

McDONALD VILLAGE COUNCIL  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2016  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Visitors: Terri Kish, Ken Miner, State Senator Elect Sean O'Brien, Cliff DeZee, Les Styers, Millie Ritz, Katie Politano, Paul Stitt, Tom Doumont, Sue Filipich, Dave Martin, Mary O'Brien, James Border, Brian Fisher, Ed Bush, Joe Dugan, Don and Laurie Smith, Carol Holmes, Sylvia Holmes, JaRon and Carol Chambers and children, Kyle Joynes, Rob D'Amore.

Staff: Fiscal Officer Robin DeBow, Fire Chief Nick Kish, Police Lieutenant Bill Woodley, Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich, and Office Manager Char McCracken

Press: Bob Coupland, *Tribune Chronicle*

1. The December 22, 2016 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Glenn W. Holmes at 6:15 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. O'Brien – present  
Mr. Seitz – present  
Mr. Klase – present

Mr. Harvey – present  
Mr. Puckett – present  
Mr. Lewis – present

2. Pledge of allegiance

One minute of silence in remembrance of American troops serving throughout the world and the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

3. Approval of the December 7, 2016 council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Puckett, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the December 7, 2016 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Puckett, seconded by Mr. Klase to accept the agenda as presented:

Roll call:

Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. O’Brien – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Klase – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

5. Mayor’s report – Mayor Holmes stated as discussed in caucus, Chief Ronghi is on leave according to Chapter 139.07 of the Codified Ordinances. Lt. Woodley will be acting as Police Chief.

Mayor read a letter of resignation from John ‘Jack’ Miskell who is resigning from the Board of Zoning Appeals. Mayor stated that Jack was on the Board when he (the Mayor) was on it.

It was moved by Mr. Klase, seconded by Mr. Puckett to accept the letter of resignation.

Roll call:

Mr. Klase – aye  
Mr. O’Brien – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Holmes asked for confirmation of Miranda Spotleson as a daytime EMT. She has passed the background check and meets all the qualifications for the job.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Puckett to confirm the appointment.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. O’Brien – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

Motion carried.

Mayor also stated in accordance with Chapter 161.03 that Chief Ronghi submitted a letter asking Council for permission to carryover one week's vacation to the New Year.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Klase to grant permission for Chief Ronghi to carryover one week's vacation from 2016 to 2017.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Klase – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor stated he attended a number of meetings on behalf of the Village. He commented on the Eastern Ohio Military Affairs Council to help keep the base here. Mayor sits on this Council and they have been successful in obtaining federal dollars for the base. He also commented Camp Ravenna in on-line to be a possible site for a missile defense site. It will provide numerous jobs for the area.

6. Report of Village Officials:

**Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich** no formal report at this time but will make some comments under Miscellaneous.

**Police Chief Lou Ronghi** – Lt. Woodley had no report at this time.

**Fire Chief Nick Kish** thanked Mayor and Council for the appointment of Miranda Spotleson. She will be a great asset to the department. He also stated to Mayor you've done a great job and have been more than a boss. You have been a mentor and confidant and he thanked him.

**Solicitor Douglas W. Ross** shook hands with Mayor Holmes and stated that it has been a pleasure sitting next to him these past eight and a half years. Good luck in your new job and as you have been an asset to this Village you will be an asset to the State.

7. Committee reports:

**President Pro Tem Mr. O'Brien** reported on tonight's Caucus where the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, Council minutes, legislation, resignation letter from John Miskell, appointment to the Fire Department, leave of absence for Chief Ronghi, and the election of a President Pro Tem for 2017. Mr. O'Brien stated I've been on Council for a long time and with you as Mayor and the current Council and Solicitor this has been the best it has ever been since he has been on Council and he wished the Mayor well and thanked him for everything.

**Park & Buildings Mr. Puckett** stated I speak for everyone here when I say thank and that sums it up.

**Safety Committee Mr. Lewis** stated nothing with regards to Safety but when you think of the definition of a public servant this Village has been blessed. Good luck in Columbus.

**Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Seitz** stated no report. It has been wonderful working with you and you are just a phone call away. I love you and wish you well.

**Service Committee Mr. Harvey** thanked Mr. Klase and Mr. Seitz for serving on this committee. They have talked a lot about the job of this committee and working with the other committees. They have got a lot of things done. They have done a lot of projects since 2006. This Council works well together talking things out. There was a lot of work with the Safe Routes to School which they completed. They received a lot of grants for various projects. We had debt when he (the Mayor) first came on and they worked to pay off the debt. They have consolidated jobs and tried to keep the budget neutral. He wished the Mayor Merry Christmas and stated that Mayor Holmes has been a positive for this Council. He thanked him and wished him well.

