TOWN OF MONROE

Town Board Minutes

January 2, 2024

The pledge was recited.

Monthly expenses were reviewed and approved.

December minutes were reviewed and approved.

Those in attendance at tonight’s meeting are Mike Geels, Josh Geerken, David Bard, Justin Shaffer, Rachel Tague, AJ Bertsch, both newspaper journalists, Kris Burkhart & Clayton Lengerich.

**New Business**

Nothing new to present.

**Old Business**

Nothing new to present

**Town Superintendent**

Justin was present at tonight’s meeting. He has brought up the topic of discounting pool fill ups and yard watering. He has done some research with area cities to determine what they do for such a credit. Decatur does a yearly average and then uses those figures during the summer months to discount on sewage. Baker Tilly suggests taking a 3-month average and using those figures during the summer months. Justin reminded council these credits are just on the sewage portion; the residents will pay for the water used. Justin said that Jeff Rowe with Baker Tilly can be available at next month’s meeting to discuss this and answer any questions.

INDOT reached out to Justin regarding the LED cross walk signs on Washington St/124. At one point, INDOT purchased an un-lit cross walk sign and post. At one point, Justin inquired with INDOT to have the Town of Monroe purchase a lighted sign to replace the non-lighted sign. Justin was given approval from INDOT to purchase the sign and place on the already existing INDOT post. INDOT is now saying we need a contract to allow the Town of Monroe to use INDOT’s post to hold the lighted sign. Clayton is reviewing our options. Justin would like to see if INDOT will sell the town the post and be done with it or just pull it all together and the town will replace the post. More to come on this at a later date.

Justin is asking to attend the AWWA conference. Council would like to know the cost before approving. Justin will get the figures together and present at next month’s meeting.

Justin mentioned that starting July 1, 2025 we are going to be required to start recording our board meetings. Justin is going to have Innovative Concepts come out to give us an estimate and see what needs to happen to get it up and running. Kris thought having recording capabilities in the conference room could be beneficial, especially for training purposes. More to come on this at a later date.

**Town Marshal**

AJ was present at tonight’s meeting. He wanted to update council on the final stages of the network setup. He’s been working with Mike Brown and things are going smooth. AJ would like to replace the radios for the police department which will run about $5000.00 each. He’s also going to be working on obtaining some grants to help cover the cost of these radios.

**Fire Department**

Kris Burkhart was present at tonight’s meeting. Masters Heating and Air is expected to stop by next week to service the heating but that will be paid by the fire department. He had nothing else to add tonight.

**Clerk-Treasurer**

Rachel Tague was present at tonight’s meeting. She had with her the list of appointments for the year. Rachel missed Clayton Lothridge and Brad Roe & Deb Giessler. David made a motion to add these names to the appointment list. Josh seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Rachel will add them and present an updated list next month.

Rachel brought with her the contract from the Plan Commission of Adams County and gave the contract to Clayton Lengerich to read over with council.

**Town Attorney**

Clayton presented the Plan Commission contract for 2025 which enforces building and zoning within the county. The cost for the town is $400. Josh made a motion to accept this contract. David seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Clayton brought with him an amended fire contract that updates the increase the town pays the fire department. For 2025, the town has agreed to increase the contract by 3% which is equal to $15,529.67. David made a motion to accept this amended contract. Josh seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

With nothing further to discuss, this meeting is adjourned.

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Town Board President

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Clerk-Treasurer