

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008**

The meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Monday, November 17, 2008, at 6:00 pm. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Thompson and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Liz Oilar, was answered by Council Members Dave Kelly, Grace Oilar, William Smith, and Eric Storm, and City Attorney George Loy. Council Member Jim Mann was absent.

There being no additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the meeting on Monday, November 3, 2008, a motion was made by Council Member Grace Oilar, and seconded by Council Member Bill Smith, to approve the minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Citizen Participation

Connie Jerva and Mary McGlothlin addressed the Council with their concerns of a neighbor and his lack of responsibility for his property. Mary brought pictures for the Council to see. The property is empty right now. They believe this is affecting the value of their homes, and the neighborhood's. City Attorney George Loy stated that everything the ladies' described is in our nuisance ordinance, and can be pursued. The current ordinance is very specific. George and Police Chief Curt Blount will follow up on this issue, and the Council will be kept advised.

Phil Vogel addressed the Council and stated that yesterday he picked up the Lafayette paper and read about the Branding of our City, by North Star. He asked how it was determined to use that company. Mayor Thompson told him this is a company that is used throughout the US. Phil was concerned about the cost and Mayor Thompson told him that he had gotten them to take \$20,000.00 off the bill. As a citizen, Phil stated that he noticed we used part of the TIF money to pay for this service. He said that the TIF money should be used for economic development, not promotion of the City. Mayor Thompson told him that by law we can use the TIF funds because it is advertising development. Phil would still like for the funds to be used for development only.

A.J. Robertson addressed the Council about his concern for the walks in the City of Monticello. They are not shoveled and pose a hazard for walkers. He asked the Council if they would shovel the snow on the sidewalks. The Council told him that the homeowner is responsible for their sidewalk. A.J. asked if there was a possibility to hire someone for this job. This would be too expensive for the City. There is a fine to homeowner's who do not shovel their walks.

Department Head Reports

Street Superintendent Doug Roberts stated that they have picked up 120 loads of leaves and probably have 100 more to go. They will probably make two more passes after they are done with this pickup. We are in the heaviest pickup. By Thanksgiving they will be close to being finished. There may be one more pickup after that. Sidewalks and blacktop are done. Doug has hired a few guys to help with leaf pickup. Sheriff's department is helping some. It will snow before long.

Water Superintendent Rod Pool stated it is pretty normal for the water department. Nothing major is going on at this time. They have a lot of projects started, but nothing moving too quickly. They came and looked at the building site today. The Sixth Street boys and the school hit a meter today.

Sewer Superintendent Joe Mowrer stated that they have just finished land application so they are set for the winter. The National Homes project is steadily progressing. Other than that they are buttoning up for winter and day to day operations.

Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue stated that they are working on Christmas displays. They have received equipment from Plas Teak. He had to borrow Joe's front end loader to unload the semi. It will be their spring project to put together all the equipment. They are just doing general maintenance. He worked with the Head Start administrator on a list of things needing done for them. He is waiting to hear from the Tony Hawks Foundation.

Police Chief Curt Blount stated that last Friday Tony Stroup and Diesel graduated from K-9 school. He has already been called out once, and an arrest was made. He is available for call and everything seems to be running smoothly with him right now. Curt is working on first of the year responsibilities and trying to get that all in order, mainly new cars.

Fire Chief Shane Swaim stated that they have been busy. Run loads usually fall off this time of year, but they haven't so far. He is looking forward to next year. He is planning to make a few new changes. Calendars have come out and are available for purchase.

Financial Investments

Clerk Treasurer Liz Oilar addressed the Council about the CD's that are invested for the City. She has been working with Umbaugh on these investments since July 17, 2008. The Council was given a quarterly statement from Umbaugh. Liz feels very good about the investments that have been made recently. As of October, the William Altherr fund interest is \$3452.05. By the end of November, the General fund will have made in interest \$17,177.26. After December 15th, Water interest will total \$9,075.50 and Sewage interest will total \$11,684.72. This is a grand total of \$41,389.53 in interest for the City of Monticello in 2008. Council member Dave Kelly asked if we are covered by FDIC. We are covered by the FDIC and the PDIF(Public Deposit Insurance Fund).

Committee Reports

Council member Dave Kelly spoke with Faith Lowe, at Pizza Hut, about the handicap parking issue. They were very cordial. They have a new parking lot with new stripping. The handicap spots are around by the side entrance. They are near the ramp and the signs are where they belong.

Ordinance 2008-19; An Ordinance Transferring Funds Within the Various Accounts of the City of Monticello, Indiana

City Attorney George Loy stated that he has put together a transfer of funds ordinance based on the Clerk Treasurer Liz Oilar's request. There are transfers for the Common Council totaling \$23,817.86 for Account #223 Gasoline and \$8876.00 for Account #421 Building and Fixtures. The Police Department had transfers totaling \$3600.00 for Account #441 New Equipment. Council member Grace Oilar made the motion to suspend the rules to adopt Ordinance 2008-19, seconded by Council member Bill Smith. Four ayes, motion carried. Council member Grace Oilar made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2008-19, seconded by Council member Bill Smith. Four ayes, motion carried.

Consideration of Holiday Schedule

Council member Grace Oilar asked who drafts the holiday schedule. Mayor Thompson and Clerk Treasurer Oilar worked out the holiday schedule. New Year's Eve Day is on the 2009 proposed schedule. Council member Oilar does not believe that New Year's Eve Day is a family oriented holiday that is necessary. There was discussion of overtime costs and staffing. After much discussion, Council member Eric Storm made the motion to pass the 2009 Holiday Schedule, seconded by Council member Dave Kelly. Three ayes, two nays, motion carried.

Personnel Policy

Mayor Thompson and City Attorney George Loy have discussed the current Personnel Policy handbook. We have some personnel issues right now that are confronting us. We need to look at revising and updating our personnel policy handbook, which was last done in 2000, by Waggoner – Irwin – Scheele & Associates Inc. The Mayor and City Attorney will contact Waggoner – Irwin – Scheele and other consulting firms to give us some direction and quotes in this regard. The Council will be kept advised on this issue.

Accounts Payable

Council member Grace Oilar made the motion to approve Accounts Payable as presented, seconded by Council member Bill Smith. Four ayes, motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Liz Oilar
Clerk Treasurer