

MONTICELLO CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

November 12, 2019

MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

Members Present – Mayor Bryan Standifer, Councilmembers David Wease, Jennifer Murphy, and Larry Thurman were present. Mayor Pro Tem Stone Workman and Councilmember Cynthia Miller were unable to attend.

Mayor Bryan Standifer called the meeting to order. Councilmember Wease offered the invocation. City Clerk Karen Pennamon called the roll.

Media Present – Hannah Hinesley - The Monticello News

Citizens Present – Gail Harrell, Adam McGinnis, Mike Benton, David Dyer, Tanekie Kelly, Martha Pompey

Agenda Approval – Motion by Councilmember Thurman to remove Item #15 – Executive Session from agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Murphy. All in Favor.

Motion by Mayor Bryan Standifer to approve the agenda with changes, seconded by Councilmember Thurman. All in favor.

Citizen Comments – Citizen Gail Harrell, the newly elected Mayor Pro Tem, said she is excited about the new challenges and will work diligently with the Mayor and City Council to create a cohesive team for the citizens of Monticello.

Citizen Adam McGinnis, Downtown Development Authority, stated he is excited about the positive collaboration of the new DDA board. The Department of Transportation has met with them to discuss traffic concerns around the City Square and provided a summary report which is available on the D.O.T. East Facebook page. The University of Georgia Small Business Group has also visited Monticello and offered their services.

Mandy Tanner, Chamber of Commerce Director, expressed her appreciation for assistance from the City of Monticello staff during Haunticello, Deer Festival and Deer Dash. She added that there were 137 vendors that participated at Deer Festival. The Chamber of Commerce is preparing for the delivery of the Smithsonian Cross Road Exhibit on December 2, 2019 and the Christmas Parade on December 14, 2019.

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Citizen Tanekie Kelly discussed concerns about traffic obstructions and speeders on Tanyard Street. She has an autistic grandson and fears that the street has become dangerous because of speeders. She is requesting that City Council convert Tanyard Street into a one-way street.

Citizen Martha Pompey discussed traffic and overgrown properties on Spruce Street and Warren Street. She said she must pull halfway out into the road to see approaching traffic and suggest cameras be set up there to ticket speeders which could help generate revenue.

Adam McGinnis – Discuss special Exception at 474 Kelly Lane - Citizen Adam McGinnis, Southern Edge Realty, stated his company has received many requests for rental property in Monticello. His mother has a duplex at 474 Kelly Lane, and she would like to add several more at this location. This property is rezoned to Residential High-Density Multi-Family District (RMF) with a stipulation that only one duplex is allowed. Mr. McGinnis is requesting to have this stipulation removed. Mayor Standifer informed Mr. McGinnis that his request must go to the Planning and Zoning Commission for approval and then City Council. Mr. McGinnis stated that he has reached out to the Planning and Zoning Commission but has not heard back from them yet.

GMA’S Mayor’s Day Conference /Cities United Summit – Mayor Standifer instructed the Council to contact the City Clerk if they plan to attend the event.

Election Declaration of Results – Mayor Standifer read the declaration of results to the City Council. The Winner are as follows:

Mayor Pro Tem – Gail Harrell

City Council, D1, P2 – Cynthia Miller

City Council, D2, P2 – Jenny Murphy

Proclamation – Reva Brinkley Standifer 102nd Birthday – Mayor Standifer presented a proclamation for Reva Brinkley Standifer’s 102nd Birthday. Councilmember Thurman will attend St. James AME Church, Saturday, November 16, 2019 to present the proclamation.

Municipal Gas Authority – On-Bill Financing – Steve Edwards - Steve Edwards discussed the On-Bill Financing Program to the City Council. This program will assist homeowners with financing for natural gas appliances. It is a no interest loan of up to \$5,000, with payment terms ranging from 12 – 60 months. A \$3.00 admin fee is included. Owners of rental property may borrow up to \$5,000 for up to 3 rental properties but the bill must be in the property owners name.

Motion by Councilmember Murphy for approval of the On-Bill Financing, seconded by Councilmember Thurman. All in Favor.

Municipal Competitive Trust – MEAG – City Manager Young stated that MEAG has requested documentation to specify if City Council wants to continue with having off system sales credited to the City’s account or have it placed in a trust fund.

