

**COUNCIL MEETING
(REGULAR)
August 4, 2021**

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a regular meeting on **Wednesday, August 4, 2021** at 6:00 pm at the Monon Town Hall. Members present were President Rosemary Cooley, Stacy Selagy, Ron Benakovich, Ken Hickman. Also, present were Attorney Rebecca Trent, Marshal Roger Young, Superintendent Tony Rodgers, and Clerk - Treasurer Tim Brown.

Member Kirk Quasebarth was absent.

President Rosemary Cooley started our regular meeting @ 6:00 pm & led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment-of-silence.

MINUTES, PAYROLL, BILLS & CLAIMS: Ken Hickman made a motion to approve the REGULAR MEETING MINUTES from July 21, 2021. Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Stacy Selagy made the motion to accept all the bills – claims – payroll as presented. Ken Hickman seconded the motion. The motion carried. \$413,450.59

MONTH END RECONCILIATION REVIEW / SIGN OFF... President Rosemary Cooley reviewed and validated the 3, month end bank statements from July for our General, Water and Wastewater accounts.

VISITORS: COMMONWEALTH ENGINEERING REPS... Gabrielle and Rob were present. They said our SWIF Grant for our wastewater plant has been received. There were so many grant requests received the award date has been moved from 8-6 to the end of August. Over 700 requests were submitted. *There is also a new grant program that just arrived. It is called the Ready Grant program. Gabrielle spoke with Commissioner Jim Davis about the grant. This grant will be checked out. **Rob also stated that we need to be proactive and start gathering info if we do not get approved for these grants.

WCED MEMBER LARRY BROWN WAS ALSO present. Larry also spoke about the Ready Grant program and its benefits. Larry said for this grant we are in the Lafayette district. But it was also stated that all our small communities are guaranteed money from this grant. Lafayette will not get all the money!!! *Larry then said there will be other grants coming so towns can get electric auto charging stations.

RESIDENT TERRI SAUNDERS ALSO SPOKE... Several residents have complained about the weeds growing in between the Family Express and the Monon Library. Clerk Brown explained that the weeds are on either the library's or the gas station's property. One of them needs to clean it up.

PROPERTY CLEAN-UPS... 1.Roger stated that the property at 5th and Spruce Streets will be getting a large dumpster to help with the clean-up. 2.VP Stacy talked about the building next the railroad tracks on 3rd Street. She suggested at the minimum we should have the ground level windows boarded up (+) in front of the building we need to have it boarded up where the rafters are showing.

IN-FLOW STORM WATER & STUDY GRANT... nothing new now.

SPLASH PAD INFO... 1.Tony stated if everything goes well, the main part of the splash pad and it's apron area should be poured Thursday. 2.The main \$\$ amount for the splash pad grant has been paid by us.

OLD GREENHOUSE MATERIALS... The area outside of the Town Hall garage where the green house pieces are kept is becoming a trash dumping area. Marshal Young said he would take the pieces to some other location.

SUNOCO PROPERTY RESTRICTIONS... Attorney Rebecca stated that in the property description that IDEM stated there are a few restrictions on building on the property because of the gas tanks leaking on the property...even though the area has been completely cleaned over the past several years. After a short discussion...

Stacy Selagy made the motion that the Town is fine with all the restrictions, and we move ahead with the property acquisition. Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SOLAR AREA PUBLIC HEARING IN WHITE CO. ON AUGUST 9, 2021... Attorney Rebecca looked over the email for the hearing. She said it was legitimate and the hearing is for the whole county.

MARKET & 2ND STREETS, FIRE HYDRANT... Tony said he would check it out to see if it works or not.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, NEED STREET / CURB LINES PAINTED... The Wesleyan Pastor came into Town Hall last week and asked nicely if our people could paint the parking lines. We all said yes...

SUPERINTENDENT TONY RODGERS... 1.Tony attended a leadership conference last week. 2.Our new fulltime utility employee will start next week. 3.Tony is getting a quote to have our 5 new park benches installed. 4.Our well #4 has been totally removed for service. The electronic system that runs the wells is having problems not recognizing that there is only (1) well in service. The controls must be switched manually every now and then. 5.Tony has given all the information to Attorney Rebecca about the Vanguard flowmeter problems. She will voice our concerns to them in a letter here soon.

MARSHAL YOUNG... 1.Roger’s new online SOP software program is having some issues. Hopefully it will be running better soon. 2.We still have an opening for a School Crossing Guard. We will put an ad on the town’s web page, we will also put out our white yard board at Town Hall and we will also ding people’s phones with the announcement. 3.We will be welcoming a new School Resource Officer this year. His name is Tyler Cosgray, and he is from Monticello. 4.Our officers have had a few illegal vehicles towed lately. 5.The trailer park owners have had a couple of clean-up days. 6.Tony asked Roger what he thought about all the tall weed growing over the south side of Shields Street just south of the Monon Cemetery and what we might do about it. Nothing was decided, they will brainstorm more on what to do.

CLERK – TREASURER BROWN... 1.Our summer workers will be done working soon. Emilia Valdizon and Eli Quasebarth have both did a nice job this summer. Thank you both... 2.We will be sending a mass mailing to every utility customer here soon. The letter contains information on how our billing and disconnect process work. *Rosemary and Ken both suggested that on the other side of the letter we put information about our new price increase of our trash prices that will begin on January 1, 2022. That is an excellent idea, and we will do that... 3.The graphs and income info was passed out to the council members for the water and wastewater accounts. **This was one of the better regular months we have had in a long time!

ATTORNEY TRENT... The 2 quiet title lots that are by the railroad tracks are almost completely through the paperwork process. Within a month we should be able to sell the lots.

FIRE CHIEF BRAD HAHN... 1.Brad reported that he has 2 more certified EMT’s. 2.The fire fighters have completed 50 hours of training over a 2-month period. 3.Next year the department will start purchasing more “turn out gear.” The town and the township will share in the costs. 4.Around the front of the fire station there are new curb areas installed.

VICE PRESIDENT SELAGY... 1.Stacy stated that the south sidewalks on 421 look good. She hopes the other side of the highway can be replaced in a year or two. 2.The old Kellogg property on 5th Street is still having problems with the fence they installed on 5th Street. Stacy asked, per Joe @ APC, if the town would be willing to use our backhoe to pull the existing posts out of the ground for them. The posts have been installed in concrete and will be hard to remove. After a short discussion, the council decided NOT to use our equipment because of liability issues.

PRESIDENT COOLEY... The WCED has a new TIF program coming out. It deals with residential areas. VP Selagy suggested that we talk to Libby in the White Co. Auditors office. She has the knowledge about TIF districts in both the residential areas and the business areas. Attorney Trent said she could also help us out.

Ron Benakovich made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Ken Hickman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned @ 6:52 pm.

*Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 18, 2021 @ 6:00pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

ATTEST: _____