**Planning Commission Mr. Klase** no report. He did say Mayor was a great human being, an excellent communicator and you care about people and that is what will make you successful and thanked him for everything.

**Community Chest Mr. O'Brien** stated no report and turned it over to Mrs. DeBow. She stated that they are done with their Christmas endeavor which was possible with the donation from Homes Savings and Loan.

Mayor Holmes stated this has truly been a team effort. I started with a paper route

7. Committee reports cont'd.

at age 8 and worked as a caddy at 11 and then with Hartzel Rose and Sons. He learned through these jobs and through his church when you serve people you learn about people and what they want. If you did something special you knew they would like that. You learned how to be selfless because you thought more of others than yourself. It is a Godly example that you learn at church. You see the needs of people and you roll up your sleeves and do it. I see that here. Tom did it, Char did it, and Lou did it. The Fire Department was doing it. The people on Council if you were a bit cantankerous and you should have a bit of a fight in you but there is a spirit that transcends everything. That's what happens here. This is a family oriented community. People love each other, they fight for each other. The only reason you have a disagreement here is because you thought this was the way to go and you stuck by your guns. We pushed that on Council to express yourself. If you respect your peers then you can get it done. Robin has done a great job with the finances and balancing to the bank. Council is going to take heed to what she says. Our Solicitor, second to none. I went around the County and no matter who I spoke with they all had good things to say about him. I can't say enough about Char and what she does. There is a kindred spirit in the administration and on Council that is unbeatable. It is never one person. It is like a football team or a basketball team. Some people are for you and for you for what you are for. Some people are just for you and it is hard to find people that are for the Village. When I got here people were for the direction that we were taking. To have that spirit of cooperation and drive is phenomenal. I appreciate Joe Dugan and Joe, I hope you take this in the spirit it is intended, people like Joe make me sharp. It is constructive criticism. People like Tom Leskovic and Tom Hannon who love the Village were critical. You better sharpen your pencil and do things right. I love everybody. Blame him (referring to Sean O'Brien). Mayor told how he met Sean and how he expanded the footprint. He spoke about his family and how they supported him. I'm suffering separation anxiety but we are moving on and have already started some things.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: Sean O'Brien, Senator Elect of the 63<sup>rd</sup> District presented the Mayor with a proclamation from his office. He spoke on the relationship they have forged and how they have worked together over the years. It will serve Trumbull County and the State when the Mayor goes to Columbus. The Mayor has been a mentor to him and he looks forward to working with him. He ended with it is an honor to know you and work with you. God bless you and your family. My family to yours we love you.

Dave Martin, 305 W. Third St. addressed Mayor and Council and gave a brief history of how he came to live in McDonald. He spoke about the administration

8. Remarks from persons or groups present cont'd.

and the job they are doing. He spoke of what the Village does for the residents from leaf pickup to the new sidewalks. He spoke about the work done by the Village workers because of their love of the Village and of the leadership that you have here. It because of that we have a great Village. Leadership listens to people and that is what we have in this Village. I'm glad that the Mayor is going to Columbus perhaps he can straighten them out.

Mayor Holmes stated that Mayor Border appointed him to the Board of Zoning Appeals years ago and had the guts to do it. He also spoke how Ed Bush helped him out when he (Mayor) first started here. He spoke of Ed's help when the school had some financial issues. He commented on Don Smith, former treasurer, Rocco Tondo, former Clerk, Cliff DeZee, Ken Miner, Rob D'Amore, Katie, and Kyle. It is their selfless love for the Village. Millie and her work with the seniors. They love her.

9. Old Business: none

10. New Business: none

11. Legislation:

A Emergency reading of Ordinance No. 3199-16 For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Village Ordinance No. 3182-15 Regarding Water Rates And Authorizing The Village Administrator To Amend And Increase The Water Rates And Schedule Beginning September 1, 2016, Which Will Be Reflected In The Fourth Quarter Billing In January of 2017.

It was moved by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Lewis to suspend the Rules of Council.

Roll call:

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

11. Legislation cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Lewis that Ordinance No. 3199-16 be passed as read.

Discussion: Mayor stated this is something that was necessitated by our zeal to keep water rates low and fix rates and water breaks. If we don't do it we will have to use general fund money to subsidize it and we not supposed to do that. The Chief Fiscal Officer had pointed out that this is on the water usage only not the entire bill.

Roll call:

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

B Second reading of an Ordinance For The Purpose Of Vacating A Certain Portion Of E. Ninth Street That Is Bounded On The West By Pennsylvania Avenue And On The East By New Jersey Avenue And Reserving An Easement For Utilities.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Klase that the ordinance pass second reading as read.

