CITY OF MONTELLO

COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

9-4-18

Mayor’s statement read before calling meeting to order:

All minutes and comments have been written prior to the historic events of Aug. 28. Since then, employees have been working every day to keep ahead of the next storm. I thank them for all they have done. Almost every day the county emergency management team has met to discuss needs for each community and determine the next steps for cleanup. Last week we were visited by Gov. Walker to see firsthand the devastation. He passed on some details to the Vice President for federal help. Yesterday we received up to 1.6 inches of rain, tonight another 1 inch. Our school system is closed all week. I have been in contact with Montello Dam operator and owner to raise and lower Montello River and Lake as needed. Our Clerk/Treasurer, Dawn, has Red Cross supplies for anyone in need in the office from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Tomorrow (Wednesday) we hope to have a crew supplied by the state to help place sandbags at businesses and residents. Hopefully on Friday, the City will provide dumpsters on both sides of the river for residents to remove damaged items. However, these will have the same restrictions that our large item pickup had. For example: no TV’s, computers, tires & more. It will be up to residents to self-police that only allowed items are in dumpsters. City staff will hand out flyers as to what is accepted. After the flooding is over, we are working on a program to accept used sandbags at city cost. We are working with the county for state or FEMA aid.

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Mayor Doudna

Present: Jim Houdek, Barbara Barton, Venise Mugler, Barb Jordan, Ken Streich, Karlene Utke, Joanna Jackman

Excused: Frank Breitenbach

Others Present: Bobbi Richter, Chief Olson, Elsie Roth, Sharon & Robert Seamans, Michael Frank, Michael Kohnke, Mark Robinson, Marilyn Merrill, Chris Pierson

Motion by Mugler/Streich to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Mugler/Houdek to approve the 8-6-18 council minutes with correction. Motion carried.

Motion by Streich/Jordan to approve the August voucher list. Motion carried.

Motion by Jordan/Mugler to approve the 8-23-18 Buildings & Purchasing minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jordan/Mugler to approve the 8-23-18 License & Ordinance minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Barton/Streich to approve the 8-15-18 Park minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jordan/Utke to approve the 8-27-18 Plan Commission minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jackman/Houdek to approve the 8-15-18 Public Safety minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jordan/Mugler to approve the 6-26-18 Personnel minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jordan/Mugler to approve the 8-9-18 Public works minutes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. CITY OF MONTELLO DISASTER DECLARATION

* Motion by Houdek/Streich to accept the Disaster Declaration. Motion carried.

1. DISCUSS WITH POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADD CITY VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE
   * Motion by Mugler/Streich to accept the City Vehicle Registration Fee ($20 per vehicle)
   * This money would go towards city streets
   * Effective January 1st, 2019
   * Motion carried, Utke voted no.
2. 2ND READING, ORDINANCE 286-3 – LARGE ITEM TRASH PICKUP
   * Houdek read ordinance.
   * Motion by Jackman/Jordan to accept 2nd reading. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS:

* We will not accept comments pertaining to flooding. We understand that many of you have lost personal items. We will be working closely with the county to assist in any way possible. Please document and photograph any damage.
* Thank you to all the employees
* Jackman and Utke also thanked employees.
* Details are updated daily at the City website, Montello Police Facebook, County Emergency Management.
* Will re-schedule Board of Review due to tornado warnings.
* Montello Lake findings: Mayor and Streich visited the Dam – also DNR reviewed Dam today & operator is doing a great job & doing what is supposed to be doing.
* Mayor learned more about the Lake & Dam today & this week.
* Elsie Roth asked for a copy of the official record & confirmed that the city has only say on real estate: no jurisdiction over the lake level.

COUNTY BOARD REPORT:

* Very happy with the relationship with the City & County throughout this disaster.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

* Elsie Roth asked if it was necessary to lower lake that much, asked about social media: if they could have been notified ahead of time because of how extreme. Doesn’t want to take away from disaster. Mayor stated he was told it can be raised to normal levels within 2 days – expected rain from Harrisville coming yet. Elsie would just like more communication.
* Chris Pearson asked if City was able to control the dam. Mayor stated no – dam operator and owner own hydro plant, city owns the structure. Pearson wondered how city has no jurisdiction. Mayor stated levels were lowered in anticipation of rain. Pearson asked for communication – where was the DNR? Mayor stated he understands frustration.
* Citizen asked when road will be open. Kohnke explained reasons for not opening yet. Jackman stated to put pressure on state. Kohnke stated the bridge is only part of the problem.
* Marilyn Merrill clarified the DNR sets/ controls mandates.
* Michael Frank asked Mayor if he had conversation with Dam Owner. Mayor stated that the lake levels are set by DNR. Mugler stated she has contacted DNR – they feel it is as it should be.
* Mark Robinson stated wheel tax is ridiculous.
* Marilyn Merrill thanked for changing time on construction

Motion by Jordan/Jackman to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:18 pm

Minutes by Dawn Calnin