

**COUNCIL MEETING
(REGULAR)
February 21, 2024**

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a regular meeting on **Wednesday, February 21, 2024**, at the Monon Town Hall. Members present were President Ken Hickman, Toni Onken, Vice-President Ron Benakovich, Chris Franklin, and Jamie Myers. Also present was Marshal/Street Commissioner Roger Young, and Clerk-Treasurer Stacy Selagy.

-President Hickman started our regular meeting @ 6:00 pm & led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment-of-silence.

-MINUTES, PAYROLL, BILLS & CLAIMS:

-Ron Benakovich made a motion to approve the REGULAR meeting minutes from February 6, 2024.

-Jamie Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried.

-Jamie Myers made a motion to accept the bills – claims – payroll.

-Toni Onken seconded the motion. The motion carried. \$103,550.51

-MONTH END RECONCILIATION REVIEW / SIGN OFF...President Hickman signed off on the January bank reconciliations.

VISITORS: JIM DAVIS, ALL ABOARD MONON...Jim stated the Food Fest will be on Saturday, June 1st, beginning with a parade at 10:00 am and ending at 7:00 pm. Jim asked for permission to have a beer garden at the festival.

Ron Benakovich made a motion to allow a beer garden at the Food Fest.

Jamie Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LINDA MELTON...Linda asked if the social media page for the Town of Monon had started yet. It has not.

UNFINISHED OR DEFERRED BUSINESS:

COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERING...1. Gabrielle stated that the autosampler has been installed. 2. Gabrielle also reminded the board of the grant that is available for municipalities for the lead service inventory requirement. Dustin Standish had indicated to Clerk Selagy that he would be able to handle this without much expense. 3. Roger Young let Gabrielle know that the fine screen unit has a hole in it. Gabrielle will let Rob know.

PROPERTY CLEAN-UPS...Marshal Young said he is gotten through the east side of town and is now working on the west side. 2. President Hickman stated that the owner of 103 N Arch Street has requested a hearing in regards to his clean up letter. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:30 PM.

TOWNSHIP & FIRE DEPT AGREEMENTS...Attorney Trent is still waiting to hear from the Township Trustee's attorney to resolve the issue regarding worker's compensation insurance.

FLUORIDE STATUS...President Hickman stated he was contacted by Dr. Bondi, DDS, who was very upset that the town would consider removing fluoride from the water system. Dr. Bondi cited concerns about lower income families that may not have access to routine dental care and felt that removing the fluoride would have a negative effect on the children. The Department of Health also sent a packet to President Hickman opposing the removal. Clerk Selagy spoke with Dustin Standish who recommended stopping the added fluoride. Dustin stated that fluoride can be harmful in the wrong proportions. His concern was that if we should have a mechanical failure there is the potential to affect a lot of people before the issue might be discovered. Roger stated that there have been several issues with that pump and he believes it's been replaced at least three times already.

Ron Benakovich made a motion to discontinue adding fluoride to the water supply.

Toni Onken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BOBCAT SWEEPER ATTACHMENT...Tabled. President Hickman asked Marshal Young to make a list of immediate equipment needs.

NEW BUSINESS:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION...White County Economic Development is requesting their annual contribution from the town of \$500.00.

Chris Franklin made a motion to approve the \$500.00 annual contribution.
Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNUAL REPORT... Clerk Selagy gave each board member a copy of the submitted 2023 Annual Financial Report.

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING LEAK PROTECTION PROGRAM – 1ST READING... President Hickman presented the ordinance for first reading.

LEAK PROTECTION POLICY... President Hickman presented the leak protection policy. Clerk Selagy asked the board what their stance would be on swimming pool and summer sprinkling credits. The board wants to offer a credit on wastewater charges only in these instances. Stacy will ask Attorney Trent to revise the policy for the next meeting.

CLERK-TREASURER APPOINTMENT... Stacy has given notice that she is resigning as Clerk-Treasurer. Her last day will be March 23rd. Four people have been interviewed for the Clerk-Treasurer position. If there are no other applicants by end of day on Friday, February 23rd, there will be a special meeting on Saturday, February 24th at 2:00 PM to make a selection.

STAFF REPORTS:

TOWN MARSHAL/STREET COMMISSIONER ROGER YOUNG... 1. Roger stated that the police 2023 training records have been submitted. 2. Roger stated that he was notified that because of the age of the tasers, the company will not offer legal protection in the case of a lawsuit. Roger is going to request more information and find out if our town liability insurance offers any coverage. He believes the tasers run around \$13,000.00 to \$14,000.00, payable over five years. 3. There was a box of chemicals found in the wastewater plant that do not have any material data sheets. They are working on getting that information and putting a material service station at the old town hall. 4. The Polaris Ranger is in the shop. 5. Water plant: on Tuesday we had low water pressure due to a repair that Peerless made on Monday. We never dropped below the threshold set for a boil order and there was no danger to the community. The water softeners are still not working properly. 6. VanMeter Trucking called to say that they are going to be hauling the rest of the mulch from the brush pile to the landfill. 7. They will soon start working on the alleys and filling with stone.

CLERK-TREASURER SELAGY... 1. Stacy reminded the board that they will have a public hearing to approve the additional appropriation of American Rescue Plan funds at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 6th, with the regular meeting to immediately follow. 2. New Focus HR has submitted a complete handbook. Stacy will be forwarding a copy to the board and asking for approval at the March 20th meeting. 3. American Legal Publishing is working on updating the code ordinances. Stacy has also asked them for a quote to host the ordinances online.

MEMBER TONI ONKEN... Toni asked if the gate codes at the water and wastewater plants have been changed. They have. 2. Toni asked if Dustin responded to the last IDEM letter, Dustin did reply to Stacy and Commonwealth that he took care of it. 3. Toni stated several people on the south end of town continue to park over their sidewalks. Marshal Young will send letters to those individuals.

MEMBER JAMIE MYERS... Jamie asked the council for approval to have a town Facebook page with no comments allowed. Member Franklin asked if we could change the existing Monon Utilities Facebook page name to Town of Monon and use that, Clerk Selagy agreed that could be done.

Toni Onken made a motion to start a Town of Monon Facebook page.
Chris Franklin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

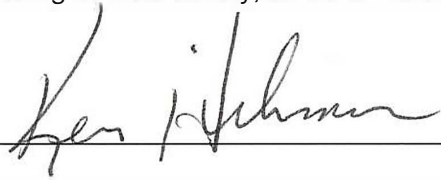
Editors on the Facebook page will include board members, town clerk and town marshal. 2. Jamie asked how much had been spent on upkeep of the old town hall. He would like to see it torn down and maybe a community center built. He suggested pursuing grants for funding. Jim Davis spoke in opposition to this citing a desire to preserve history. 3. Jamie said that it had been mentioned that there was land that might be donated to the east of the Greenwood Subdivision for a possible site for a new fire station. 4. Jamie asked Marshal Young about patrol limits for deputies. Roger said deputies were allowed to patrol in approximately one mile each direction of the town limits, but he did not feel they needed to be out in the county since they are paid by the Town of Monon residents. Jamie also brought up that he wants to increase the Deputy Marshal salary. 5. Jamie stated he would like to see the town hire a Street Superintendent as he feels it is too much responsibility for one person.

MEMBER RON BENAKOVICH... Ron stated that there is a need for more employee training.

Toni Onken made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:38 pm.

*There will be a public hearing on Wednesday, March 6th at 6:00 pm with the regular meeting to immediately follow.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: 

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: 

COUNCIL MEMBER: 

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

ATTEST: 



