

COUNCIL MEETING (REGULAR)
April 17, 2024

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a regular meeting on **Wednesday, April 17, 2024**, at the Monon Town Hall. Members present were President Ken Hickman, Toni Onken, Chris Franklin and Jamie Myers. Also present were Town Marshal/Street Commissioner Roger Young and Clerk Treasurer Annette Sipkema.

Ron Benakovich was absent.

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

MINUTES, PAYROLL, BILLS & CLAIMS:

Minutes: Chris Franklin made a motion to approve the REGULAR meeting minutes from April 3, 2024 Toni Onken seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Payroll, Bills & Claims: President Ken Hickman asked if all members had reviewed the claims and payroll. Toni Onken made a motion to accept the bills – claims – payroll. Chris Franklin seconded the motion. The motion carried. \$83,797.67

MONTH END RECONCILIATION REVIEW / SIGN OFF: President Hickman signed off on the March bank reconciliations. Council Members signed off on March month end balances.

VISITORS:

JENNIFER DURFLINGER, EMT, asked the Board for permission to order supplies that are needed for the ambulance from Amazon. EMT Durflinger also stated that the ambulance is past due for an oil change and needs new wiper blades. There is currently an amount past due at Gutwein Motor Company that has not been paid by Monon Township for their half of the service. Chris Franklin, Board Member, asked what the current purchasing limit is for Department Heads. The limit is \$5,000. After discussion among the Board, it was decided that a purchase up to \$500 for EMT supplies would not need prior Board approval. Marshall Young offered to change the oil for the ambulance at the shop and said he could also install new wiper blades. The Board, Fire Chief Garrett and EMT Durflinger discussed the proposal and everyone agreed to have Marshall Young add the ambulance to the rotation for future routine maintenance.

TONY CAIN, White County Commissioner Candidate for District 1, introduced himself and gave a brief overview of what he stands for and what he would like to accomplish as a White County Commissioner.

JENILYNNE KYBURZ, White County Area Plan Executive Director, introduced Braden Evans. Braden is the new Assistant Director for Area Plan. Mr. Evans will present proposals to the Board in the case of Director Kyburz absence.

Director Kyburz presented Rezone #1191 for 507 N Market St, Wilsons Addition Market St., Lot 11. The property is currently zoned B-1, Neighborhood Business. The owner has requested to rezone to R-3, a Multi-Family Residential district to convert the existing building into an apartment complex. Director Kyburz stated that while the plan has not been finalized, the owners have submitted a proposed parking plan that would accommodate six apartments. This parking plan has not been reviewed for compliance to the zoning ordinance. This review will occur if the applicants pursue a building permit. Director Kyburz stated that if the rezone were to be passed, the applicant would be required to obtain a Commercial Design Release and a local building permit. Chris Franklin questioned if the conversion would be allowed since the town is currently under a sewer ban. The building was previously used as a funeral home and dwelling. The Board discussed that the conversion may require additional sewer taps or an increase in the size of the drain. Chris Franklin made a motion to approve the rezone request. Jamie Myers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 3 yeas by Chris Franklin, Jamie Myers and Ken Hickman and 1 nay by Toni Onken.

UNFINISHED OR DEFERRED BUSINESS:

COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERING...Annette Sipkema stated that Commonwealth sent the Council Meeting update to distribute to the Board Members in Gabrielle's absence. This update included a WWTP Improvement Project update along with an update on the Mabel Horton Sewer Extension Project. Clerk Sipkema also informed the Board that the revised plan for the proposed construction of the Mabel Horton sewer extension was received and will be available for public review at the Town Hall. The Public Hearing on the improvements to the wastewater treatment plant and collection system along Greenwood St. will be held May 1, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

PROPERTY CLEAN UPS.... Roger Young, Street Commissioner, stated that the property clean up notices have been delivered. Notices were hand delivered to owners within the town limits and sent by certified mail to owners outside the town limits. Door tags have been issued to properties that have not been mowed. Residents have until April 30th to respond to the notices. Council Member Onken inquired about the property in the 200 block of Race St. Member Onken stated that the building is vacant and open. Commissioner Young stated that a letter had been sent to the property owner.

