

MONTICELLO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2022
Minutes
6:00 P.M.

Members Present – Mayor Gail E. Harrell, Mayor Pro Tem Douglas Currie, Councilmembers David Wease, Cynthia Miller, Jennifer Murphy, and Larry Thurman were all present.

Staff Present – Interim City Manager Peggy Billerman

Media Present – Kathy Mudd - The Monticello News

Invocation – The invocation was given by Councilmember Thurman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. City Clerk called the roll.

Agenda Approval – The agenda was approved with two amendments to eliminate Wendall Yoder speaking on behalf of Downtown Development Authority item and add item #5 - memorandum between the Chamber of Commerce and the City. Mayor Pro-Tem Currie motion to approve the agenda and Councilmember Wease seconded. All in favor.

Consent Agenda to Include:

Approval of Minutes – Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the March 8, 2022, minutes and Mayor Pro-Tem seconded. All in favor.

Approval of Check Register – Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the March 2022 check register as stated and Councilmember Wease seconded. All in favor.

Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments addressed at the meeting.

Speakers:

Chamber of Commerce – Mandi Tanner, Director gave an update on the Chamber visitors and the walking brochure they will be providing to each visitor. The chamber also received an Ag South Farm Credit Grant for Monticello Market for advertisement.

Agenda Items:

1. Jasper County Food Bank Presentation – Ken Horton, Chairman discussed need to purchase 7.2 acres of land facing the Feldspar Road at the Mine Lake property for a new food bank facility. The council invited Mr. Horton into executive session to continue the discussion.
2. Discussion on Use of Employee’s Vehicles and Tracking Devices – Councilmember Miller discussed implanting tracking devices into each city vehicle and adopting a city policy for city vehicles used by employees during on call.
3. Council Priorities for 2022-2023 – Mayor Pro-Tem Currie discussed developing a comprehensive plan to for the City’s future.

4. Budget Review – Interim Manager Billerman stated the first round of budget has been complete.
5. Memorandum between the Chamber of Commerce and the City – Motion to table the Memorandum between the City of Monticello and the Jasper County Chamber of Commerce to next month made by Councilmember Murphy. Unanimously approved.

City's Manager Report

Code enforcement reports 81 open cases, 161 closed, 6 pending court, and 13 scheduled for court. Robert Jordan finished the roof RFB, and it will be advertised Thursday and closed on the 21st. A preliminary meeting was held with Mike, Robbie, the Mayor, Interim Manager to discuss the new building for the gas and electric departments. Over and Under Construction will change out the pole on South Street and set another pole mid-span of the b-phase line and build a 3-pot bank to power the new gas station at the old Hardee's. The project will cost \$9686 for labor, equipment, and all supervision and the city will provide all other materials.

Council Comments

Councilmember Murphy – No comment.

Councilmember Wease – No comment.

Councilmember Thurman – stated he would like to have a half fence installed at field located on Sands Drive.

Councilmember Miller – stated she was under the impression the presentation made for electric and water departments was to determine where our rates stood compared to other cities, but the presentation was more about increase our rates and she was a little surprised by the results given by ECG.

Mayor Pro Tem – No comment.

Executive Session for Personnel, Litigation, Real Estate, and Legal – Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to include Ken Horton to discuss real estate made by Councilmember Thurman, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. Voting for the motion was unanimous.

No action taken. Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. made by Councilmember Murphy, seconded by Councilmember Wease. Vote was unanimous.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.