

McDonald Village Council
Wednesday, July 17, 2019
Regular Council Meeting

Visitors: Ken Miner, Sean Schmidt, Karen Dunnigan, Scott Merola, and Odell Houston.

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

1. The July 17, 2019 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Glen M. Puckett at 6:14 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – present
Mr. Lewis – present
Mr. Bradley – present

Mr. Seitz – present
Mr. Fisher – 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 June 19, 2019 council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to approve the June 19, 2019 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to amend the agenda to change legislation A from a second reading to an emergency reading and also executive session for pending litigation with no action to follow:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- For the month of June, Mayor's Court had \$79 in computer funds, \$214 court costs, \$87 additional costs, city revenue from fines \$298, Niles Municipal Court fines \$517, and parking tickets \$30 for a grand total of \$1225.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich reported that the street paving has begun. We are paving Grant Avenue and Third Street. This has started with the subcontractor to remove sidewalk ramping. Then we will go to milling and paving. Mr. Domitrovich is aware there is a village wide garage sale this weekend. There will be no milling to interfere with this.

Also scrap tire pickup is going on right now. This is a grant that we have received through Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District. The dates are advertised on the sign out front. The street department is doing tree removal right now. We have rented an aerial and the gentlemen from the street department are looking to remove about 11 locations with possibly about 20 very large trees. Most of these trees were not finished last year due to concerns with the lift. After this concludes, we will begin our normal tree trimming process which does not involve the lift.

Police Chief Bill Woodley distributed his monthly report as follows: For the month of June, the Police Department answered 182 calls from the 911 center, investigated 23 formal complaints, conducted 42 traffic stops resulting in 9 citations and gave 34 verbal warnings. They made one criminal arrest. They responded to 5 alarm drops, 4 animal complaints, 2 lockout calls, 4 abandoned 911 calls, 11 parking complaints, 10 bank transfers, and 2 disabled vehicles. They also responded to 6 calls for suspicious activity, 3 calls for suspicious vehicle, and 17 medical calls. The department completed the Daily Training Bulletin for the month of June.

Fire Chief Todd Stitt stated that his report has been submitted.

Solicitor Ross stated no report.

7. Committee reports:

President Pro Tem Mr. Lewis stated that Caucus met at 6:00 p.m. and the following

7. Committee reports cont'd.

items were discussed: agenda, fiscal officer's report, council minutes, legislation, summer recess council meetings, executive session, F.O.P., petty cash, alternative tax budget emergency reading, and office floater.

Park & Buildings Mr. Harvey stated that there are four new swings up at the park. The car show is coming up on July 28. This will be the last car show in the park. There is also a golf outing on August 4. The bleachers around the baseball fields and the tennis courts are in disrepair. We are going to err on the side of safety and remove these bleachers. We will notify the high school and baseball association to inquire as to whether they would like to make other arrangements. Also, Mr. Harvey stated that they would like to tear down the house on 452 Pennsylvania Avenue.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey to demolish the Scarbrough house at 452 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Discussion: Mayor Puckett said that originally, the intent was to have a historical house. He thought it was a great idea to buy the property. He does think that it will be a usable property. He believes that the first step is tearing the house down.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Fisher – abstain
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

Mr. Harvey stated that the park will close on August 15. It has been a great year in the park. He would like to extend the hours of the splash pad. If there are park attendants available, we would like to add another few days. There are still quite a few events left before the park closes. We are still unsure as to whether or not we will have a fall baseball league.

Mr. Bradley asked if we need any council action to remove the bleachers to which Mr. Harvey stated that we do not.

