

## **MONTICELLO CITY COUNCIL**

**November 12, 2019**

Mayor Stoner called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Mayor Stoner led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Alderman Rodney Burris led the Council in prayer.

Roll Call was taken by City Clerk Jill Potts.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: FRERICHS, HARLAN, REED, KOON, BURRIS, BROCK,  
JONES

Absent: SEBENS

Also Present: Terry Summers, City Administrator; Maura Metcalf,  
Finance/HR; Chief John Carter, MPD

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Steve Shreffler questioned if the Council has heard any feedback on the current Bridge Street Resurfacing, and stated he wanted to make the City aware of a concern. He feels the road is uneven, and reported he has had numerous people mention the same concern to him. Alderman Reed agreed, with both stating they notice it when you are westbound. They also both agreed it is better than it was in the beginning phase of the work, but is still noticeable. Mr. Shreffler also questioned an item on a previous Claims Report that was discussed at the 10.28.19 City Council Meeting. He questioned if we use chainsaws that take batteries. Maura Metcalf explained that she had gotten clarification from Jim Grabarczyk, Public Works Director, after the last meeting and that it was not batteries that were bad but the blades, and three saws were replaced. Mr. Shreffler also commended the City's transparency because taxpayers deserve this. While applauding the City's efforts to be transparent, he did remind the Council he does not agree with the preliminary budget not being available for the public. Mr. Shreffler closed by stating he does not agree with the 4.9% tax increase, saying it is akin to theft as the City does not need it but is taking it anyway.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a) Claims Report (Claims dated October 29, 2019 through November 12, 2019)

- b) Meeting Minutes –City Council Meeting Minutes October 28, 2019; City Council Closed Session Meeting Minutes October 28, 2019; City Council Study Session Meeting Minutes November 4, 2019)
- c) Permit Report – October 31, 2019
- d) Police Report – October 31, 2019

A motion was made by Alderman Koon, and seconded by Alderman Brock, to approve the Consent Agenda items. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried with all present voting yes.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:**

The following was reported by the Mayor:

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for the Bespoke Gift Company is Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Mayor Stoner encouraged Council members to attend and welcome them to the downtown. Bespoke is also the winner of the Fall 2019 Monticello Bootcamp Grant. Mayor Stoner reported that if any of the Council members are interested in participating in the Monticello Christmas Parade, which is Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am, please let him know by Friday so spots can be reserved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution 2019-62: Truth in Taxation Resolution**

**Project Overview** – Terry Summers presented the following:

State Statutes establish procedures and requirements for determining the amounts of money necessary to be raised from a property tax levy by a municipality. In accordance with The Truth in Taxation Law, the City Council must approve an estimated tax levy at least twenty days prior to adoption of the final levy. If the estimated property tax levy is less than 105% of the prior year levy, the City would not be required to advertise its intent and hold a public hearing on the levy.

City Administration has estimated the FY 2020 property tax levy to be \$727,144.00, which is approximately 4.9% over the previous year’s levy. It is intended that the FY 2020 Tax Levy Ordinance will be placed on the November 25, 2019 City Council agenda for first reading, and

approval on the December 9, 2019 meeting. Alderman Jones had questions regarding the 4.9% and taking that full amount. Maura Metcalf explained that taking the full 4.9% equalizes the value to all homeowners, including new homes.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Alderman Jones, and seconded by Alderman Frerichs, to approve Resolution 2019-62. The motion passed 7-0.

### **ALDERMEN'S/ALDERWOMEN'S REPORT:**

Alderman Jones shared with the Council that he is moving to Idaho for a job with the Department of Defense, and his last meeting will be December 9, 2019.

Alderman Brock offered congratulations to Alderman Jones.

Alderman Koon recognized the Monticello Sages Cross Country Teams and their performance at State this past weekend. The boys won first place and the girls won second place.

Alderman Frerichs congratulated Alderman Jones, and asked if the Recreation Foundation is returning to the next Council Meeting as planned. Terry Summers answered that yes this would be on the agenda for the November 25, 2019.

### **POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

Chief Carter reminded everyone that Shop with a Cop will occur on December 14, and volunteers are always needed. Last year there were 48 participants signed up, and this year there are 63.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Terry Summers reported that there is \$100,000 dollars in the budget this year (2019) specifically for a sanitary sewer collection study that was part of the IEPA consent decree. After this current year, no further studies are required. Part of that money we will be saving this coming year will need to go toward purchasing a new skid steer. The plan is to trade the old skid steer in and purchase a new one. At the November 25 Council Meeting, Mr. Summers would like to present an Ordinance selling surplus equipment and purchase the new skid steer out of the current Fiscal Year. At that same meeting, the tax ordinance will be on the agenda for approval, as well as SSAs 3 and 4 tax

levy. At the 12.9.19 meeting the plan is to present the FY 2020 budget for approval. Mr. Summers verified that the Council felt the tentatively scheduled study sessions for 11.18 and 11.25 are not needed, and the Mayor and Council agreed.

Alderman Frerichs asked what the next step is for Recreational Cannabis. After discussion among the Aldermen, it was determined that because the moratorium is in place, it is advantageous to wait for the Trailer Bill to come out before any further decisions are made.

A motion was made by Alderman Brock, and seconded by Alderman Frerichs, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jill Potts

City Clerk