

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
MONDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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:** Called by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann was answered “present and in person” by Mayor Cathy Gross, Bill Cheever, Doug Pepple, Ken Houston, Kim Kramer, David Patty and City Attorney George Loy.

**Minutes:** Ken Houston made a motion to approve the minutes of October 16, 2023. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

**Additions & Deletions**-None

**Citizen Participation**-None

**Department Head Reports**- Water Superintendent Wade Cohagan reported the water main project installations are complete for the RCA project, but not the taps. The advertisement for the open position with the department is now live. Safety Officer Bob Hickman indicated that the “Lock Out/ Tag Out procedure has been distributed to all the departments. ADA Coordinator Diane Bunnell reported that the adult changing table has been ordered for the Bluestem Nature Center. She is also working on the ADA Transition Plan for the Council’s review and approval. Superintendent Bob Lindley reported that Cleary and Commonwealth have identified the cause of the sink holes on Beach Drive. They located old sewage line pipe remnants which were sucking rocks/sediment and creating the sink holes. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur announced the good news-Monticello has been awarded a \$1,000,000.00 Community Crossings grant. Assistant Chief Craig Green indicated the department will be hosting a Breakfast with Santa for the 1<sup>st</sup> time since 2019. They have been conducting interviews for the 3 full time positions that are available. Chief Jeremy Kyburz reported the department has completed annual firearms qualifications. He also indicated that Officer Mark McKean has tendered his resignation. Also, thanks to Tom and Judy Dowden for a generous donation towards the shop with a cop program. Parks Department Superintendent Mitch Billue thanked the Library and other volunteers that helped the “Story Walk” project.

**Committee Reports**-None

**Old Business**-None

**New Business**

- 1. SOMA-Discussion of 2024 Event Dates**-Brandi Page outlined the 2024 dates for SOMA events. Ken Houston made a motion to approve the dates as presented. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

- 2. Public Hearing-CDBG Funds-Feasibility Study 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of City Hall-**Emily Albaugh presented information on the opportunity to receive funds for a feasibility study for the development of the second level of City Hall. The total amount requested is \$20,000.00 with a local match of \$2,500.00. Emily indicated that OCRA will be focusing on the sustainability of the project. Since this is an election year they would like to see a commitment to carry through on the project even with the understanding of potential elected official changes due to the election. City Attorney George Loy opened the public hearing at 6:42 pm. With no questions or comments made, it was then closed at 6:47 pm. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-26 supporting the feasibility study. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 3. Water Department-Permission to Apply for the Apprenticeship Grant-**Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the request by Wade Cohagan to apply for the grant. David Patty seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 4. READI Grant 1-Agreement for Sycamore Estates II-**City Attorney George Loy reviewed the details of the sub-agreement involving Greater Lafayette Commerce and the City. The budget for the project is \$1,968,920.00 with ReadI Grant Funds in the amount of \$1,500,000.00. George indicated there would need to be a contract between the City and the Developer. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve moving forward with the agreement for READI Grant 1 for Sycamore Estates. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 5. Consideration of MOU for READI Grant 2-**Mayor Gross indicated that this agreement is a regional collaboration of government entities. She said it is also administered through Greater Lafayette Commerce. White County Economic Development Director Randy Strawser explained how the projects are presented into the portal and how the process for review would be handled. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve entering into the MOU for ReadI 2. David Patty seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 6. Pay Classification Schedule-Ordinance 2023-24-1<sup>st</sup> Reading-**City Attorney George Loy explained that this schedule is the parallel to what public safety has done with the salary matrix. Council member Ken Houston expressed the opinion that the pay classification schedule be reviewed annually so it can be changed, if necessary. Ken Houston made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-24 on 1<sup>st</sup> reading and move to a second reading. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

- 7. Transfer Ordinance 2023-25-1<sup>st</sup> Reading-**Bob Hickman indicated that he has unused funds that he would like to transfer to a supply line item to purchase a monitoring device for the wastewater department. This would assist with additional safety measures when they go into confined spaces. Frank Arthur said that his transfer would be to move his MVH matching funds into the Local Road & Bridge Matching Fund. This would allow the City to be ready once we receive the INDOT Community Crossing Grant funding. Bill Cheever made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-25 on 1<sup>st</sup> reading and move to a second reading. Ken Houston seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 8. MIH-Use of Opioid Funds-Completion of Vehicle Payment-**Ken Houston made a motion to approve the expenditure of opioid funds for payment of the invoice with Kelley Chevrolet in the amount of \$24,950.00. Once the grant funding has been received by the Mobile Integrated Health department the opioid fund account will be reimbursed. Doug Pepple seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
- 9. MRC-Discussion of Riverwalk Project Matching Funds-**The Council discussed a request from Courtney Bradshaw, President of the Redevelopment Commission, to encumber the current balance of Council line item funds for the Riverwalk Project for the 2024 calendar year. The Council agreed to do so.

**Miscellaneous and All Other Matters**-None

**Adjournment**-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

James D Mann  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello