



CITY OF MONMOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Date: Monday, February 1, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: 100 East Broadway
Monmouth, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rod Davies called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 100 East Broadway at 6:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Susan S. Trevor called the roll and those answering **Present were:** Aldermen Justin Thomas, Tony Cook, Aldermen Brian Daw, Juan Pinedo, Dan Heatherly and Alderwoman Mary Kelly **Absent:** Alderwoman Twomey (**Joined in remotely at 6:05 p.m.**) **Also Present:** Mayor Rod Davies, City Clerk Susan S. Trevor, City Attorney Marcum Spears and Administrator Lew Steinbrecher, Communications Director Ken Helms, Building and Zoning Director Joe Clark, MFD Chief Casey Rexroat, MPD Chief Joe Switzer and Woodard and Curran Public Works Director Andy Jackson **Members of the Press:** Jane Carlson, Register Mail

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of January 19, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Daw to approve the January 19, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. AYE: Aldermen Thomas, Cook, Aldermen Daw, Pinedo and Heatherly **NAY:** none **PASS:** Alderwoman Kelly **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL

A. Presentations or Citizen Inquiries (All inquiries are limited to 3 minutes per City Ordinance)
There were none to be heard.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Bills

It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Pinedo to approve the bills as presented. AYE: Aldermen Cook, Aldermen Daw, Pinedo, Heatherly, Alderwoman Kelly and Alderman Thomas **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderwoman Twomey **MOTION CARRIED.**

V. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A. Building and Zoning January Report – Director Clark

- ✓ Abatement and demolitions are complete at the old Sanctuary of the First Methodist Church and the old Dairy Building at 110 S. A Street
- ✓ TIF projects at the Tin Cup and J.B.'s Woodshed are completed with Buffalo 67 still finishing up with renovations.
- ✓ M.R.E. Old Y.M.C.A. TIF is still an open project.
- ✓ West Central F.S. and County Market are also open projects with ongoing renovations.
- ✓ Annette and Danielle are assisting with the Strong Communities Grant that the City was awarded, but the project can't start until the legal closing webinar on the 11th of February.
- ✓ The City is also looking at additional grant funds in the Abandoned Property Program that focuses on renovation of existing properties rather than demolition.

B. Woodard and Curran December Report – Director Jackson

- The City was notified by the IEPA that it is still under consideration for the grant for the rain garden-parking lot project in conjunction with M-R High school; however, the awarding of these grants is dependent on the final budget presented by the Governor.
- The City was notified by WIRC that the CDBG Grant that we applied for to help with the water main replacement project on West Harlem is still in consideration and notifications of approval should be sent out by the end of February.
- The appropriation funds from the Illinois General Assembly to assist communities with infrastructure projects has been included in their budget. The City is working on how to access a total of \$865,000 for our general infrastructure replacement projects.

C. MACC Request for Relocation and Hours of Farmers Market and Market Alley Music Days

David Wise, MACC (Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce) Executive Director presented a request to hold a Farmers Market from May 21st to October 15th on Friday evenings from 5:30- 8:30 p.m. in the Northeast Quadrant of the Square. Due to the City's proximity to so many other communities who host Farmer's Markets on Saturday morning and the lack of success holding one on Fridays during the day led to the consideration of a change of time and location. He also said that the Chamber wants to move the hours of the Market Alley Music Days from the lunch hour to Friday evening to coincide with the Farmers Market. The intent is to create a community wide season event. The business owners in the quadrant have given their signed approval. A number of vendors have expressed interest in participating in the Farmers Market. Alderman Cook expressed concern over the conflict that would occur with the two major downtown events, Maple City Street Machines Car Show and the BaconFest, which cover the entire downtown area. Mr. Wise said that he would work with the Maple City Street Machines to determine what could be worked out and since the Chamber hosts the BaconFest, he would see that the events would not conflict with each other. **It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderwoman Kelly to approve the above-stated request by the Monmouth Area Chamber of Commerce. AYE:** Alderwoman Twomey (remotely), Aldermen Daw, Pinedo, Heatherly, Alderwoman Kelly, Aldermen Thomas and Cook **NAY:** none **MOTION CARRIED.**

D. Downtown TIF Building Rehabilitation Grant Request for 201 N. Main Street

Administrator Steinbrecher explained that the Downtown TIF Joint Review Board met to review the request by Tiffany Cole, the owner of Meks on Main at 201 N. Main Street and Mike and Janice Sheid, owners of the Tin Cup located at 226 S. Main Street and is recommending approval of the two requests

The Meks on Main building needs a new roof at a total cost of \$56,982. Under the TIF Building Rehabilitation Program, Tiffany Cole, the owner, would be eligible for a 30% reimbursement, which would amount to \$17,095.

The Tin Cup applied for a grant under this TIF program in order to construct their drive-thru addition at a cost of \$7,056.46 and they qualify for \$2,117 in reimbursement.

It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Daw to accept the recommendation of the TIF Joint Review Board and approve the above-stated requests for reimbursement for Meks on Main and the Tin Cup. AYE: Aldermen Daw, Pinedo, Heatherly, Alderwoman Kelly, Aldermen Thomas, Cook and Alderwoman Twomey (remotely). **NAY:** none **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. Extended Leave Approval for MPD Officer – Chief Switzer

Chief Switzer explained that an officer has requested an extended leave of absence since his current leave time expires on March 2, 2021. He is having surgery this month and will be off work about 10 weeks. Any leave over 30 days has to be approved by the City Council; therefore, he is asking for Council approval to grant him an extended leave of absence. **It was moved by Alderman Thomas and seconded by Alderwoman Kelly to approve granting this officer an extended leave of absence. AYE:** Aldermen Pinedo, Heatherly, Alderwoman Kelly, Aldermen Thomas, Cook, Alderwoman Twomey (remotely) and Alderman Daw. **NAY:** none **MOTION CARRIED.**

F. Mayoral Appointment for the 3rd Ward Alderman Vacancy

The seat of 3rd Ward Alderman became vacant upon the death of Alderman Bob Wells and therefore to adhere to the time frame established by State Statute, the Mayor proposed the name of Jim Conard to fill the vacancy. He gave the background on Mr. Conard's years of service in the Community as well as his years as a firefighter and Fire Chief for the City of Monmouth. Alderwoman Kelly raised concerns that it would be a conflict of interest on some votes for Tax Levy's and Budget issues regarding pensions. **It was moved by Alderman Pinedo and seconded by Alderwoman Twomey (remotely) to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jim Conard to fill the 3rd Ward Alderman vacancy. AYE:** Aldermen Pinedo, Heatherly, Thomas, Cook, Alderwoman Twomey (remotely) and Alderman Daw **NAY:** Alderwoman Kelly **MOTION CARRIED.**

VI. RESOLUTIONS

A. 21-002, Grant from Illinois Housing Development Authority' Strong Community Program

Building and Zoning Director Clark explained that the City had originally applied for a \$250,000 Grant through this program; however, was only awarded \$124,400. This resolution is confirming acceptance of the \$124,400 Grant and is part of the process for actually receiving the grant. The City has determined that there are currently seven (7) properties that fulfill the grant criteria. The City owns two properties with the other five abandoned and the City Attorney is in the process of having the owners sign the properties over to the City. **It was moved by Alderman Daw and seconded by Alderwoman Twomey (remotely) to approve Resolution 21-002, accepting the Grant of \$124,400 from the Illinois Housing Development Authority' Strong Community Program. AYE:** Alderman Heatherly, Alderwoman Kelly, Aldermen Thomas, Cook, Alderwoman Twomey (remotely), Aldermen Daw and Pinedo **NAY:** none **MOTION CARRIED.**

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Per Illinois Statute 5 ILCS 120/2 to consider Collective Bargaining Negotiations

1. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Daw to go into Executive Session to consider Collective Bargaining Negotiations at 6:40 p.m. AYE: Aldermen Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Cook, Alderwoman Twomey (remotely), Aldermen Daw, Pinedo and Heatherly **NAY:** none **RECUSE:** Alderman Thomas **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Cook to return to Regular Session at 6:55 p.m. AYE: Aldermen Thomas, Cook, Alderwoman Twomey (remotely), Aldermen Daw, Pinedo, Heatherly and Alderwoman Kelly **NAY:** none **MOTION CARRIED.**

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none to be considered.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Alderman Heatherly and seconded by Alderman Cook to adjourn the February 1, 2021 meeting at 6:55 p.m. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Rod Davies

City Clerk Susan S. Trevor