayor, and Department Heads resulted in a variety of opinions. Funds to pay the third party service would have to be added to the Council's budget.
  
7. **Accounts Payable Vouchers**-Phil Vogel made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented. Kim Kramer seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

**Miscellaneous and All Other Matters**-Herald Journal reporter Jim Wolf announced he will be leaving the paper and starting a new position in Logansport with the Pharos Tribune. Mayor Houston reported he had done some research on the speed bumps recently discussed by the Council. He outlined the expenses and specifications with the speed bumps. Tim McQuinn suggested he has experienced driving over the bumps and indicated they did work. Lori Cheever asked about how a decision would be made as to where they would be placed. Doug Pepple said they could be used where there are no sidewalks present.

**Adjournment**-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

James D Mann  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello