

**COUNCIL MEETING
(REGULAR)
October 6, 2021**

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a regular meeting on **Wednesday, October 6, 2021**, at 6:00 pm at the Monon Town Hall. Members present were President Rosemary Cooley, Stacy Selagy, Kirk Quasebarth, Ron Benakovich, Ken Hickman. Also, present were Marshal Roger Young, Attorney Rebecca Trent, Superintendent Tony Rodgers, and Clerk - Treasurer Tim Brown.

-No none was absent.

-President Rosemary Cooley started our regular meeting @ 5:58 pm & led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment-of-silence.

*****these minutes are from the SUSPENDED regular meeting from 9-15 and from the regular meeting on 10-6.**

-MINUTES, PAYROLL, BILLS & CLAIMS: Ken Hickman made a motion to approve the REGULAR MEETING MINUTES from September 1, 2021 & also the SPECIAL MEETING BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES from September 15, 2021 .

Stacy Selagy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

-Ron Benakovich made the motion to accept all the bills – claims – payroll as presented from 9-1 (plus) the other bills, etc...from September.

Kirk Quasebarth seconded the motion. The motion carried. 9-15 = \$69,260.38 and 10-6 = \$315,789.01.

-MONTH END RECONCILIATION REVIEW / SIGN OFF... none this time.

VISITORS: CARLOS MURILLO, ARCH STREET... after a short discussion about the sale of the 2 lots on Arch St. by the railroad tracks, we accepted his bid. He bid \$3500.00 and one of his neighbors bid \$3250.00.

Kirk Quasebarth made the motion to accept Mr. Murillo's bid. Ken Hickman seconded the motion

The motion carried. *Attorney Trent will take care of the rest of the paperwork he needs.

LARRY BROWN, WHITE CO. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP REPRESENTATIVE...was present. It was decided by the White Co. that the WCED group would help us pay half of the WW study grant. Their half of the cost will be \$25,000.00.

We need to send the WCED group a "letter of request" within 10 days so the funds can be approved.

-Larry also suggested that the town also start on a new "5 Year Plan." He stated that the process to update our WW plant will go a lot better if we have a 5-year plan project. Larry then said that Citation Homes has approached Brookston about starting new homes in their area. *Unless Monon can get off the sewer tap ban, no building companies will come here!

-GABRIELLA FROM COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERING...was present. She handed out the "timeline" sheet for the study project. The project kick-off date was September 28th. Commonwealth has visited our WW plant on 9-30 for their first visit.

PROPERTY CLEAN-UPS... 1.Marshal Young reported that a property on north Spruce Street has been cleaned up. 2.There have been several mattresses reported laying here and there around town. Roger will investigate these. 3.Member Hickman reported that the property around 516 Greenwood Street has a lot of scrap type metal objects, washers, dryers, etc...setting on a trailer in the back of their property. Roger will also investigate this. 4.The Troyer property around Casey's Store needs cleaned-up again.

VANGUARD METER & OTHER WW INFO... Tony stated that Vanguard's new meter is installed, and he will start collecting data from it each Friday.

SPLASH PAD INFO... 1.Tony said that the splash pad has been shut down for the season now. 2.The camera surveillance system should be installed next week. 3.Tony also stated that the splash pad company will be doing an instruction class here soon. 4.President Cooley asked Tony if we need larger diameter water pipe for the project. Tony said no, it would be too expensive.

GAZEBO @ TOWN HALL LOT... The gazebo kit has arrived at Town Hall. The high school building trades class may start the assembly of the gazebo around the end of this month. -There are 240 engraved bricks that need to be sold for the sidewalk. Right now, there are 200 bricks that are sold.

