



## REGULAR MEETING

**Minutes**  
**April 11, 2023**  
**6:00 P.M.**

### **Call to Order**

Mayor DeAshley Thurman called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### **Invocation**

The Innovation was given by Rev. Jimmy Horton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

### **Roll Call**

The City Clerk called the rolled: Mayor Thurman, Mayor Pro Tem Currie, and Council Members Miller, Murphy, Thurman, and Wease were all present.

### **Agenda Approval**

Motion to remove executive session and discuss in open meeting per City Attorney made by Council Member Murphy and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

### **Consent Agenda to include:**

#### **a. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion to approve the minutes by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

- 1) March 14, 2023, Regular Council Meeting
- 2) March 21, 2023, Special Called Meeting

#### **b. Approval of Check Register - Check #'s 44938-45064**

Motion to approve the check register for check numbers 44938-45064 made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Thurman. All in favor.

### **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.*

Captain Larry Mooney congratulated Mayor DeAshley Thurman and apologized for the miscommunication of parking on the basketball courts which took place on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the event held at Funderburg Park.

Sharon Kachior, 407 West Washington Street, requested the Council to repair the pothole which is more of a manhole and has sunken down on Washington Street.

Evelyn Driskell, 847 Webb Street, made her second request to the Council to repair the pothole on Webb Street before the railroad tracks.

Stephanie Phuket, 228 Honeysuckle Road, requested Council to speak into the microphones to allow the audience to hear them clear, two issues with the ordinances: enforcing the citations for the volitions and to update the ordinances because they are outdated, and the Power Cost Adjustment concerns.

### 1. Presentations/Delegations

*Presentations/Delegations allow scheduled speakers to address City Council for not more than six (6) minutes on specific topics or for recognition of citizens, city employees, or other events by Mayor and Council.*

1. Monticello - Jasper County Chamber of Commerce – Jennifer Lassen, congratulated the Mayor, and introduced herself as the new director of Monticello-Jasper County Chamber of Commerce.
2. Monticello Housing Authority – Maurica Carter – congratulated the Mayor and request the council to install three to six speed bumps. Petition signed by residents in the Housing Authority.

### 2. Action Items

#### a. Planning and Zoning Waiver – 343 Benton Street

Motion to approve the planning and zoning hardship waiver to apply for vinyl siding at the property of 343 Benton Street made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Thurman. Vote 3-2. Mayor Pro Tem Currie and Council Member Murphy opposed.

#### b. Safe Built Contract Renewal

Motion to table the safe built contract renewal until the current budget is reviewed made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

#### c. MEAG Power 2022 Year-End Settlement

Motion to reinvest the year end settlement back into the Municipal Competitive Trust Fund made by Council Member, seconded by All in Favor.

#### d. MGAG Voting Delegate

Council Member Murphy recommended Robbie Colvin as the voting delegate for the City of Monticello.

Motion to name Robbie Colvin as the MGAG Voting Delegate on behalf of the City of Monticello made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

#### e. Signature Cards for Mayor Thurman



Motion to replace Gail Harrell on the bank signature cards with Mayor DeAshley Thurman made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

**f. Park Rules and Procedures**

Council Member Murphy stated a contact person should be on site and questioned the liability insurance amount.

Motion to table park rules and procedures new form until next Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> Council Member Murphy, Council Member Miller. All in favor.

**g. Park Reservation – Juneteenth – Commissioner Jones**

Motion to approve the park reservation for Juneteenth event at Funderburg Drive Park from 8am until 8:45pm made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Council Member Thurman. Vote 3-2. Opposed by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. Abstained by Council Member Miller.

**h. Budget Amendment**

- 1) City Attorney City Manager \$16,000 amendment

Motion to transfer \$16,000 to the city attorney fees from the general fund made by Council Member Murphy seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

- 2) Mayor Thurman Travel, Education, and Training - \$2,865.31

Motion to amend Mayor Travel line-item amount to an additional amount of \$2,865.31 made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Council Member Wease. All in favor.

**i. Adopt FY 2024 Budget Calendar**

Motion to approve the revised Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Calendar made by Council Member Murphy, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

**j. Text Amendment Request – Geckos – Mayor Pro Tem Currie**

Mayor Pro Tem Currie briefed the council on the internet-based business run by Mr. Ian Pulka and his wife at 349 Merry Lane. Mr. Pulka applied for a home business license to raise geckos in a residential area, which doesn't meet the requirements of the City's Zoning Ordinance. The City wants to make it clear to help Mr. Pulka operate his home based business since there's no traffic to his home.

Motion to approve the text amendment request to raise geckos at 349 Merry Lane made by Mayor Pro Tem Currie, seconded by Council Member Murphy. All in favor.

**k. Fourth Amendment to IGA – City of Adel**

Motion to approve the fourth amendment made by Council Member Wease, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Currie. All in favor.

### 3. City Manager Update

- a. Groundbreaking of the new Electric and Gas Building on Highway 83 North - Steele Co is on site.  
The council gave a consensus for a groundbreaking event.
- b. DDA Request for Christmas Lights to pay the \$7,000 for overage.
- c. Electric Department – gearing up to complete a single-phase line for Oak Street and Spruce Street. The request is in the amount of \$12,141 and was received at 7:21pm on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Kyle Deering, Itron, and Robbie Colvin met to discuss the AMI systems for all meters.
- e. Proposed District 5 Officers for 2023-2034 nominations needs to be returned Sherri Bailey no later than April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- f. GLGPA Conference: \$435 conference fee, \$630 estimation for hotel, with a total of \$1,065 registration and lodging - Consensus from council to attend.
- g. Concerned Citizens of Monticello requested a meeting next week to address their concerns with the playground protection and the utility bills.

### 4. Council Update – No comments.

### ~~5. Executive Session – Personnel~~

### 6. Action Items

- a. City Manager Contract

Discussion:

Council Member Murphy stated she was against the cost of living raise until next year.

Mayor Pro Tem Currie stated he was against the 60 days severance pay and 30 days were more reasonable.

Motion to approve the contract as written made by Council Member Miller seconded by Council Member Wease. Vote 3-2. Opposed by Council Member Murphy and Mayor Pro Tem Currie

### 7. Adjournment

Mayor Thurman adjourned the regular council meeting at 7:28pm.