

The City Council of the City of Monticello, Florida, met in regular session by telephonic conferencing on May 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM. The following members were present:

Mayor John Jones called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM City Clerk Anderson took roll of participating members and city staff. The following members were present:

John Jones, Mayor
Troy Avera
Gloria Cox
Julie Conley
George Evans

Others present were:

Raymond Clark, City Manager
Fred Mosley, Monticello Police Chief
Emily Anderson, City Clerk
Bruce Leinback, City Attorney

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS – CITY ATTORNEY BRUCE LEINBACK

Attorney Leinback discussed the allowances and procedures for conducting government meetings under the Governor’s Emergency Executive Order due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Leinback gave instructions for participating in the meeting.

Mayor John Jones offered an invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He announced public comment would be allowed as Item 13 on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES OF 3/3/2020

Council Member Troy Avera made a motion for approval of minutes of 3/3/20. The motion was seconded by Council Member George Evans. Clerk Anderson recorded the roll call votes as follows:

Troy Avera	yea
Julie Conley	yea
Gloria Cox	yea
George Evans	yea
John Jones	yea

The motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING / AGENCY ACTION:
ORDINANCE 2020-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MONTICELLO, FLORIDA BY AMENDING
CHAPTER 54, DIVISION 2, SECTION 54-152(c)(2)(m) TO CREATE A PROCESS
OF CONTINUING AN ALLOWABLE SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE OF
PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AND LIMITED, RESIDENTIALLY-COMPATIBLE
BUSINESSES IN THE MIXED-USE OFFICE/RESIDENTIAL OVERLAY
DISTRICT OF THE R-1 ZONING DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR LEGAL
EFFECT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, SCRIVNER'S
ERRORS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Clerk Anderson read the title of the ordinance. Mayor Jones opened the public hearing. Council Member Avera commented that the grandfathering of the special exception use should be closely monitored so that subsequent uses are not allowed to disregard limitations under the special exception provisions. City Attorney Leinback noted that code enforcement of the special exception limitations can be carried out, if necessary.

With no other Council discussion or public comment, Troy Avera made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-01. The motion was seconded by Gloria Cox. Clerk Anderson recorded the roll call votes as follows:

Troy Avera	yea
Julie Conley	yea
Gloria Cox	yea
George Evans	yea
John Jones	yea

The motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF A CHARGING STATION AT THE CORNER OF N. CHERRY STREET AND E. DOGWOOD STREET AND APPROVING A CONTRACT RELATING TO INSTALLATION AND ELECTRICAL COSTS Council Member Avera discussed a proposal to install one or two electric car charging stations in the downtown area. Council Member Avera suggested that stations be placed in the area of E. Dogwood and N. Cherry Streets and in the city parking lot, noting that the ultimate locations would be chosen by Duke Energy based on feasibility. Attorney Leinback noted he has reviewed the proposed contract and deemed it suitable other than the suggestion of the addition of a sovereign immunity clause. Council Member George Evans asked about placement in the city parking lot since the city leases that space. Attorney Leinback noted he would look at the leases.

Council Member Avera made a motion to approve the Duke Energy contract with requested facility locations of the area of E. Dogwood / N. Cherry Street and the city parking lot after review by the City Attorney and Duke Energy. The motion was seconded by George Evans.

Clerk Anderson recorded the roll call votes as follows:

Troy Avera	yea
Julie Conley	yea
Gloria Cox	yea
George Evans	yea
John Jones	yea

The motion passed unanimously.

SUNCOAST CONNECTOR TOLL ROAD UPDATES

Clerk Anderson reported on recent webinars and next announced meetings. FDOT Representative Ryan Asmus noted that, because of restrictions on gatherings, commitments for future meeting forums are unclear at this time.

Council Members Avera and Conley asked about proposals for terminus at I-10, possible co-location of the toll road with U.S. 19 and interconnections for traffic proceeding north. Mr. Asmus discussed the process of creating the guiding principles for the road network and noted route placement and traffic flow studies would follow based on the guiding principles adopted.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Clerk Anderson gave a budget update and staff planning for expected revenue shortfalls due to the COVID-19 pandemic and City Manager budget adjustments. Clerk Anderson suggested a budget committee meeting in June, at which time, discussions will also need to begin to plan for next year's budget. Council Member Avera suggested a cut of non-necessary expenses be considered, and Council Member Evans suggested that priority be given to retaining employees.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

***City Attorney Bruce Leinback** reported that a request from the Johnston family to vacate an alley has been researched, and no action is needed by the City Council since the proposed alley was never conveyed to the City.

***City Manager Raymond Clark**

Mr. Clark reported that the N. Cherry Street improvements should be complete by next week. He also reported that the restroom at the Ecological Park is 60 percent complete. The Pearl Street SCOP paving project has been put out to bid.

***City Clerk Emily Anderson** reported that environmental reports are being completed on the houses to be rehabilitated under the CDBG program. It is unknown when the bidding will be completed since there may be a delay in contractor on-site inspections due to the coronavirus public gathering guidelines. She also reported that the audit is nearing completion.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

***Council Member Troy Avera** reported he has submitted an application for an environmental stewardship award to the Florida League of Cities.

MEETING/WORKSHOP DATES AND TOPICS

Mayor Jones announced the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Council is scheduled for June 2nd. State directives on government meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic will be considered.

With no further business, upon motion, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Anderson
City Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor

NOTE: These proceedings were digitally recorded.