

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
COMMON COUNCIL  
CITY OF MONTICELLO  
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. Regularly scheduled to start at 6:00p.m., the meeting was called to order at 6:31p.m. by Mayor Aaron Sims and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held at 120 W. Washington Street and conducted in person. It was also available via Zoom and live on Facebook.

**Roll Call:** Called by Clerk Treasurer Doug Pepple was answered by Mayor Aaron Sims, Bill Cheever, Gary Allen, Shanda Cortez, Kim Kramer, Dave Patty and City Attorney George Loy.

**Minutes:** Kim Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of February 5, 2024. Bill Cheever seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Additions & Deletions:** None

**Citizen Participation:** None

**Department Head Reports:** All departments submitted written reports to the Council and Mayor. There were no questions for the respective department leadership. However, Kim Kramer complimented the effort by the appropriate departments to get and keep the roads cleared during the most recent snow events.

**Committee Reports** – None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Monticello Fact Book:** This Herald Journal publication has a readership of 8,000+ and will be ready in mid-March. Used by W.C.E.D.C. (economic development) and many others, it contains detailed information about each community, government, public officials, healthcare, libraries, schools, businesses, etc. The regular price was \$649, but it was being offered to the city for \$500. It would be a full-color, full page on the back cover.

Bill Cheever moved to purchase the advertisement in a cost share of 33% each from the council, mayor and clerk treasurer. Dave Patty seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Information Guide (March) and Welcome Guide (May):** News and Review publications provide additional information to the readers about the area. 7,000 Information Guides will be printed and 10,000 Welcome Guides. Reduced fee from \$365 each to \$225 each with QR codes. A total of \$550. The mayor's office to determine the content of the advertising.

Shanda Cortez moved to purchase the cover advertisements in a cost share of 33% each from the council, mayor and clerk treasurer. Kim Kramer seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Resolution 2024-02 Reauthorizing Investment of Public Funds:** This is resolution (and those before it) for Council consideration is for a one-year term. The purpose is to allow a broader search for the best rates (return on investment) using professional services, in this case it would Baker Tilley Investment Services.

Bill Cheever moved to approve the resolution; Shanda Cortez seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Consideration of Transfer of Funds Ordinance No. 2024-03:** Attorney George Loy explained the procedure for suspending the rules such that an ordinance may be passed on first reading. Clerk Treasurer Doug Pepple explained the necessity for the ordinance – that there can be no line items reported to the state in our annual financial report with negative balances. Bill Cheever further

pointed out that this is entirely with 2023 funds and the negative balances were “zeroed-out” from line items with excessive amounts in the respective departments.

Bill Cheever moved to suspend the rules; Gary Allen seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

Bill Cheever moved to adopt the ordinance; Gary Allen seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Accounts Payable Vouchers:** Bill Cheever moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers; Gary Allen seconded the motion. All ayes. The motion carried.

**Miscellaneous and All Other Matters:**

Shanda Cortez encouraged dialogue from the council, Board of Works and Mayor’s office to consider changes in the utility adjustment ordinance. Particularly where attending the meeting is a requirement. A working group with both bodies was suggested by president Cheever that may bring forward recommendations for council consideration.

Attorney George Loy reminded all that the city acquired the property next to the wastewater plant which is needed for future projects. Known as the McCloud property, the sale was closed earlier in the week.

**Adjournment:** - There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully,

Doug Pepple  
Clerk Treasurer  
City of Monticello