

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING MONTICELLO CITY COUNCIL
Monday, April 10, 2023 – 5:15 p.m.
Academy Room, Monticello Community Center

Present: Charlotte Gabler, Lloyd Hilgart, Tracy Hinz, Lee Martie, Sam Murdoff
Absent: None
Staff: Jennifer Schreiber, Angela Schumann, Haley Foster, Matt Leonard, Ron Hackenmueller, Jim Thares

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lloyd Hilgart called the special meeting to order at 5 p.m.

2. City Council Initiatives

City Council members met to discuss possible City initiatives and provide direction to staff. Jennifer Schreiber, City Clerk, previewed the following items for Council discussion.

- **Downtown Business Promotion**

Currently, the City gives additional support to downtown businesses through events like Walk & Roll, the façade improvement program, events such as Brewfest, etc. Staff questioned the City Council on whether they would like to provide more support to the downtown businesses.

Mayor Hilgart commented that the City provides adequate support to the downtown businesses. Councilmembers concurred and agreed that all businesses in the City should be treated fairly. The downtown businesses currently have an advantage and the opportunity to be involved in City events.

- **Junk or Amnesty Day**

West Metro Recycling would no longer be hosting a ‘recycling day’ at the commuter lot. The City Council was asked whether they would like staff to pursue a junk day in 2024. A junk day or amnesty day would require a good amount of city resources.

The council discussed whether to implement a junk day for the residents and determined that this would not be a good use of City resources. There was consensus that there are ample locations where residents can bring their items for disposal. Staff was directed to increase the information provided to residents on resources for disposal of recycle or trash items. This information will be on the website, utility bill, pamphlet, etc.

The Chief Building Official noted that for the most part, blight and nuisance concerns are addressed on a complaint basis. The Department of Building Safety and Code Enforcement will be focusing on property maintenance education over the next year, then renew discussion on a larger community wide effort.

- **Purchasing Policy**

The City's current purchasing policy provides for a local vendor preference if the cost is within 5% of the lowest bid/quote. City Council was asked whether they want staff to pursue additional incentives/preferences for other type of businesses, such as women or minority owned businesses.

There was discussion and Councilmember Gabler noted that she would prefer that something is included in the policy. There was consensus among Councilmembers that staff research on what other cities include in their policies regarding Disadvantage Business Enterprises (DBEs). The council also noted that they want the local vendor preference to precede any incentive for DBE.

- **Summer Business Hours**

The Council was asked if they would support summer hours for City Staff as there is limited activity in the office on Friday afternoons. This would most likely include a switch to being open longer hours M-TH and office hours closed by noon on Fridays and would run Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The Council discussed summer hours and were supportive of the longer office hours Monday through Thursday. Mayor Hilgart recommended that staff look at making a change for the whole year and not just for summers. Councilmembers concurred.

There was discussion about allowing certain employees to continue working 8 hours a day if their job allows. It was recommended that this be addressed along with the shift in schedule.

- **Single Family/Multi-Housing**

There was discussion on single-family housing and whether the City Council was interested in looking at providing incentives for either developers or buyers. The City Council discussed and did not support any incentive program.

Councilmember Gabler noted that staff could do more education for potential homeowners. Councilmember Murdoff added that he would be supportive of other options such as zoning something like small/tiny house developments. It was also noted that perhaps the Chamber of Commerce could be contacted, along with businesses, on any housing incentives they would possibly want to provide to new employees.

The City Council also discussed multi-housing housing and the fact that the City’s need will likely be met with the existing projects in process. Mayor Hilgart recommended that the housing study anticipated for next year be completed this year. There was consensus of the City Council to complete the housing study in 2023.

3. Adjournment

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Recorder: Jennifer Schreiber _____

Approved:

Attest: _____
City Administrator

