

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
MONDAY MAY 3, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on May 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cathy Gross and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was conducted using the Zoom virtual meeting format.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Jim Mann, was answered by Mayor Cathy Gross, Councilors Bill Cheever, Ken Houston, Kim Kramer, Doug Pepple and Ralph Widmer. City Attorney George Loy was also present. Mayor Gross welcomed Bonnie Cothran and Jeremy Kyser representing Adkev.

**Minutes**-Bill Cheever made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of April 19, 2021 as presented. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

**Additions & Deletions**-Mayor Gross requested that item 3 under new business be deleted and added to go along with item 2 under old business.

**Citizen Participation**-Mayor Gross and Council Member Houston both spoke about the new law which outlines how council meetings shall be handled. This will be addressed later in the meeting.

**Department Head Reports**-Water Superintendent Wade Cohagan reported that all new pipe has been installed and tie ins have been made on the South Main waterline project. He said that he is working on the 2022 budget and thanked everyone who has helped him. Wastewater Superintendent Bob Lindley updated the Council on collection systems project 4 with Cleary Construction. Merrill Brothers applied plant biosolids to the city owned farmland on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Bob also reported on two sinkholes on Main Street in front of CVS and the Burger Dairy Store. He said he will be working with Accu-Dig to inspect and develop a plan to make the necessary repairs. Fire Chief Galen Logan reported the department has been engaged in training exercises with Lutheran Medical. On April 20<sup>th</sup> Dr. Estes conducted an annual audit review with the department. Training was also done with the billing company (AccuMed) to review ways to improve on written documentation. The new fire truck which was ordered in July of 2020 has been delivered. ADA Coordinator Katherine Tardiff provided a summary on all the planning activities leading up to the May 14<sup>th</sup> Disability Awareness Event to be held at Altherr Nature Park. Police Chief Jason Lingenfelter reported that the Fire Department led by Captain Swaim conducted extracation training for the department. He also said he was finalizing the training schedule for the rest of 2021. Chief Lingenfelter emphasized to the public that the road is closed on Bluewater to through traffic. Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue indicated there are concrete repairs underway at the pool with an estimated completion time frame of mid May. He said he starting interviews for pool guards and staff for the summer. Mitch thanked the Council, Board of Works and the Mayor for allowing him to pursue and use the Rec Desk program. Street Commissioner Frank Arthur reported that the City was awarded \$170,576.69 through the Community Crossings program. The funds will be used to get street preservation projects completed this year. Frank said he will be determining a start date for the West Washington Street Project, Phase 1. Josh Watts passed the testing for his pesticide license.

**Committee Reports**-None

**Proclamations**-Mayor Gross read proclamations for Mental Health Awareness Month and Municipal Clerk Treasurer's Week.

### **Old Business**

1. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading American Rescue Plan Ordinance 2021-01**-City Attorney George Loy outlined the necessity of the ordinance and indicated the City is following guidelines as defined by the Board of Accounts. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-01 An Ordinance Establishing the American Rescue Plan Grant Fund for the City of Monticello, Indiana on second reading. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
2. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading-Water-Bond Parameters Letter & Bond Anticipation Notes of 2021-Ordinance 2021-02**-City Attorney George Loy indicated this ordinance would provide for the issuance of waterworks revenue bonds including the issuance of bond anticipation notes or BANS to finance the replacement of water mains in the RCA Neighborhood area along with service lines which may consist of lead or older galvanized materials. The funds provided by the BAN will also aid in the development of a new well field. George also outlined the Financial Assistance Agreement which will be required by the Indiana Finance Agreement. Doug Pepple made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-02 and the Financial Assistance Agreement on second reading. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

### **New Business**

1. **SOMA-Bucket Shake for Christmas Lights Fund**-Brandi Page presented details on the fundraising activities of SOMA including bringing back the Christmas in July Golf Outing. She said the money raised will go to the fund for new lights. Ken Houston made a motion to approve the bucket shake scheduled for June 12, 2021 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.
2. **Adkev-Statement of Benefits-CF-1/PP**-Bonnie Cothran (Controller of Adkev) discussed the details of the Statement of Benefits forms with Council members. She reviewed the progress made by Adkev in purchasing new equipment and their history of compliance with the tax abatement process. Ken Houston made a motion to approve the CF-1/PP as presented. Ralph Widmer seconded the motion. All ayes, except Bill Cheever who abstained. Motion carried.

**Miscellaneous and All Other Matters**-Mayor Gross reported that White County has reset the guidelines for masking to be optional. The Mayor said she is interested in feedback from the Council on the guidelines for wearing a mask. Ken Houston suggested that the new law about public meetings would allow some flexibility in the number of in person meetings an elected official could miss. He believes we should be masked for meetings in City Hall. Mayor Gross asked if anyone would be willing to join she and Council member Houston on the ordinance committee to work out updated language on masking and meeting guidelines. Safety Officer Bob Hickman updated the Council on the latest CDC guidance on masks, when to wear them and when it is safe to remove them. Mayor Gross asked the Council if they were comfortable with how the meetings are being conducted where masks can be removed if everyone in the meeting is fully vaccinated. Doug Pepple and Ralph Widmer both said they are good with this approach. Ken Houston said he is not in favor. Kim Kramer indicated she is okay without wearing a mask if everyone is fully vaccinated. Bill Cheever would be in favor of the revised policy adopted by White County. Ralph Widmer expressed his appreciation for being able to ride along with Chief Lingenfelter and Assistant Chief Stroup and gain insights on the work of the police department.

**Adjournment**-There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

James D Mann  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello