

**COUNCIL MEETING
(REGULAR)
September 1, 2021**

The Council of the Town of Monon met for a regular meeting on **Wednesday, September 1, 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, Superintendent Tony Rodgers, and Clerk - Treasurer Tim Brown.

Attorney Rebecca Trent was absent.

President Rosemary Cooley started our regular meeting @ 6:04 pm & led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment-of-silence.

MINUTES, PAYROLL, BILLS & CLAIMS: Stacy Selagy made a motion to approve the REGULAR MEETING MINUTES from August 18, 2021 & also the EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES from August 25, 2021 .

Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ron Benakovich made the motion to accept all the bills – claims – payroll as presented.

Stacy Selagy seconded the motion. The motion carried. \$157,742.86

MONTH END RECONCILIATION REVIEW / SIGN OFF... President Cooley checked over, validated and signed-off the month of August 2021 bank statements for the general, water op and wastewater op accounts from our Alliance Bank.

DISCUSSION & VOTE ON WASTEWATER PLANNING GRANT... We had an executive meeting one week ago over this topic. Both Wessler's and Commonwealth had a rep. present. After a short discussion...

Ken Hickman made the motion that Commonwealth "proceed with the planning grant".

Stacy Selagy seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 3 to 2 vote. Member Benakovich and Quasebarth were a NA vote.

Commonwealth then asked for another vote about "moving forward with the process" which includes signing the paperwork for the grant.

Stacy Selagy made the motion to "move forward & sign the contract".

Ken Hickman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President Cooley and Clerk Brown signed the contract.

VISITORS: INDIANA AMERICAN WATER CO. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION... Bryan Forkner, Justin Schneider and Justin Mount were the presenters. Our local co. commissioner Jim Davis heard their presentation at the County Courthouse a couple of weeks ago and he suggested that we hear it. *Indiana American buys local water and sewer utilities. They have purchase around 35 towns & cities plants in Indiana. When they purchase the utilities, they make all the needed repairs to the infrastructure. **This was the first meeting here about this. If we are interested, we will have more discussions in the future. ***President Cooley had a phone conversation with the Town of Sheridan just north of Indianapolis. They have a population like ours. They have been with Indiana American for 3 years. They are very satisfied with them plus they were on a SEWER BAN and Indiana American got them off it.

PROPERTY CLEAN-UPS... 1.Marshal Young and his deputy have been tagging more illegal park cars. 2.There has also been a lot of streetlights going out in town. They have been notifying NIPSCO of the outages. 3. President Cooley wanted Roger to check out a back yard around Houser Street that may need to be cleaned up.

STORM WATER, STUDY GRANTS FROM COMMONWEALTH & WESSLERS, VANGUARD METER, ETC... Tony heard from Vanguard recently. They are getting a new meter installed plus they are doing some pump work.

SPLASH PAD INFO... Tony said that the splash pad is partially running. The contractors will finish up the rest of the work soon. After completion, the contractors will give Tony and his people instructions on how to operate the splash pad.

*President Cooley asked Tony about dirt leveling and grass seeding around the pad area. Tony stated that this will be completed later.

GAZEBO @ TOWN HALL LOT... Work on the gazebo foundation and pad should start within a week or two. Melton Construction will be doing the concrete work. The high school construction group should start soon after that on the framing of the gazebo. *Pavers for the sidewalk leading to the gazebo are now being sold.

- 1.
- 2.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER INFO... Town Hall received info which was handed out stating a new tower will be installed around our north county line. This info was supplied to us because we are in the radius range for where the tower will be installed.

2022 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING... This will be on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 5:30pm. The Public Adoption meeting will be on Wednesday, October 6, 2021. *Our advertisement for the meeting will be on the state's Gateway Budget site. No longer are the meeting notices put in local newspapers.

SUPERINTENDENT TONY RODGERS... 1. Tony said that he has ordered the water and the wastewater certification books for the utility workers to start the certification process. 2. The new concrete steps for the wastewater plant should be started soon. 3. Our workers have been cleaning lots of street curb areas. 4. Here in a month or so we will be flushing the fire hydrants again in town.

MARSHAL YOUNG... 1. The crossing guard lights on Highway 421 and 16 will now be on all the time. INDOT, Roger said is making software changes on the lights. When finished they will operate correctly. 2. President Cooley asked if Roger has had any success on getting a new Highway 16 crossing guard...and the answer is no! 3. The entrance for the elementary school is now off Meridian Road. Roger said the traffic flow is working out a lot better.

CLERK – TREASURER BROWN... We finished our WATER METER TURN OFF LIST today. We had around 20 properties we turned off. *One property we turned off a person called us to complain. In my 10 years of being here, this was the worst language that has ever been used on a phone call to us. My deputy – clerk was trying to calm the person down but after about a half of minute she just decided to hang up on them. **If my deputy would want to file a verbal harassment suit against them, in my opinion it would be totally justified.

PRESIDENT COOLEY... Rosemary stated that there is a house on Arch Street that is flying a flag with a vulgar, very inappropriate message on it. The residents have been approached by neighbors and other people to please take the flag down, but they will not do it. They say this is their 2nd Amendment free speech right to fly the flag and they will sue anyone that makes them take it down. We will get in touch with attorney to see if there is anything legally, we can do. We have 2 ordinances on our books that we may be able to use.

Kirk Quasebarth made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ron Benakovich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned @ 6:50 pm.

*Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be September 15, 2021 @ 6:00pm.

**Before our next regular meeting on the 15th, we will have a SPECIAL 2022 BUGET PUBLIC HEARING MEETING.

It will start at 5:30pm.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

COUNCIL MEMBER: _____

ATTEST: _____