

REGULAR MEETING
Minutes
September 12, 2023
6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Thurman called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6pm.

2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Currie followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Thurman, Mayor Pro Tem Currie, Council Members Miller, Murphy, Thurman and Wease were present.

Staff Present: Carnethia Pennamon, City Clerk, LaThaydra Sands, City Manager, Isaac Nesler, Maintenance and Public Works Director

Media Present: Susan Jacobs, the Monticello News

4. Agenda Approval

5. Consent Agenda to include:

- a. Approval of Minutes:
 - 1) August 8, 2023 – Regular Council Meeting
 - 2) August 29, 2023 – Special Called Meeting
- b. Approval of Check Register - Check #'s 45705 – 45789

Motion to approve the consent agenda as stated above made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

6. Agenda Items

a. First Reading: Broadband Ready Designation Ordinance

City Manager Sands gave a summary of the Broadband Ready Designation Ordinance.

b. First Reading: Flavored Vape and Hookah Ordinance

City Manager Sands gave a summary of the Flavored Vape and Hookah Ordinance.

7. Action Items

a. **Park Reservation – Sands Drive Park – October 28th – October Fest – Dyshon Norwood**

Motion to approve the Park Reservation for October Fest at Sands Drive Park on October 28, 2023 made by council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

b. **Eatonton Street Tree Removal – Electric Department**

Motion to approve the Eatonton Street Tree Removal invoice if it can be completed in three weeks made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

c. **Bonner Street Pole Change Out – Electric Department**

Motion to approve the Bonner Street Pole Change Out invoice made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Thurman. All in favor.

d. **Lowery Branch Pump House Roof Approval – Water Department**

Motion to approve the Lowery Branch Pump House Roof bid submitted by Bonafide Roofing in the amount \$8,350 contingent upon recommendation from the Jasper County School System made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

e. **Webb Street Paving Bid**

Motion to approve Houston Asphalt for the Webb Street Paving project in the amount of \$20,350 made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

f. **Water Line Relocation for Sheriff's Department**

Motion to pay 75% of the supply list (\$10,740.57) to relocate the water line at the Sheriff's Department made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

g. **Moratorium Extension Resolution Approval**

Motion to approve the extension for the New Vaping and Hookah Sales Moratorium Resolution made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

h. **Get Ahead House MOU**

Motion for the Get Ahead House MOU to go back to the original MOU with the \$60,000 allowance made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

i. **Plants Inside of Monument Replacement**

The council gave a consensus to complete a soil sample test for \$9 with the UGA County Extension.

8. Citizen Comments

The Citizens Comment section of the agenda allows citizens who sign up to address the City Council for not more than three (3) minutes on specific topics. The City Clerk will keep time. Please be courteous of the 3-minute time limit.

Veronica Stokes, 1041 Oak Street, complained as a new resident of Winding Creek neighborhood and the City of Monticello that several tractor trailer trucks are being allowed to park and the streets are terrible in the neighborhood and city. She urged the council to help with the issues so she could live comfortably in a nice community.

Tammy Knight-Parks, 235 Key Street, stated the citizens of Monticello pay a lot in city taxes and several citizens in the City of Monticello are hurting for money and food. The council members are the leaders of the city and should not be allowed to abuse money. Ms. Knight-Parks suggested for the council members who did not attend the conference/training to pay the funds back and be suspended from the council for a few months.

Vance Way, 1011 Oak Street, also complained about the roads coming into the Winding Creek and Frog Town area and asked the council to consider repairing the roads. Mr. Vance also addressed the issues he has with the kids in the neighborhood playing in the roadways and neighbors' yards.

Alexis Williams, 829 Glen View Loop, questioned the broadband ordinance and addressed her concerns with not having limited access to internet as a parent and having a work from home job. Ms. Williams also questioned if the city allots a budget for education.

Amber Whitfield and Christina Horman, 234 Forsyth Street, introduced themselves as the new building and business owner in the downtown area.

9. City Manager Update

City Manager Sands stated Isaac Nesler, the new street department supervisor, and would like to request to relocate the Street department from Post Road to Webb Street once the completion of the new Electric and Gas Building. The grapple truck will be delivered by the end of October or first of November and the approved tractor for the street department has been received. The new Monticello city flag and tennis courts nets are scheduled to arrive next week. The Get Ahead House is still receiving invoices for the four yard roll off dumpster and Ms. Roberta stated no one has ever ordered or paid for the dumpster. CHK Group is assisting Rick Hartley the audits and they are starting to move forward and seeing progress. DOT placed the Persons Street and Highway 83 project on hold but back on schedule for September 25th. The parts have not been received for the GP buster pump project and are expected to be completed by the end of October. Waste Management requested GIS information data for smart trucks. The City of Monticello is hosting a Homecoming Tailgate on the Square on October 6th and a Taste of Monticello in Spring 2024.

10. Council Update - No comment.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:09pm made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease.
All in favor.