

McDonald Village Council
Thursday, January 18, 2024
Regular Council Meeting

Staff: Police Chief Bill Woodley, Fire Chief Fred Marcum, Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich, Fiscal Officer Stephanie Smith, and Office Manager Amy Cunningham.

Visitors: Ken Miner.

1. The January 18, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:05 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – present
Mrs. Reckard – present
Mr. Metzinger – present

Mr. Joynes – present
Mr. Jones – present
Mr. Smith – 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 3, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the January 3, 2024 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to amend the agenda and add Executive Session under miscellaneous:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Lewis would like to appoint Jared Wagoner, who is a firefighter/paramedic and Caden Candel as a probationary firefighter.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to accept the appointments of Mr. Wagoner and Mr. Candel.

Roll call:

Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis stated that the potential of a Safety Services Levy was discussed in Committee meetings. He would like to appoint a sub-committee which will be called the Levy Exploration Committee to vet this out. The members of this committee will be Mr. Metzinger as the chairperson along with Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Jones.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the forming of a Levy Exploration Committee.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis read the resignation of Odell Houston for the Income Tax Board of Review. He recently appointed Odell Houston to the Board. Mr. Houston's work schedule is extremely consuming.

It was moved by Mr. Smith to accept the resignation of Mr. Houston.

Roll call:

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

Mr. Smith – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis reached out to Ed Davis with Eastgate and has a meeting scheduled next week. He believes this will be the start of a rekindling of a good relationship with Eastgate. Mayor Lewis invited everyone to a Mayor's luncheon on February 9 in the Community Room. We have a very engaged Council and Mayor Lewis looks forward to great things.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich stated that the Village is in a payback phase with the City of Niles for the sewer improvements that they underwent. In the Clerk's report, \$93,000.00 of the total is going to the City of Niles to payback the loan. There is money budgeted every year for this. Mr. Domitrovich thanked Mike Schuller, Jonathan Noel and Tommy Rebraca for coming out at 3:00 a.m. to handle the situation at the water tower and two water breaks after that.

Police Chief Bill Woodley stated that the Police Department had 4,690 calls for service. Also, he will be working to complete the year-end report and other required reports over the next several weeks.

Chief Woodley submitted his report for the month of December and it is as follows: For the month of December, the Police Department received 693 calls from the 911 center. They investigated 41 formal complaints and made 68 traffic stops resulting in 23 citations. They made 5 bank drops, issued 12 parking tickets, investigated one traffic crash, and made 9 criminal arrests. The Department also made one warrant arrest and one residential security check. They also completed their DTBs for the month of December.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum stated that the 2023 year-end report for the Fire Department was sent to Council. He highlighted a few things from the report. There was a substantial increase in revenue generated by the ambulance. Also, Chief Marcum thanked the association for their fundraising efforts. They were able to provide about \$6,000.00 in equipment, new cutting equipment and lighting. The Fire Department received \$25,450.00 in grants for 2023. Chief Marcum stated that the Department will be looking at missed calls. There were 137 incidents throughout the year that the Department did not respond to. Most of these incidents were between the hours of

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

midnight and 8:00 a.m. where the Department is not staffed. Chief Marcum's main goal is to ensure there is staffing through the allotted hours.

Chief Marcum ordered the Lucas machine today. Also, the Fire Department was awarded the MARCs grant which is a little over \$49,200.00. He will be placing the order for the radios as soon as the money is received. Chief Marcum discussed a small issue with the State Fire Marshal reporting system.

Solicitor Ross stated no report.

7. Committee reports:

President Pro Tem Mr. Schmidt stated that Caucus met this evening and the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, Council minutes, and legislation. February meetings will be held on February 6, 7, and 21. There were two fire appointments: Jared Wagoner and Caden Candel. Also added was an executive session, a levy committee, and the resignation of Odell Houston from the Income Tax Board of Review. Mr. Schmidt stated that the Village has discussed creating a Facebook page which will be information only. There will be no commenting allowed on this. Mrs. Cunningham will be running this page.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to start a Village Facebook page run by the Office Manager Mrs. Cunningham.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Park & Buildings Mr. Jones stated that there was a new furnace installed in one part of the Municipal Building. Also, there were four welcome signs donated to the Village by the National Honor Society. Mr. Jones thanked McDonald High School and the National Honor Society for their generous donation.

Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger stated that the Police Department was having a few issues with their computers. Mr. PC donated parts, labor, and two used laptops. The Police Department has a few tasers that are out of service. They are currently looking for

7. Committee reports cont'd.

new models. The Fire Department purchased a new Lucas machine. They also received one grant and are applying for another. There was a discussion about the tuition agreement and the possibility of a levy. Mr. Metzinger stated that there was also a discussion regarding golf carts.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith stated that there are two pieces of legislation this evening. There is a first reading of the permanent budget and an emergency resolution to transfer funds from income tax into other accounts to continue with operations.

Service Committee Mrs. Reckard stated that Mr. Domitrovich received a letter from Eastgate regarding our 2024 Street Paving Project that was accepted for the grant. However, there is a contingency associated with the funding. Mrs. Reckard discussed a water billing issue with the Hilltop district. Protocols have been put in place to fix this error as this is only the second billing cycle with the new software system. Mrs. Reckard stated that there will be a luncheon on February 9 at noon in the Community Room for a meet and greet with the Mayor. Lunch will be provided. Mayor Lewis had asked Council to share their gifts and time with the community. Mrs. Reckard stated that Tony Ramos from NOPEC sent an email that he is available and willing to meet with the residents. Also briefly discussed in Service Committees was the industrial park. Mrs. Reckard stated that elected officials need to complete Sunshine Law training by the end of the first quarter. All employees will be participating in the annual drug-free workplace training. Mrs. Reckard stated that about \$4,800.00 of our \$14,000.00 available NOPEC grant was used to update a panel box for a future generator in the Municipal Building.

Planning Commission Mr. Jones stated that Planning Commission met on Wednesday, January 17. There was a discussion regarding the Youngstown Area Reserve Station and a comprehensive plan.

Community Chest Mrs. Reckard stated that there will be a meeting on Thursday, January 25 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. First Reading Of An Ordinance To Make Permanent Appropriations For 2024 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 2024.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that the ordinance pass first reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

B. Emergency Reading Of A Resolution Transferring Funds Within Various Funds Within The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, For A Period Beginning January 1, 2024 And Ending December 31, 2024.

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

Discussion: Mr. Smith stated that this is an emergency to allow us to have the funds in the proper places so the Fiscal Officer can pay bills and keep the Village moving forward.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Resolution No. 1898-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

11. Legislation cont'd.

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$258,161.68.

I, Stephanie Smith, 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. Smith to accept the Fiscal Officer's report and pay all bills.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to enter Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. with the Mayor, Solicitor, and all members of Council to consider the employment, dismissal, or demotion of a public employee with no business to follow.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to exit Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

13. Miscellaneous cont'd.

Motion carried.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 7:20 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer