



City Council Meeting Summary 12.06.2021

Next City Council Meeting – December 20th, 2021, at 6:00 PM

Official Minutes available at www.cityofmonmouth.com

A live stream of the event is shown on the @cityofmonmouth Facebook page

0- Swearing in of New Police Officer – Ethan Huston

A new officer was sworn onto the Police Department. Officer Ethan Huston is a Warren County resident who comes to the department as a lateral transfer from the Warren County Sheriff's Office.

1– Presentations or Citizen Inquiries

A resident from North 11th street asked City Council to consider placement of a stop sign or other traffic calming device on North 11th to help slow down vehicle traffic on the road. A motor vehicle collision recently occurred in the area that resulted in a vehicle striking a residential household, and this area sees a significant amount of pedestrian traffic. Mayor and Council thanked Mr. Sheels for bringing the issue to their attention, and they will begin investigating what can be done at the intersection.

2- Building and Zoning Monthly Report – Director Clark

- The airport has completed pouring the footings and the floors for the new airport hangar. They are currently working on the underground electrical and will begin construction of the wall soon
- Footings and floors are being poured at the Monmouth townhomes project. Construction crews are currently working on the electrical and plumbing for the sites
- The loading docks at the Maple City Warehouse Distribution facility have been completed
- Improvements were completed to the south side wall of the Flowers-R-Us building

3- Woodard and Curran Monthly Report – Director Jackson

- Replacement of the water main in the 300 block of North 5th is completed, and all house services are connected
- The large city sewer servicing the commercial area north of Highway 34 and east of Highway 67 has been replaced. The final 1000 feet of installation between the highway and Monmouth Manor was completed just before thanksgiving by Laverdiere Construction
- The new snowplow dump truck was delivered in late October. This truck was approved in September of 2020 and was delayed due to supply chain issues
- The design of the mandated disinfection system was delivered to the IEPA for review and permitting. This project is part of an unfunded wastewater treatment mandate
- Unfortunately, the City's grant application for a Federal RAISE grant of \$1.7 million to assist in West Harlem Road Reconstruction funding was not selected for award. The City felt it was a very strong application that focused on all of the national high priority issues, including pedestrian safety, improved safe access to recreational areas and medical facilities, drainage, and median household income that is below poverty. Moving forward administration will have to evaluate the Capital Improvement Plan priorities and determine other funding options

4- Approval of Option to Purchase Real Estate

The City has been pursuing multiple grants to help build a new water treatment plant and above ground storage. If the City is able to acquire the roughly \$12 million that is needed to build the plant, new ground will need to be purchased. This item is an option-to-purchase renewal on a piece of ground by Americold & Smithfield. The current option is expiring and is in need of renewal to continue with the grant applications for the project. The entire project is in its preliminary phase and no land is being purchased at this time.

A motion was made for approval and was **approved**.

5- Ordinance 21-032, IEPA Loan

The City was informed in the past that their disinfection exemption permit would not be renewed. The exemption permit pertained to the **wastewater treatment** process. It had allowed the City in the past to eliminate the need to perform final chlorine or UV disinfection of the wastewater effluent. Smaller towns across Illinois all used disinfection exemptions to help reduce the cost of treatment and was standard practice up until the last few years when a rise in recreational activity on creeks has prompted the IEPA to cease renewing the permits.

After a comprehensive study was performed, it was determined that the most cost-effective and reliable system would be an Ultraviolet system that uses light to disinfect. As this is an unfunded mandate, the City must fund the capital project on its own.

This project is anticipated to cost **\$3,500,000**, and funding is being established through an IEPA low-interest loan. A portion of this loan (30%) is forgivable since the loan is through the EPA.

A motion was made to approve the loan application and was **approved**.

6 – Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Report compiled by Ken Helms, City of Monmouth