

Monmouth Town Hall Meeting  
February 15, 2018  
Meeting Notes

The City held a town hall meeting on February 19, 2018 at the Monmouth Public Library. Below is a summary of topics discussed at the meeting:

- Opposition was expressed toward the proposed bicycle campground. Other priorities regarding bicycling should be pursued. *The Monmouth Engaged Bike-Ped Committee is working on multiple priority projects.*
- A request was made to improve the condition of Monmouth sidewalks. *An intern is currently working on an inventory of sidewalks and gaps in sidewalks. This will be used to focus City sidewalk standards enforcement and to prioritize filling gaps in the sidewalk network.*
- It was noted that the community should take care in how we describe homeless individuals
- A question was posed as to why the City doesn't actively maintain City streets. *Due to a lack of funding, the City has had to limit street and stormwater maintenance to only critical items. New funding sources may help the City do more maintenance.*
- Responding to a question about the City funds capital projects such as water line repairs or the upgrade of electric or wastewater facilities, staff noted that routine repairs are typically funded through rate revenue or State-shared gas tax revenue. Projects that expand or upgrade facilities and systems can come from grants (limited), rate revenue or system development charges (new construction).
- A question was asked how MINET is doing. *MINET finances have improved greatly over the past three years, but it is still not able to fully cover debt service. New opportunities are being considered to further improve MINET's financial performance.*
- It was noted that the Police Department is fully staffed, but several officers are in training, which reduces the number of officers available for patrol. Monmouth and Independence officers routinely back each other up on calls.
- The City noted that we aren't able to address skunk, opossum and raccoon issues.
- A citizen thought that we had too many marijuana businesses in town. Other citizens did not think it was appropriate for the City of limit the number of any business.
- It was noted that the City has very few hurdles to open a new business. Marijuana businesses have been treated the same as any business.
- New business notes – plans have been approved for a car wash behind Dairy Queen and Carl's Jr. has submitted plans for the lot across from Burgerville.
- A concern was expressed whether China not taking some U.S. recycled materials would change our recycling system. *We have not been impacted to date.*
- The clock at City Hall is being looked at by a repair firm.
- A citizen wondered if the City of Independence would pay for some of the operation of the Senior Center as many Independence residents use the facility. *Staff noted that*

*Monmouth residents benefit from Independence supporting the Independence pool and the school resource officer at CHS.*

- A discussion was held about the merits of having a façade improvement program for Highway 99.
- The meeting closed with a discussion of ideas to better advertise town hall meetings