STREET PAVING/SIDEWALKS.... Commissioner Young stated that he has requested a paving quote for Jackson Ct., the alley behind Weslyn Church (Brook St to St. Rd. 16), 5th St to St. Rd. 16, S Block of Race St and the Monon Town Hall parking lot. Commissioner Young stated that typically alleys that are located 1 block off of Main St. (both sides) are paved for trash pickup. Comm. Young is not sure why the alley behind the Weslynn Church was paved, but that the Council could decide to grind the existing pavement out and put stone in its place. Commissioner Young stated that there is a need to install a sidewalk that extends to the Purdue Nursing Clinic on the east side of town. There is a lot of foot traffic to reach the clinic. Commissioner Young also questioned why the town removes snow from 421 to State Road 16.

NEW BUSINESS: None at this time.

STAFF REPORTS:

TOWN MARSHAL ROGER YOUNG...1. Marshal Young stated that CPR Training has been scheduled for all employees. 2. Police Department continues to work on completing their required training.

STREET COMMISSIONER ROGER YOUNG...1. Commissioner Young stated that the Park Board approved the dump truck purchase from the Town of Monon for \$3,500. President Hickman questioned what the purpose is of charging the park when we are essentially the same entity? Commissioner Young stated that the park is in need of a functioning dump truck and the amount that the park purchased the truck for will offset the amount that comes out of the general fund for the new F-450 truck purchase. The other option was to trade the truck in, but the park needs their own dump truck. 2. The hand-held meter reader is out dated. The hand held could still be updated at this time, but there is also an option to purchase an Android tablet (or two) and download the software to receive the usage information from the wands. Commissioner Young will look into which option would be best. 3. Commissioner Young stated that the town received notice from IDEM that our 5-year Wellhead Protection Report is past due (2022). Clerk Siphkema stated that this information has been sent to Consultant Standish and that he is working on the report. 4. Josh Bowsher, Bowsher IT, is installing security cameras at the waste water treatment plant. 5. Mulhaupt's will be on site tomorrow to re-key the wastewater shop. 6. Commissioner Young is looking into installing a solar type street light at the ditch for obtaining the water samples. 7. The Street Department is out of mosquito spray. A 55 gallon drum of product is \$2,800. Commissioner Young is checking around to see if we can get a better price.

PARK BOARD....Dianna Tribbett, Park Board Member, stated that the log cabin restoration has begun. Log Home Restoration has contacted the Park Board and stated that they really need to chink the south side of the cabin to prevent bat entry. Normally, a log cabin is chinked when it is built, but this has never been done to the existing structure. Log Home Restoration has proposed that at a minimum Phase 1 & the chinking in Phase 2 needs to be done to at least preserve the work that has been done in Phase 1 until the funds are available to complete the project.

CLERK-TREASURER...1. Clerk Treasurer Siphkema shared with the Council that Aim will be holding a Budget Seminar (web) for Council Members on May 2nd and May 16th for Clerk-Treasurers. A recording of the webinar will also be available to purchase following the event. Member Myers expressed interest in the post event recording. 2. The April utility bills are still being held up by a postal issue. The Staff will send out alerts by text and on Facebook to ensure the residents are aware of the new Servline Protection Plan that goes into effect on June 1, 2024. 3. CT Siphkema stated that the American Rescue Fund Report is due on April 30th and that she is working on getting access to the submission site.

COUNCIL MEMBERS...Jamie Myers asked if the town grounds could be sprayed/fertilized. Roger Young stated he would contact Vogel for a quote.

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:11 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Ken Hofmann

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: Loni Duke

COUNCIL MEMBER: [Signature]

COUNCIL MEMBER: [Signature]

ATTEST: Annette Sypkema