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Motion by Councilmember Thurman for approval to have off system sales credited to the City of Monticello's account, seconded by Councilmember Murphy. All in Favor.

Abandonment of Easement – Heartland Chiropractic

Motion by Councilmember Wease for approval of the Abandonment of Easement for Heartland Chiropractic at 972 College Street, seconded by Councilmember Thurman. Motion amended by Councilmember Wease for Heartland Chiropractic to be liable for legal cost associated with abandonment of easement, seconded by Councilmember Murphy. All in Favor.

City Manager Items

- a. GA Outdoor Stewardship Grant – City Manager Young has applied for the GA Outdoor Stewardship Grant in the amount of \$750,000. The grant can be used to assist with development of the Mine Lake property. He expressed his appreciation to Robert Jordan of Jordan Engineering for assistance with gathering the information needed.
- b. Mine Lake Pond Management – Garrett Pond Management has examined the lake and submitted a report of findings on the health of the pond, fish and pond management. The lake has an abundance of bass and crappie but not feeder fish. They recommend purchasing grass carp to clean up the grass and stabilize the lake. The estimated cost for the grass carp was \$5,000 but City Manager Young recommends purchasing \$2,500.00 worth now and more in the future.

Motion by Councilmember Thurman for approval to purchase grass carp for the Mine Lake property not to exceed \$2,500.00, seconded by Councilmember Murphy. All in Favor.

- c. Audit 2018 Final – The final 2018 audit has been received from the auditors and is ready for approval by the City Council. Ms. Carnethia Pennamon, City Accountant, has been instrumental in assisting with the preparation of the 2018 and 2019 audits. This audit is out of compliance due to the length of time taken to complete it, but the auditors have no disagreements with the current administration.

Motion by Councilmember Wease for approval of the 2018 Audit, seconded by Councilmember Murphy. All in favor.

- d. GIS Zoning Map – Online - Lynn Bentley, Jasper County Chief Appraiser has Assessors has implemented the City of Monticello zoning maps onto the Tax Assessors website. Thanks to Lynn Bentley for including the City of Monticello zoning maps in this GIS update for Jasper County.

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- e. Bates Roofing Repair Quote – Monte Roper, Facility Maintenance, stated there are 5,000 square feet of roof repairs needed for the City Hall Building. Repairs were done to the roof in 2014 but that company is no longer in business. The repair quote from Bates Roofing is \$3,900.00.

Motion by Council Member Thurman for approval of the Bates Roofing Repair Quote of \$3,997.00, seconded by Councilmember Wease. All in Favor.

- f. Blockstream Update – City Manager Young informed the Council that the City of Monticello had received a \$30,000 check for the sale of excess power to a company called Blockstream located in Adel, Ga.
- g. Employee Gift Cards for Thanksgiving – City Manager Young presented to the Council on behalf of the Mayor a request to purchase employee gift cards to thank employees for their hard work and dedication to the City of Monticello.

Motion by Council Member Thurman for approval to purchase Employee Gift Cards for Thanksgiving, seconded by Councilmember Wease. All in Favor.

- h. ALTEC Inspection & Repair Est. \$8,000.00 – City Manager Young stated the Electric Department’s annual inspection of the boom truck needs repair. The truck is locked out until the repairs can be done and not used until then. Monticello uses ALTEC for inspection and repairs and the quote is \$8,000.00.

Motion by Councilmember Thurman for approval of ALTEC Inspection & Repair Estimate of \$8000.00, seconded by councilmember Wease. All in Favor.

Consent Agenda – Consent Agenda – Minutes of October 3, 2019 & October 8, 2019 and payables of \$ 525,638.50 (includes ACH drafts: ECG \$ 4,975.00, GEFA \$ 16,224.81, GMA \$ 9,387.44, MEAG \$ 213,146.76, MGAG \$ 17,643.38, US Bank \$ 51,750.75)

Motion by Councilmember Murphy, seconded by Councilmember Wease to approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor.

Executive Session – N/A

Council Comments:

Mayor: He is always available to assist anyone at any time. Thanked Tim Young and Karen Pennamon for excellent job they are doing. The High School Red Carpet Gala is on November 21, 2019.

Council Member Wease: Welcomed Gail Harrell, newly elected Mayor Pro Tem to City Council.

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Council Member Murphy: No Comment
Council Member Thurman: No Comment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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