

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**January 9, 2024**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Thurman called the meeting to order at 6pm.

**2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

The invocation was given by Mayor Thurman followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call**

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

Staff Present: LaThaydra Sands, Carnethia Pennamon, Joe Reitman, Isaac Nesler, and Robby Colvin

Media Present: Susan Jacobs, the Monticello News

**4. Agenda Approval – add Alcohol License Renewal as Item h by Mayor Thurman/City Manager Sands**

Motion to amend the agenda made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Harrell. All in favor.

**5. Consent Agenda to include:**

**a. Approval of Minutes:**

- 1) December 12, 2023 – Regular Council Meeting
- 2) December 28, 2023 – Special Called Meeting

**b. Approval of Check Register - Check #'s 46135 – 46258**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie.

**6. 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.*

David Thompson, 1237 Forsyth Street, congratulated all the new and old news of the council and is looking forward to working with them. He requested an update from the council on the speed calming signs throughout the city, encourage the council to create a strategic plan for 2024, and publish in the top five items in the council chambers. He suggested working towards the 90-page Comprehensive Plan and reestablishing the Municipal Court.



## 7. Action Items

### a. 2024 Holiday Calendar Approval

Motion to approve the Holiday Calendar as written made by Council Member Harrell, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

### b. 2024 Reappointments

- 1) **City Manager – LaThaydra Sands**
- 2) **City Clerk – Carnethia Pennamon**
- 3) **City Attorney – Joe Reitman**
- 4) **City Engineer – Robert Jordan**

Motion to reappoint to the four made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

### c. Bank Signature Cards Approval

Motion to approve the bank signature cards mentioned by the clerk made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Harrell. All in favor.

### d. Rezoning of Hunter’s Ridge

Motion to ask staff to carry forward the rezoning of Hunter’s Ridge for consideration to the Planning and Zoning Commission, pursuant its followings all of the requirements of Georgia law made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Harrell. All in favor.

### e. City Abandoned Street

Motion to table the city abandoned street made by Council Member Harrell seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in Favor.

### f. Surplus Land Resolution – Short Street

Attorney Joe Reitman reviewed the resolution for Short Street.

Motion to approve the resolution as presented made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

### g. Surplus Land Resolution – Forsyth Street

Attorney Joe Reitman reviewed the resolution for Forsyth Street.

Motion to approve the resolution as presented made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in Favor.

**h. Alcohol License Renewal – 786 Monticello LLC**

Motion to approve the alcohol license renewal for 786 Monticello LLC made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Harrell. All in Favor.

**8. Executive Session – Real Estate**

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:20pm to discuss Real Estate made by Council Member Harrell, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

Motion to close Executive Session at 6:37pm and return to regular session made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Harrell. All in favor.

**9. City Manager Update**

City Manager Sands discussed the following items:

Jasper County – Monticello Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner will be held on February 29<sup>th</sup> and requested if council was attending to make reservations by February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Audit Update – Amanda, Bates and Carter will kick off field work for FY 2020 on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Grand Opening for New Facility – Requested dates Mayor and Council would not be available to schedule a date for the grand opening.

Plant Vogtle Tour 2024 – Holly with MEAG asked if the City of Monticello would like to schedule a Vogtle Tour but requires a minimum of six people if not the city would have to combine with another city, and requested who was interested in the tour.

Council Member Murphy requested if City Manager Sands could schedule a tour of City of Jackson and Eatonton’s Water Plants.

Carnethia has successfully completed the Excellent as a Supervisor Training with ECG and UGA Carl Vinson Program and had a project called Coffee and Coaching, which will be presented at the next Department Head meeting to implement next month.

Dylan Miller and Kaci Champion have received their Level I Water Treatment Licenses.

Surplus Items – Requested permission to sell nine wooden tables.

Motion to sell the surplus tables made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. No second due to legal advice to adopt a resolution for surplus sell under \$500.

Spruce Street and Hunter’s Ridge update – Robert has had some staffing turnover, so his aim is to get the ITB issued in a couple of weeks so we can select a contractor.

Traffic Concerns – A resident on Honeysuckle stated the young drivers are using the road as a cut through and witnessed an incident where two kids almost hit because of this issue. The resident is

requesting a solution to slow the drivers down. Calming devices were looked into and Mrs. Sands asked Attorney Joe if the devices could fall under Road Improvements for SPLOST 18 funds.

#### **10. Council Update**

Mayor Thurman None.

Council Member Harrell reminded the citizens she will host a townhall meeting for District One held on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm located at Besley’s Event Center. This is an opportunity for the citizens to bring issues they are having in District One, share ideas, and solutions the council hasn’t thought of.

Mayor Pro Tem Currie mentioned during the Downtown Development Authority meeting held last night the members discussed temporary storage for the Christmas decorations in basement on the Shops of Monticello.

Council Member Murphy None.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 6:57pm made by Council Member Harrell, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.