

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY OCTOBER 5, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Monday October 5, 2015, at 6:00 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 Cathy Gross, Kim Kramer, Phil Vogel, Doug Pepple, and Ralph Widmer. City Attorney George Loy was also present.

Minutes-Doug Pepple made a motion to approve the minutes from September 21, 2015. Cathy Gross seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Additions & Deletions-Mayor Houston requested that SOMA should be added to New Business item 2. They are requesting the use of Constitution Plaza on October 25, 2015.

Citizen Participation-Joe Crivello requested the Council consider donating \$200.00 for the Roosevelt Junior High Cheerleaders. They are raising \$5,000.00-\$6,000.00 to attend a parade in Philadelphia, PA. Phil Vogel commented that although the request is for a good cause it is not appropriate to use taxpayer dollars for this type of situation. Cathy Gross commented that it would not be appropriate in the eyes of the States Board Of Accounts to use City funds for this purpose. City Attorney George Loy concurred with Phil Vogel and Cathy Gross. No action was taken on the request. Joe Rogers of the Area Plan Commission addresses the Council on the development of the new White County Comprehensive Plan. A steering committee of 20-25 people is being formed at this time. Joe asked that the City provide a representative to serve on the steering committee. Joe would like to know who will serve from Monticello as soon as possible.

Department Heads Reports- Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue said they are finishing the butterfly garden trail, will begin working on the amphitheatre in the next 2 weeks, and there will be a 100 year anniversary celebration of the park on 10-16-2015 at 6:00 pm. Joe Mowrer with the Wastewater Department said Layne Heavy Civil has moved in to start the wastewater treatment plant project. Frank Arthur from the Street Department indicated that they have taken 127 loads of brush to the landfill. Fifty loads came out of the City Park. Rod Pool with the Water Department said the various street cuts due to the cable company and other contractors will be repaired soon. Fire Chief Galen Logan indicated that three Fire Fighters will be attending White County Leadership Classes. Captains Fisher and Strange along with Lt. Green and Chief Logan attended training classes in the area of supervision, leadership and officer discipline on 9-28, 29, and 30. At the next Board Of Works meeting Chief Logan will request a conditional offer of employment be given to Brian Keys. Police Chief Randy Soliday said that Nate Miller and Curt Blount are attending training classes. Former Officer Bob White passed away after a battle with cancer. Purdue University requested and will pay for Police Officers to work the home football games. Three officers will be working on 10-10-15.

Committee Reports-None

Old Business

1. Brittany Lane Water Loop-After further engineering work was done it was determined that the project cost for 300 feet would be \$50.00 per foot. The Council supported this project being moved to the Board Of Works for their action.

New Business

Mayor Houston suggested item 2 SOMA be moved ahead of the Budget Public Hearing (item 1)

1. SOMA would like to use Constitution Plaza at 2:00 pm on October 25th for the dedication of the Isaac White statue. This will be done in conjunction with White County.

2. Budget Hearing on the Budget-Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann opened the Public Hearing at 6:37 pm.

Mayor Houston introduced Greg Wright of HJ Umbaugh who then presented the 2016 Budget.

Mayor Houston indicated the budget increased by 2.7% of which pay increases comprise 1.45%.

Councilmember Phil Vogel asked about the status of the East Ohio Street project. Mayor Houston indicated that a plan was developed on East Ohio Street to get to the point that property could be acquired. Councilmember Ralph Widmer indicated that the committee had been formed to provide changes to the plan engineered by Miller & Associates and those changes have been submitted to the Mayor's Office. Councilmember Widmer indicated he did not feel Miller & Associates have fulfilled their obligation to the City regarding revised plans for the project. Councilmember Vogel indicated that he feels Miller owes the City updated plans as a result of the meeting that was held with East Ohio Street residents at the Anhier Building and the changes recommended by the committee. Mayor Houston stated he feels the engineering work and plans completed by Miller & Associates on E. Ohio Street have met the requirements of the contract. It was decided that Miller and Associates should attend an upcoming Council meeting to discuss and clarify the questions raised. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matters-None

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

James D Mann
Clerk Treasurer
City of Monticello