Safety Committee Mr. DeZee stated that the fire chief reported 20 EMS calls and 14 fires for a total of 34. We also addressed the Marc radios. The cost to the Village would be about \$100,000. Eventually we need to purchase these or we will be unable to communicate with anybody in the surrounding areas. The State of Ohio has been

7. Committee reports cont'd.

trying to convert all communities over to the Marc system for about five years. We definitely need to look into this.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Lewis stated that we will discuss the Marc system further. We are looking at potentially stashing away a rainy day fund for this beginning in 2020 budget. We are waiting on verification as far as a time frame. Mr. Lewis also stated that there will be 2020 budgetary meetings next month with the department heads. He would like to have a final budget before the end of the year. The Solicitor gave everyone copies of a credit card policy that we will look at for August committee meetings. It has become state law to have this policy in place. We will have one in place when we discuss this. Mr. Lewis also stated that we discussed the financials for the sidewalk grants. In addition, the office computers need upgraded due to Windows 7, which will reach end of life in January 2020.

Mr. Seitz thanked Mr. Lewis for keeping us proactive. He added that Mr. Lewis is doing a fantastic job.

Service Committee Mr. Bradley stated that the road paving will be starting after the garage sale weekend. Also, Mr. Bradley stated that he will meet with the Solicitor and Mr. Domitrovich to further discuss the Weathersfield Sewer District 3 agreement. Mr. Bradley also stated that even with the sidewalk grant, we would be responsible for paying more than \$130,000. The Village Administrator is going to revisit this and see if we can only replace the parts of the sidewalks that need to be replaced. Mr. Bradley stated that he looks forward to seeing the new quote.

Mr. Harvey asked Mr. Domitrovich if he was planning to apply for grants for street paving in 2020. Mr. Domitrovich stated that the grant process has started in the GPD office. We are already preparing an application for grants for next year. He will speak with council before the application is submitted to discuss options before the end of August. Mr. Harvey stated that, in the past, we have been very successful in receiving grant money. When we do not, we accept that and do what we can.

Mayor Puckett stated that we have to purchase new computers and the Marc System. He would like to caution council that we still do not know the impact of Lordstown closing and what our tax base is going to be. Mayor Puckett is aware that this is an 80/20 grant and he would love to do all the sidewalks in the Village. But we do need to caution ourselves before we spend \$135,000 and putting ourselves in a possible hole. Mr. Lewis will put our budget together and it should be close. But early on, Mayor Puckett would like to see the projections before we spend that kind of money. Again, he stated that he would love to put the sidewalks in, as long as

7. Committee reports cont'd.

it is fiscally responsible.

Mr. Bradley stated that if we discover that a smaller percentage of sidewalks need replaced, we may be able to bring the cost down. The residents need to understand that we are fortunate that this program is available because the area that we are looking at for the grant, is one of the oldest areas in the Village. Mr. Domitrovich stated that we were active in doing sidewalk projects with the Safe Routes to School grants. We were successful twice on this as well as the Transportation Enhancement projects. The money for those has been reallocated to sidewalk replacement now. To avoid missing out on anything, we are exploring our opportunities to see what is available to us.

Planning Commission Mr. Bradley stated that the Planning Commission will meet on August 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Community Chest Mr. DeZee stated no report.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: None.

9. Old Business: None.

10. New Business: None.

11. Legislation:

A. Emergency Reading of Resolution 1808-19 Adopting The Alternative Tax Budget Of The Village Of McDonald, Ohio For The Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2020, And Submitting Same To The Trumbull County Auditor.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis that the Resolution 1808-19 pass emergency reading as read.

11. Legislation cont'd.

Discussion: Mr. Lewis stated that this is being passed as an emergency since it is due to the county on July 19. This happens on a yearly basis.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

B. Second reading of An Ordinance Transferring Funds Within Various Funds Within The Village Of McDonald, Ohio For A Period Beginning January 1, 2019, And Ending December 31, 2019.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis that the ordinance pass second reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Canada stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$118,290.29.

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. Bradley to accept the Fiscal Officer's report and pay all bills.

Roll call:

Mr. Bradley – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

12. Fiscal Officer's report cont'd.

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous:

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to enter into executive session at 6:44 p.m. to discuss pending litigation with no action to follow.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to exit executive session at 6:57 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. Seitz – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. DeZee – aye

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Lewis at 6:57 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer