

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 28, 2008.**

The minutes of the regularly scheduled Monticello City Council Meeting of July 28, 2008 held in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building in Monticello, Piatt County, Illinois.

Meeting convened at 7:00 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Mitze  
Deputy Clerk McFarland

Alderman:

Hiller  
McHale  
Hayes  
Corrie  
Kuetemeyer  
Allman  
Vanderkloot

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Attorney Tracy  
Alderman Brown  
Clerk Fruendt  
Student Advisor King

Mayor Mitze led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by Alderman Hiller seconded by Alderman Hayes to approve the Hotel/Motel Tax Annual Report of April 30, 2008, Police Department Report for June 2008, City of Monticello Investments Report and Treasurer's Report of June 30, 2008, City of Monticello Budget Report of June 30, 2008, and the City of Monticello Claims Report of June 28, 2008. Motion Carried.

The Mayor had nothing to report.

In old business, Alderman Kuetemeyer asked about the interpretation of the house numbering ordinance for those with mailboxes labeled correctly, as well as those with house numbers engraved in their homes. Some homes have more than one mailbox in front of them, as well as landscaping illustrating the house numbers. Mr. Allsop and Chief Miller said that it is best to have the house numbers in a uniform location- labeled on the house, legible, so that public safety services are able to locate the house. The police department will be sending out reminder letters to residents not in compliance, and assistance will be available to those who need it. Also in old business, Alderman McHale mentioned that the digital camera recorder the police department received from grant funding will be installed this week in a midnight shift squad car.

Resolution 2008-33; Acceptance of Proposal to Furnish Materials and Approval of Award asks for the council to award the annual oil and chip program to Earl Walker Company, Inc. in the amount of \$94,020.00. The City received bids from both Earl Walker Company and Illiana Construction, with the bid from Earl Walker coming in lower. Included in this year's project will be the areas maintained for last year's project,

where the oil and chip material didn't last. A motion was made by Alderman Corrie, seconded by Alderman Allman to approve Resolution 2008-33. Motion carried.

Mr. Allsop requested the postponement of Ordinances 2008-34 and 2008-35, regarding traffic and parking at the new Monticello Christian Academy located at the intersection of N. Hamilton and E. Livingston. There will be more issues that the Council will need to address with this property and Mr. Allsop thought it would be better to address them all at once.

Ordinance 2008-36 allows for the installation of a 3-way stop sign at the intersection of North West Union and Railroad Streets. The City will be narrowing the intersection, and with the addition of the stop signs, will be able to control traffic better, causing traffic to slow down. The amount of pedestrian and bicycle traffic has also increased in this area, and by implementing this method of traffic control, the City would be creating potentially safer environment. A motion was made by Alderman Corrie to approve Ordinance 2008-36, seconded by Alderman Vanderkloot. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2008-37 allows for the installation of stop signs on Surrey Road and West Union, and Washington Street and West Union. Both signs would cause traffic turning onto West Union to stop before proceeding. The City will also be narrowing this intersection. Alderman McHale made a motion to approve Ordinance 2008-37, seconded by Alderman Corrie. Motion carried.

Superintendent Allsop gave a report on the Storm water Drainage, Detention and Inflow and Infiltration Project. He reviewed the Anderson property survey, which consists of approximately 400 acres of watershed, and overflows west onto Kratz Road and Piatt Street. Recommended improvements include a 22-acre dry detention basin with 2-foot higher berms. The area east of the Middle School currently has a 3-acre dry detention basin. Recommended improvements are to increase the basin to 5-acres, and raise the berms 2 to 3 feet. The area east of Prairie Lane needs to have the west and north sides of the berm built up so drainage will flow to the north. The Kirby Creek and Lone Beech area ditches and culverts need attention, and the tile from Lone Beech to Kirby Creek needs to be rebuilt. Jefferson Grove does not promote overland flow into the Lone Beech neighborhood, and less than 1/3 of the 33-acre farm to the north of Lone Beech drains into that neighborhood. Over the next two weeks, City staff will be meeting with the landowners of Charming Acres, Reeder Farms and Tatman Trust to discuss options. A preliminary plan for the Kirby Creek, Lone Beech and Schaffer properties will be created. A recommendation for the inflow and infiltration project will be created, and Mr. Allsop will arrange for a speaker to address the council on flood plains and flood insurance at the next meeting. Alderman Hayes complimented the City on addressing drainage issues the same way the City expects developers to do so.

In the Alderman's Report, Alderman Corrie reported that the Chamber Lunch will be August 5<sup>th</sup> with Vic Zimmerman as the speaker. Monticello Day at the Illinois State Fair is August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Senior Expo is August 19<sup>th</sup> at the Community Building from 10:00am – 1:00pm, the Chamber Cookout will be September 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00pm, and a new

event, First Friday on the Square, will be starting this Friday from 5:00 – 8:00pm. This Main Street event promotes visitors to the downtown and runs the first Friday of the month through October.

Alderman Hayes reminded that there are still openings for the bus trip to Monticello Day at the Illinois State Fair. The bus will depart from the Municipal Building at 10:00am and return around 5:00pm. Admission to the fair is included in the \$16 bus fair. The CIMOA meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup> was a success with 96 people in attendance. The Summer Singers performed twice last Saturday at the Lincoln-Douglas 150<sup>th</sup> Debate Celebration in Bement. He complimented Karen Gentry on the work she has done with beautification around Monticello. Over 120 youth have signed up for the Junior Football League. Practices start tonight and coaches this year are Mack Woolley and Robert Gulliford. Youth Soccer League held registrations last week, but due to low enrollment registrations will be taken through August 5<sup>th</sup>, with a special registration night on August 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-7pm at the Municipal Building. As of this day, pool attendance is 13,438 in the 59 days the pool has been open. 452 youth participated in swimming lessons. There are 1,400 season pass holders and passes are discounted through the remainder of the season. The Monticello Marlins swim team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> among 18 at the conference meet this past weekend. The final record is 4:3, and coaches this year were Erica Cromwell and Sarah Roberts. The driving range and landfill are open daily.

Superintendent Allsop reported that there is some restructuring in the office that he would like to do. As per council discussion, the City should be spending more time than it currently is, focusing on development and City projects. The amount of zoning projects have increased and Mr. Allsop would like to have a backup for someone in the human resources department. He would like to make Callie Jo McFarland the Coordinator of Community Development, and she would also assume the zoning responsibilities from Brett Thompson. Mrs. McFarland would be the liaison between the community organizations, Economic Advisory Committee and the City Council, as well as between the City and a development consultant if the City needed one. She would remain in charge of the city websites, channel 2, and correspondence with the community. Brett would be assisting Terry Summers more with the engineering projects, as well as IT needs for the City. Alderman Corrie made a motion to accept these changes, seconded by Alderman McHale. Motion passed.

Mr. Allsop gave an update on the swimming pool project. There are 5 components of the entire pool project: The parking lot, bathhouse, children's pool, pump house and swimming pool. The City could have the bathhouse rebuilt and replace the parking lot for 1 million, leaving 2 million for the pools and pump house replacement. The bathhouse would have a deep basement, allowing for the pool pumps to be moved into the basement, and operate using a gravity system which is more efficient. Some of the existing equipment could also be reused. Mr. Allsop suggested replacing the pool in 3 phases. Phase 1 includes replacing the bathhouse by borrowing 1 million over 10 years and making annual payments from the general fund. Phase 2 would consist of replacing the main and kiddie pools and equipment, putting this phase on the referendum for consideration in spring of 2009- the new pool could be open in 2010. Phase 3 would be

replacing the parking lot, which the City public works could do following pool construction. The bathhouse would have to be constructed first because of the pump installation, etc. This phased project would not raise taxes, or create the need for a fall referendum. The overall consensus of the council was to go forward with this project. Alderman Corrie stated that the City cannot forget about other projects just because of the drainage issue, and that the drainage issue is still a number one priority.

Mr. Allsop reported that Lyric Alley has been completed and the City will be installing bollards to keep vehicles out of the alleyways. Main Street will also be installing fencing to hide the backs of the buildings, and is looking into installing lighting. Public Works crews will be working on improvements to the intersections around Burke Park and the Varner drainage ditch. The City has installed a recycling container at the landfill for residents to use during landfill hours. Acceptable materials are the same that the curbside program accepts, and if the recycling container is abused, the City will take it away. A camera will be installed for surveillance of the site. Mr. Allsop was notified that Mr. Haines' attorney has filed a motion for reconsideration in the demolition case on his Bridge Street property. Before the City can request bids for demolition, they must wait until they hear from the Judge. There is a Planning Commission meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm to rezone the Ironhorse properties from I-1 to Business, which will be more conducive for the current projects in that area. A Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm for two hearings: Leischner (selling non-confirming lot) and Leach (resubmitted from Council).

In public participation, Melinda Weber requested the 7 houses on Troy Philips Road not be annexed into the City. She was told by an alderman that eventually that area would be annexed into city limits. The residents of Troy Philips Road would like assistance on how to stay out of city limits. Mr. Allsop responded that at this point, there has been no effort on behalf of the City to force annexation to the residents.

A motion was made by Alderman Hayes, seconded by Alderman Hiller to adjourn at 8:45 P.M.

  
**Callie Jo McFarland, Deputy City Clerk for  
the City of Monticello, Illinois**