

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held at 120 W Washington St on October 6, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Aaron Sims. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. While the meeting was conducted in-person, it was available via Zoom and live on YouTube and Facebook.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Aaron Sims, Councilors Gary Allen, Bill Cheever, Kim Kramer, Tim McQuinn, Dave Patty and Attorney George Loy, answered in-person by Clerk Treasurer Shanda Cortez.

MINUTES:

Kim Kramer made motion to approve the minutes from September 15, 2025. Dave Patty seconded. All ayes except Bill Cheever abstained.

Tim McQuinn made motion to approve the minutes of September 30, 2025, special council meeting. Kim Kramer seconded. All ayes except Gary Allen and Bill Cheever abstained.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: NONE

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Brandi Page with SOMA spoke about SOMA's crosswalk painting project. There have been 4 complete crosswalks and 3 more almost completed. This was a grant project with positive feedback from the community.

Joe Bridge with the Joyce Gunther Memorial Ride (Agenda Item #4) spoke. He was speaking on behalf of Raymond Gunther. He has requested approval from the council to close the block of 3rd Street between Walnut & Foster Street. Also, the west side of Chestnut between Main Street and 6th Street between the hours of 9:30AM-5PM. Street, Fire and Police all approved. Councilor McQuinn made the motion to approve the road closings for the Memorial ride. Councilor Allen seconded. All ayes.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS: Oral reports with possible Q & A from the Mayor and Council.

ADA- Diane Bunnell, ADA Director, spoke about the Bowling Fundraiser. The fundraiser was a great success with donations in the amount of \$4,000. She has received the resignation of a member of the Mayor's Advisory Council, with prospects for a replacement. She has been working on the dance and trunk or treat for people with disabilities on October 25, 2025, at the American Legion.

FIRE-Chief Scheurich attended via zoom. The department received heavy equipment training from John Deere the past 2 weeks. The department responded to a structure fire on Bluff Street. The rescue association/union provided the displaced homeowners with a \$500 Visa gift card.

PARKS-Mitch Billue, Parks Superintendent, reported about the waterslide for the pool has been ordered. Quality Construction has finished expansion of the concrete pad at Jordan Park for the pickleball courts. IU Health donated \$5,000 for the pickleball courts. Roth Brother's have completed powder coating the support frames for the "You are Here" signs. F & K is currently working on the new lift station at City Park and looking to complete the project mid to late November. Mitch has been working with KIRPC on the ITP grant. KIRPC will be submitting the grant to the State the week of October 29th. The next Park's Board meeting is Wednesday 10/8/25 at 6PM.

POLICE-Chief Clark spoke about update to the lean-to at the range. Drones have been ordered, and 2 transport cages are installed. The Charlie Kirk candlelight went well with no issues. Officer Benedict passed all tests at the Academy so far. Officer Pyle and Shirley are still working on getting the evidence room organized. Still working on finalizing the Deer Ordinance for the Task Force. Chief Clark gave recognition to the new 911 Dispatch Director, Janene Crawford. Mayor Sims gave a shout out to Officer Morehead at the Homecoming game with handling the pellet gun incident professionally.

STREET-Frank Arthur, Street Superintendent, gave the report about Milestone which has returned, and new drains have been installed on Market Street. Reith Riley is in the process of milling 6th street in preparation for resurfacing. Hawk Enterprises has finished replacing the traffic lights at Fisher Street intersection. The application for Community Crossings grant for \$1.1 Million has been submitted. Mayor Sims gave recognition to Superintendent Frank for going above & beyond for the City & for his work on SOMA's crosswalk project.

WASTEWATER-Bob Lindley, Superintendent, spoke about the construction for the lift station had to close the South Entrance to the Anaheim Bldg. The department is still taking applications for an operator in training position until 10/8/25.

WATER-Angelo Valle, water employee, spoke on behalf of Brad the Superintendent. There were 2 main breaks that were fixed. The department had a Sanitary Survey with IDEM. No major deficiencies, only minor or recommendations.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 1ST READING OF THE 2026 BUDGET: Ordinance 2025-09. No public comment or objections. Councilor Cheever made motion to pass the 1st reading. Councilor Allen seconded. All ayes. Second reading will be on 10/27/25.

SOMA PRESERVATION PROJECT: Candace Wells, SOMA Board Member, is working with Debbie Green with the historical society to preserve the downtown. There is a plaque that will be placed on each historical building. The locations will be numbered. So far, the locations are the Courthouse, City Hall, Carnegie Library, Odd Fellows building and the Harrison House. Councilor Patty made motion to approve the plaque placements. Councilor Kramer seconded. All ayes.

HOOSIER HOOPS FEST: Brandi Page spoke on behalf of Hunter Haygood, Enjoy White County Director, about the event. Just as in 2024 the Hoosier Hoop Fest would like to take place on Main Street, between Harrison & Broadway on Friday, 11/14/25 from 4PM-7PM. They are requesting the streets to be closed on Main Street from Harrison to Broadway. The street department gave approval for closure. Hunter will need to speak with Fire & Police Dept. Brandi stated that she did ask the businesses that it would affect and they were fine and planning on having something to go along with the event. Councilor McQuinn made motion to approve closure. Councilor Kramer seconded. All ayes.

APPROVE AUGUST 2025 ALLOWANCE DOCKET: Councilor Patty asked the Clerk Treasurer to explain what this report was since this was a report that was new to the council. Clerk/Treasurer Cortez explained that this report is the breakdown of all the employees pay in the city. This is public information and more detailed than the APV Register for salaries and wages. Councilor Bill made motion to approve. Councilor Kramer seconded. All ayes.

APPROVE SEPTEMEBR 2025 ALLOWANCE DOCKET: Councilor Patty made motion to approve. Councilor Allen seconded. All ayes.

APPROVE APV'S: Councilor Cheever made motion to approve. Councilor Allen seconded. All ayes.

MISCELLANEOUS AND ALL OTHER:

1. Mayor spoke about enhancing City Hall security by adding a key fob for entrance in the back.
2. Mayor reminded everyone that Trick or Treating for the City is on 11/1/25 from 6p-8p. This will coincide with SOMA's Trunk or Treat from 3p-5p.
3. Burn ban is in place until 10/10/25. This week is Fire Prevention week.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully,

Shanda Cortez

Clerk Treasurer, City of Monticello