Discussion: Mayor Holmes stated that this was at the request of the abutting property owners.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Klase – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

C Second reading of an Ordinance For The Purpose Of Providing An Effective Means For Protecting The Village's Public Water System From Contamination Due To Backflow Of Contaminants Through The Water Service Connection Into The Village's Public Water System.

11. Legislation cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Lewis to the ordinance pass second reading as read.

Discussion: Mr. Domitrovich stated this is mandated by the Ohio EPA and it will protect the water. We have had a backflow prevention program in the Village for years. This will give us teeth to go after those that don't comply.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett - aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

D Second reading of a Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor And Fiscal Officer To Execute An Agreement With The Geauga/Trumbull Solid Waste Management District For The Single Stream Drop-Off Recycling Program Commencing January 1, 2017, And Ending December 31, 2019.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Klase that resolution pass second reading as read.

Discussion: Mr. Domitrovich stated that this is a free service provided for the Village for recycling. You just have to drop it off at the Village garage.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Klase – aye  
Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

E Emergency reading of an Ordinance No. 3200-16 To Make Temporary Appropriations For 2017 To Various Divisions Of The Village Government For Each Of The Several Objects For Which The Village Of McDonald, Ohio Has To Provide Out Of The Monies Known To Be In The Treasury Of Said Village During The Year From The Collection Of All The Taxes And From All Other Sources Of Revenue For 2017.

11. Legislation cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Harvey to suspend the Rules of Council.

Roll call:

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Harvey that Ordinance No. 3200-16 be passed as read.

Discussion: Mayor Holmes stated this is necessitated because we have to have this passed by the end of the year.

Roll call:

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

F Second reading of a Resolution For The Purpose Of Entering Into A Service Agreement With NextEra Energy Solutions, LLC To Provide Electrical Aggregation Services For The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, Beginning January, 2017 And Ending January, 2020.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Lewis that the resolution pass second reading as read.

Discussion: Mayor stated we were with First Energy Solutions and the negotiations broke down so NOPEC found another company. You don't have to do anything to stay in it.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye

11. Legislation cont'd.

Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. DeBow reported that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$123,884.18.

I, Robin DeBow, Fiscal Officer of the Village of McDonald, Ohio do hereby declare that the bills are true and correct and the money is in the bank to pay them.

It was moved by Mr. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Harvey to accept the Fiscal Officer's report and pay all bills.

Roll call:

Mr. Seitz – aye  
Mr. O'Brien – aye  
Mr. Klase – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Puckett – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

Mrs. DeBow thanked the Mayor and said it was a privilege to work for the Village. I've learned so much from you. Mayor stated she has done a great job. She learned from Don Smith and Rocco Tondo. We balance to the bank to the penny every month.

Mr. Harvey stated that when you see the report and we approve it, it is professional and it is what Council needs to know and he appreciates it. It is another step to protect the Village.

13. Miscellaneous: Election of President Pro Tem for 2017.

It was moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Lewis to nominate Marty Puckett for President Pro Tem for 2017.

13. Miscellaneous cont'd.

Discussion: Mr. O'Brien stated he is confident that he will do a good job and I am sure Council will support it.

Mr. Puckett thanked Council for their support and looks forward to the challenge.

Mr. Harvey stated we have to move on and this is the next step. There is some young blood on Council with good ideas. We can call each other and get things done.

Roll call:

Mr. Puckett – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Seitz – no

Mr. O'Brien – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Klase – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor stated Mr. Puckett will be President Pro Tem January 1, 2017.

Mr. Domitrovich stated he started a friendship with Glenn in 2004. It was competitive though. That is a core that can move this Village forward. I was hired somewhere else and decided to stay here after speaking with Glenn. A common bond is our faith in Christianity. We started doing things in the Village and move out into the County. We went to Eastgate and found out that we could get money for the Village. Not two years later he is sitting on the committee at Eastgate structuring the policy on how this future committee will operate. It went from Eastgate to the Mayor River Consortium, and then he moved on to other things like the Air Base. What is important is the friendship but more than that. A friend isn't afraid to criticize you and come back and support you later. It is shame we are losing a good man but we are gaining a good State Representative. The Bible that I read says 'when you find a true friend that is worth more than gold'. I'm a very wealthy man for knowing you Glenn.

Mr. Domitrovich presented the Mayor with a briefcase with his name engraved on it from the administration and staff.

Mayor Holmes stated we hold each other accountable but we still respect each other first and I and Thomas were able to do that.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Puckett at 7:20 p.m. All voted aye.

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Mayor

Attest to:

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Fiscal Officer