

McDonald Village Council  
Wednesday, February 5, 2020  
Regular Council Meeting

Visitors: Kyle Joynes, Joe Dugan, and Ron Jones.

Staff: Fire Chief Todd Stitt, Police Chief Bill Woodley, Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, Fiscal Officer Lori Canada and Office Manager Amy Cunningham.

Press: Bob Coupland, *Tribune Chronicle*.

1. The February 5, 2020 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Glen M. Puckett at 6:04 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – present  
Mr. Fisher – present  
Mr. Schmidt – present

Mr. Lewis – present  
Mr. DeZee – 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 January 15, 2020 council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to approve the January 15, 2020 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to accept the agenda as presented:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Motion carried.

4a. It was moved by Mr. Fisher to enter into executive session to consider the appointment of a public official and to consider the employment, dismissal, and/or discipline of a public employee with possible action to follow at 6:08 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye

Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to exit executive session at 6:41 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye

Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to terminate the employment of Matt Rozhon effective February 7, 2020.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye

Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis to appoint Kyle Joynes to fill the remainder of the term for the vacated seat of Mr. Bradley.

4a. Executive Session cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

Solicitor Ross issued the Oath of Office to Kyle Joynes.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Puckett welcomed Mr. Joynes to council. He stated that he is certain he'll do a fine job and catch on quick and move forward.

Mayor Puckett gave the monthly court report as follows: For the month of January, Mayor's Court had computer fund \$105, court costs \$303, additional costs \$174, overpayment/adjustment \$1, city revenue from fines \$370, Niles Municipal court fine \$2069.30, parking tickets \$250, and police reports \$5 for a total to the city of \$3,277.30.

Mayor Puckett stated that he hopes everyone supports the Relay For Life on June 13. He thinks they put on a very nice event and he hopes many people come out in support. They are always welcome.

6. Report of Village Officials:

**Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich-** The Mayor stated that Mr. Domitrovich is not in attendance due to his son's basketball game. There is no report.

**Police Chief Bill Woodley** welcomed Mr. Joynes and wished him the best of luck. The Chief has no report.

**Fire Chief Todd Stitt** welcomed Mr. Joynes. Chief Stitt stated that his report has been submitted.

**Solicitor Ross** welcomed Mr. Joynes and stated no report.

7. Committee reports:

**President Pro Tem Mr. Lewis** reported on tonight's Caucus where the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, legislation, council minutes, executive session, Relay For Life, Firefighter's Festival, and Council Scholarships. Mr. Lewis

7. Committee reports cont'd.

congratulated Mr. Joynes and welcomed him aboard.

**Park & Buildings Mr. Harvey** welcomed Mr. Joynes aboard. He stated the the Relay For Life has requested the use of the park facilities for June 13. This will be a 12-hour event.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey to allow the Relay For Life to hold an event June 13.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

Mr. Harvey stated that we have a request from the Fire Department for the use of the grounds for their festival for June 24-27.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey to allow the Fire Department to use the facilities for June 24-27.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

Mr. Harvey stated that Council donates two \$200 scholarships to the high school. Mr. Harvey would like to rename these scholarships to honor Michael O'Brien and Cindy Green Robinson. These two individuals have given a lot to this Village.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey to name the two Council scholarships for the school as the Cindy Green Robinson scholarship and the Michael J. O'Brien scholarship.

Discussion: Mr. Fisher stated that he couldn't think of two people that he would rather have his scholarship money go in the name of. They were both influential in his life and did a lot of work in the community, and they were both very highly respected.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

Mr. Harvey stated that the bleachers at the ball fields were discussed. The War Memorial will be dressed up before Memorial Day. They are looking at ideas to refresh the War Memorial. The high school will be involved in Positive Impact Day. Mr. Domitrovich and Mr. Rupe are communicating on this issue. Mr. Harvey stated that since the Scarbrough house has been torn down, they are looking into hopefully getting a parking facility. This would be additional parking. Mr. Harvey stated that this would be ideal for handicapped parking for people going to the splash pad. Mr. Harvey stated that he and Mr. Domitrovich are talking with Cindy Green Robinson's family about a memorial in her honor in the park. Mr. Harvey stated that after work is completed at the concession stand, they will be looking into cameras. Also, Mr. Harvey said they are working with the school and baseball organization regarding more drainage at the baseball fields.

