

JULY 10, 2024

WEDNESDAY

**PUBLIC WORKSHOP
TO DISCUSS DEPARMENTAL
NEEDS FOR 2025 BUDGET**

@ 6:30 pm

Town Hall Conference Room

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a public workshop on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Monon Town Hall. Members present were President Ken Hickman, Vice-President Ron Benakovich and Chris Franklin. Also, present were Marshal Roger Young and Clerk - Treasurer Annette Sipkema.

Jamie Myers and Toni Onken were absent.

-President Ken Hickman started the meeting @ 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Monon Police Dept, Roger Young... Marshall Young asked where he was at with the fuel budget this year with the addition of another take home vehicle. C-T Sipkema said that through June they have used \$6380 of the \$14,000 budgeted amount. Marshal Young would like to see this increase just a little. Marshall Young is looking at replacing his rifle which would run about \$2,000. Another item that he is looking at for the future is in car cameras. This is a big ticket item that could be paid for over a five year period.

MVH, Commissioner Young... Roger said that the new truck has been delivered and is at the shop to get the new bed installed. There are a few items needed for the truck (snow plow, strobe lights and decals) and he is looking into these purchases. Commissioner Young stated that he would like to see the town replace their current ½ ton trucks with ¾ ton trucks that are snow plow ready. Commissioner Young also stated that a pick up broom/sweeper attachment needs to be purchased for the bobcat.

Monon Fire Dept, Fire Chief Sean Garrett.. Chief Garrett stated that the departments pagers are being obsoleted by the company. The department will need 16 pagers, of which they would need at least 10 right away. The department is currently looking at Series 7 pagers which run right around \$500/pager. The department will also need to purchase an 18" chainsaw, a new vent saw and fire hoses (1 ¾ inch). The department would also like to purchase ball valves for the engine & tankers. These valves would increase the efficiency of the department. Four valves would be needed at approximately \$2,500 a piece. Chief Garrett said that this purchase could be split over a two year period. Chief Garrett also stated that he and Asst Chief Tiede have not been able to find any service records for the department trucks/vehicles. Chief Garrett requested a vehicle maintenance budget of ~\$2500 for oil changes and pump checks. There is also a need for a training budget. The State of IN now requires that training be performed by a certified trainer. Depending on the type of training provided the fee can run from \$100-\$200 per session. President Hickman inquired about the current workman's compensation package for the volunteer firefighters. Chief Garrett stated that the current policy does not provide any pay for lost wages for a volunteer who is injured on a run. Asst. Chief Tiede said that previously a volunteer would be paid up to 70% of their normal wages if they were injured responding to a fire call. The council discussed that lost wage coverage needs to be provided for the volunteers. C-T Sipkema stated that she could not find any policy documents in the office, but that she has reached out to Moncel Agency to request a copy of the policies that the town pays ½ for.

EMS...Jennifer Durflinger, EMS Director, stated that they need four (4) new tires for the ambulance. Director Durflinger said that other items that need to be replaced are the cot batteries and oxygen tank for the ambulance. The department will also need miscellaneous supplies. C-T Sipkema stated that currently the EMS Department does not have their own budget line. Any costs associated with the ambulance has been taken out of the Fire Department budget. After a brief discussion, it was decided that C-T Sipkema will look into adding budget lines for ambulance maintenance and supplies.

Park...Charrisse Hook, Park Board President, reported that in 2025 the park board would like to replace/repair the basketball and tennis court. The existing surface is in such disrepair that it will need to be

completely removed to allow the new surface to be laid. Ms. Hook also reported that the Hickory Shelter has not been rented in 2024 due to the poor condition of the building. The board would like to get this repaired for the 2025 rental season. They are also wanting to install more security cameras in the park.

Clerk Treasurer Sipkema...Annette stated that she estimates that about \$2,000 will be needed to meet the new state requirement to live stream and archive public meetings. C-T Sipkema also said that currently there is not a separate line item for software/software maintenance. These fees are being paid out of the office supply lines. So far this year, software & maintenance fees have added up to \$6,600. In her opinion, this skews the actual cost of supplies consumed by the office staff. C-T Sipkema also said she would like to find a way to reduce the cost of the town’s phone/internet service needs. Between all the departments, the town has paid approximately \$4,000 so far this year.

Council Members....nothing at this time.

- Chris Franklin made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned @ 7:58 pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT:_____

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT:_____

COUNCIL MEMBER:_____

COUNCIL MEMBER:_____

COUNCIL MEMBER:_____

ATTEST:_____