EMT...DISCUSSION & OTHER EMT PERSONNEL PAY... In the last month or so we had some unforeseen problems with our EMT personnel not being at work. Some of the other EMT people have filled in nicely during their absence. It was brought to our attention that we should pay these EMT's for their service. That is fine and all they have to do is turn in their time sheets for their hours. Ken Hickman made the motion to pay the other EMT's for their hours worked.
Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2022 SALRARY ORDINANCE, 1ST READING & DISCUSSION... The 2022 ordinance was reviewed by the Council. A couple months ago the cost-of-living increase was voted on by the Council, the increase was 3% for the full-time employees and the Council members. *An important issue came up and we are going to add some verbiage to a couple of the job descriptions. The issue is that the utility laborer workers are not starting to take their water and wastewater certification classes after the 2-year period... that's the period the State says is the waiting period to start taking the classes. The addition states..."between your 2nd and 3rd year of employment you must start the classes and take the test." If you don't start the classes in that time frame you be bill terminated. **This is not in the ordinance (but) when Tony presents the existing workers with the textbooks for the classes, he will also give them a sign off sheet that states that they have (1) year from that date to take the test. If they do not sign the sheet they will be terminated.

CLERK-TREASURER RETIREMENT, EARLY 2022... Clerk Brown announce that he will be retiring around the end of January 2022. To find the replacement, since we are all independent office holders in Monon, we will place an ad in the local newspaper and online. The applicants will be given a job description and a pamphlet from the State explaining the job. The candidates once chosen will be interviewed in an open meeting in front of our council members and they will appoint the new Clerk – Treasurer.

LOTS BEHIND Hwy. 16 CLINIC, INTEREST IN PURCHASING... There is a business in town that their landlord is going to tear down their building in about six months and they would like to stay in town. Since we are still on the sewer tap ban that is going to be hard to do...but not impossible. Letters to IDEM need to be written, etc...maybe this could happen. The owner of the property, if this happens, is willing to donate the land if we would install a street back to the property that meets all street certifications per the county and the state. *We will table this and make our decision later if this moves forward. **There may be another old building/property they can use. The business will investigate more.

SUPERINTENDENT TONY RODGERS... 1.Our utility workers will be flushing hydrants all this week. 2.The WW & Water class textbooks will be ordered soon. 3.Our new employee John Denton is working our well. 4.More street & street curb cleaning will continue before winter weather gets here.

MARSHAL YOUNG... 1.The new park playground equipment is being installed as we speak. The new ADA ramp at the park is also being installed. The Township is purchasing new mulch for that area, and they are also installing the new concrete barrier. 2.Roger and his deputy are watching more webinars to get certified in all the new upcoming procedures. 3.Rifle firearms training will be happening soon. 4.The township has purchased / leased a new speed limit trailer for the town. Roger will move it around to different streets when it arrives. 5.Deputy Ryan's squad had a broken windshield. The company we usually use went out of business. The recommended company installed the window, but they broke both side trim pieces. They came back and replace the new pieces at their costs.

CLERK – TREASURER BROWN... The month of August and September financial charts for Water and WW were passed out. Both months had positive income amounts.

PRESIDENT COOLEY... 1.The Buschman Fence Company has installed most of the WW fence. The rest of the fence needs replaced but there are questions about who owns the remainder of the fence. The Town of Monon or Vanguard Trailer. We will investigate... 2.The Chris Melton Company will be hopefully starting the steps soon leading down to the ditch behind the Wastewater plant. 3.Rosemary also asked would someone please contact the County about spraying the ditch bank sides of our south ditch to keep growth down. It has been around a year since they have been cleaned and they are starting to grow back. *Also, could we get put on a "yearly spray list" for the ditch.

Member Benakovich... Ron mentioned could we make the people in the old Trosper house put in an actual driveway into the property? Ron said since we just invested more then \$100,000.00 in new sidewalks over the last couple of years, we shouldn't just let them get torn up by heavy trucks. Also, Roger mentioned that especially at that corner we need "no parking from here to the corner" signs added. *Tony also brought up about posting one side of 2nd Street from the park to Hwy 421. We will check on our sign inventory.

ATTORNEY TRENT... Rebecca reported on the "flag in question" on north Arch Street. Because of all of the free speech rights, there is really nothing we can do about it.

Ron Benakovich made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Stacy Selagy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned @ 7:02 pm.
*Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be October 20, 2021 @ 6:00pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

ATTEST: _____