**Safety Committee Mr. Fisher** welcomed Mr. Joynes to council. The fire report was submitted for January. The year-end report from the Police Department was also distributed. Fire Chief Stitt has submitted for a grant with the State Fire Marshall's office for a total of \$10,000. This is a no-match grant. This grant would be used toward turn-out gear since this gear now has expiration dates. Lieutenant Danko had discussed the festival and the Fire Department's hopes to utilize the beer tent as a fundraiser. There will be ongoing communication regarding this. Earlier in this meeting, we entered executive session and decided to terminate the employment of Matt Rozhon effective Friday, February 7. Also, Mr. Fisher discussed the resignation of Trevor Willoughby.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to accept the resignation of Trevor Willoughby.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Mr. Fisher stated that we need to recognize a Village employee. Most times, we only hear about the negative things that happen. Very seldom do we hear about acts of kindness or heroism. Mr. Fisher read into the record a letter of special recognition from Chief Woodley for Officer Walter Jones. Officer Jones went above the call of duty in an incident that happened on September 26, 2019. During this incident, Officer Jones administered two doses of Narcan and saved someone's life. Mr. Fisher pointed out that most of the time, all we hear about is the harassment that takes place. He believes that this is noteworthy, admirable, and speaks to the men and women that we have working in the Village.

**Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Lewis** stated that we have a first reading for the renewal of an operation levy. This levy generates around \$25,000 annually. It has been in the Village since the 1970s and the assessed values are based on the homes in the 1970s. Mr. Lewis stated that he can't stress how important this money is to the Village. Also, Mr. Lewis stated that, in regards to the 2020 budget, we need to purchase a new vehicle for the Police Chief. In preparation for 2020, we already set aside \$20,000 to begin preparing to improve our fleet. We estimated that we would be looking at about another \$10,000 added to the budget. Mr. Lewis spoke with Lebanon Ford and the actual cost for state purchasing for the base model is around \$31,372.00 without any accessories that we may be adding. We would need to add a spotlight and maybe a light harness. We will have this money allocated for the 2020 budget. Once this is done, we can get this vehicle ordered as soon as possible.

**Service Committee Mr. Schmidt** welcomed Mr. Joynes. He stated that there will be a first reading of a resolution to accept NOPEC Energized Community Grants. These grants are no match grants. We have used these grants in the past to update our lighting in the Municipal Building. These grants will be used for continued upgraded lighting to be cost effective. We will also have an emergency reading for the resolution to engage the services of Local Government to provide consultation to the Fiscal Officer for 2020. Mr. Schmidt stated that we have been in contact with NOPEC in regards to our previous resolution. We have been trying to get a hold of her as far as what we need to do if there is a future contract. We are going to wait until we hear back from her before we move forward. Mr. Domitrovich had a meeting on January 28 about the Weathersfield Sewer District 3 agreement. The new agreement is almost complete. Mr. Domitrovich was in discussions regarding new dumpsters at the recycling area for cardboard. Glass will be accepted in the recycling area again. There will be new signs soon so that everyone is aware.

**Planning Commission Mr. Fisher** stated that Planning Commission will meet February 12 at 6:00 in the Community Room.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

**Community Chest Mr. DeZee** welcomed Mr. Joynes and stated no report.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. First Reading Of A Resolution Declaring The Amount Of Taxes That May Be Raised By Levy At The Maximum Rate Authorized By Law Without A Vote Of The Electors To Be Insufficient For Current Operating Expenses, And Declaring The Necessity Of A Levy In Excess Of Such Rate.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis that the resolution pass first reading as read.

Discussion: Mr. Fisher stated that we are one of the few communities that rarely ask for money outside of the tax base. This levy is based upon 1977 assessment values. We have never asked for more. We do very well with the money that we are given. He wanted to thank the residents to continue to give this to us so that we can do a better job of getting the residents the services that we would like to give them.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

B. Emergency Reading Of Resolution No. 1820-20 Authorizing The Mayor, Fiscal Officer, And/Or Village Administrator To Engage The Services Of The Local Government Services Section Of The State Of Ohio Auditor's Office To Provide Consultation Services To The Fiscal Officer.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to suspend the Rules of Council.

11. Legislation cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt that Resolution No. 1820-20 pass emergency reading.

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

B. First Reading Of A Resolution Authorizing All Actions Necessary To Accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grants.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt that the resolution pass first reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Canada stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$59,080.37.

I, Lori Canada, 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. Lewis to accept the Fiscal Officer's report and pay all bills.

12. Fiscal Officer's report cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye  
Mr. Fisher – aye  
Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye  
Mr. DeZee – aye  
Mr. Joynes – abstain

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Harvey at 7:13 p.m. All voted aye.

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Mayor

Attest to:

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Fiscal Officer