



**CITY OF MONMOUTH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023

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, Brad Bones, Alderwoman Susan Twomey, Aldermen Brian Daw, Jim Conard, Juan Pinedo and John VanVleet **Absent:** Alderman Ferry **Also Present:** Mayor Rod Davies, City Administrator Lew Steinbrecher, City Clerk Susan S. Trevor, Building and Zoning Director Joe Clark, Communications Director Ken Helms, MFD Chief Casey Rexroat, MPD Chief Joe Switzer and Woodard & Curran Public Works Director Andy Jackson.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of May 1, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Alderman Conard and seconded by Alderman Thomas to approve the May 1, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. AYE: Aldermen Thomas, Bones, Alderwoman Twomey, Aldermen Daw, Conard, Pinedo and VanVleet **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderman Ferry **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL

A. Presentations or Citizen Inquiries

1. Proclamation – Pride Month

A member of Monmouth College's faculty expressed her gratitude on behalf of the LBGTQ community for issuing a proclamation declaring the month of June as Pride Month in the City of Monmouth. Mayor Davies then read the Proclamation declaring the month of June as Pride Month in the City of Monmouth.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Bills

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

V. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A. MFD April Report – Chief Rexroat

- ✚ April was a busy month with 178 calls.
- ✚ Sgt. Bratcher conducted an Active Shooter training exercise to be sure the department's responses are in line with all first responders' responses to an active shooter threat.
- ✚ Firefighter Bemowski completed all his training and has been assigned to a shift.
- ✚ Upon receiving a grant, the department has scheduled a grain rescue class for late summer or early Fall.
- ✚ Last month the department along with other first responders held a mock DUI scenario at M-R High School. Captain Cozadd had been working on this since 2020 but due to COVID and weather situations in the last two years the department had been unable to hold the DUI scenario until this past month.
- ✚ Assistant Chief Spears and Firefighter Osborne gave a presentation at M-R High School on forensics.
- ✚ Hydrant flushing started today and hopefully will be complete in three weeks.
- ✚ Certificates of Appreciation were given to Berg's Towing for providing cars for extrication training and to Mike Whitson, who works for One-Eight-Hundred Board Up, which provides assistance for victims of a fire.
- ✚ Applications for the Fire Department have been out for over three weeks. This coming Thursday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m. the department is hosting an informational meeting on becoming a firefighter. The deadline for submitting applications is June 16th.

B. MPD April Report – Chief Switzer

- In the month of April, the department made 63 criminal arrests; ticketed 106 ordinance violations; responded to 1131 MPD calls; and 2,283 calls were handled by dispatch.
- Officers attended 9 different criminal court cases during the month of April.
- Chief Switzer and Administrator Steinbrecher participated in an arbitration meeting with AFSCME.
- Chief Switzer attended a two-day training at Western Illinois University on preventing targeted violence through leakage and cyber investigations.

C. Approval of Bid Results for East Euclid-6th Street Water Main Project

Director Jackson stated that only two bids were received for the East Euclid-6th Street water main project and Laverdiere Construction submitted the low bid of \$1,197,503.00. Their bid and qualifications were consistent with the project contract requirements and Woodard and Curran is recommending acceptance of the bid. The City should have a construction schedule by the next Council meeting. **It was moved by Alderman Daw and seconded by Alderwoman Twomey to accept the recommendation of Woodard and Curran and approve the low bid by Laverdiere Construction for the above-referenced project. AYE:** Alderwoman Twomey, Aldermen Daw, Conard, Pinedo, VanVleet, Thomas and Bones **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderman Ferry
MOTION CARRIED.

VI. ORDINANCES

A. 1st Reading

1. 23-014, Annexation of Gosney Trust Property

Mayor Davies explained that the City purchased two acres of property from the Gosney Trust for the site of a new well and water treatment plant. City Attorney Spears added that the two acres were not within City limits and in order to be able to receive grant funding for the new water treatment plant the property needed to be within City limits. **It was moved by Alderwoman Twomey and seconded by Alderman VanVleet to approve the annexation of the Gosney Trust Property into City limits. AYE:** Aldermen Daw, Conard, Pinedo, VanVleet, Thomas, Bones and Alderwoman Twomey **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderman Ferry **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. 23-015, Adding Chapter 157, Solar Energy System Regulations

Administrator Steinbrecher explained that the process of creating an ordinance for solar systems started with the Y.M.C.A. submitting an application for a ground mounted solar system around three and a half months ago. Due to the complexity of solar systems and feedback from the Council when solar regulations were considered on several previous agendas, significant research was done with a number of revisions to the original solar ordinance that was presented. These revisions to be noted are:

- 1) Solar panels are to be only for accessory use and not as principal use such as solar farms within City limits.
- 2) Non-residential or commercial property use allows for roof and ground mounted panels. It also stipulates that a three to four-foot vertical pathway must be approximately every sixty feet to allow access to the structure.
- 3) Residential property use allows **only** roof installed solar panels. Vertical pathways with separation from chimneys or pieces of roof mounted equipment must be present as well.
- 4) Installation of solar panels must comply with City and State building, electrical and plumbing codes.
- 5) Whenever any solar system is connected to an electrical grid, it must be in compliance with the City's local utility's specifications.

It was moved by Alderman Pinedo and seconded by Alderman Conard to approve adding Chapter 157 on Solar Energy System Regulations to the Municipal Code. AYE: Aldermen Conard, Pinedo, VanVleet, Thomas, Bones, Alderwoman Twomey and Alderman Daw **NAY:** none **ABSENT:** Alderman Ferry **MOTION CARRIED.**

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none to consider.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Alderman Daw and seconded by Alderwoman Twomey to adjourn the May 15, 2023, meeting at 6:35 p.m. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote with the exception of Alderman Ferry, who was absent.

Mayor Rod Davies

City Clerk Susan S. Trevor