

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF MONTICELLO
COMMON COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011**

The special meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. 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 Mayor Jason Thompson, and Council Members Dave Kelly, Jim Mann, Grace Oilar, and Eric Storm, and City Attorney George Loy. Council Member Bill Smith was absent.

Discussion of Possibilities of Consolidation of Services Between Union Township and the City of Monticello

Mayor Jason Thompson introduced Attorney Steve Buschmann, Counsel for the Indiana Association of Townships, who addressed the Council, Union Township Advisory Board, and attendees about a possible consolidation of services merger between Union Township and the City of Monticello. If merged together, Union Township would become part of the City of Monticello. He provided information on what a merger consolidation agreement is and the statute pertaining to this issue. Several years ago, the General Assembly passed the Reorganization by Referendum Bill. It allows almost any sets of units of government to merge to enter into cooperative agreements. Basically the units essentially can do designer government. The units involved are able to do what is best for them and their communities. Merging a municipality and a township is a one year process. To start, both the Common Council and the Union Township Advisory Board must each pass resolutions to set up a study committee. It would consist of six members, three appointed by each unit. The study committee would then create sub-committees that would each look at the areas of government the merger would affect. All meetings are open to the public. A fiscal analysis would be done and then given to the Department of Local Government and Finance to be approved. The study committee would present their plan to both the Common Council and the Union Township Advisory Board. If they both approved the plan, it would be placed on the ballot as a referendum in a general election where the township and the municipality each voted. If passed, representation for the Common Council would be determined by the populated areas of the newly formed City of Monticello. Mayor Thompson thanked Attorney Buschmann, the Union Township Advisory Board, and all those who came to the meeting to learn about this process.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Liz Oilar, IAMC
City Clerk Treasurer