

McDonald Village Council  
Thursday, March 21, 2024  
Regular Council Meeting

Staff: Police Lieutenant Ryan Ronghi, Fire Chief Fred Marcum, Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, and Fiscal Officer Stephanie Smith.

Visitors: Pam Sowers

Press: Bob Coupland, *Tribune Chronicle*.

1. The March 21, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:07 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 March 6, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard to approve the March 6, 2024 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye  
Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Jones – aye  
Mr. Smith – abstain

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

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

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 attended the Trumbull County Board of Health meeting last night. Most of the discussion was the election of officers, the annual report and a Q & A. Mayor Lewis also took a tour of the new facilities. They encouraged anyone within government to stop by. Mayor Lewis stated that Civics Day will be Friday, April 5. The third graders will arrive at 10:30 a.m. where they will visit the Police and Fire Departments and have a mock Council meeting. Mayor Lewis encourages anyone available to attend. We are working on a new application for the summer park attendants. These applications will start being accepted around April 1 through the third week of April.

Administrator Mr. Domitrovich is with four of his employees at a water main break which is our main line at MVSD. They are working to have it fixed this evening. Mr. Domitrovich asked Mayor Lewis to thank Trumbull County Sanitary Engineer Water Superintendent Ron Watson for supplying the Village with water so that all but six customers remain with water throughout the entire water distribution system. Mr. Domitrovich also would like to thank Chief Engineers of MVSD, Mike McNinch and Tom Holloway, for their efforts in supplying equipment for the repair under the supervision of Maintenance Superintendent Joe Woodley. Mr. Domitrovich thanked the superintendent of MVSD wastewater plant Joe Dinero for allowing the Village to use their roadway to access and break and mobilize equipment on the road as well. This is a great example of cooperation among so many municipal employees and different departments for the benefit of the residents that we all serve. Mayor Lewis thanked all of our guys that are going above and beyond. This has been going on for a couple days. They will probably be working late into the night. If residents do not see our employees, they are working diligently and the water is safe.

6. Report of Village Officials:

**Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich** is not in attendance. No report.

**Police Lieutenant Ryan Ronghi** stated that Officer John O'Neill has been with the Village of six months. Lieutenant Ronghi asked if we could waive his probation. Also, the 911 center is moving to a new program where they will be using Windows 10 for laptops in the cruisers. The Police Department purchased four laptops with their ARP funds and they will be installed in the cruisers within the next few weeks. Lieutenant Ronghi believes they may have a new police officer to fill Officer Lampkin's position. This person is a 25-year veteran with the Youngstown Police Department. They will interview him next week. Lieutenant Ronghi thanked Officer Smith for giving a

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

presentation on fraud and identity theft for the R.E.S.T. program. Also, the Police Department hosted the Girl Scouts on Monday. The girls got to see a taser demonstration and they loved it.

**Fire Chief Fred Marcum** stated that the YTD EMS billing is around \$28,500. The YTD revenue is just under \$15,000. The Fire Department is still collecting on some of the 2023 aging. There have been 40 transports to date. The average revenue per transport is \$370. Chief Marcum's goal is that this number remains at this level. There have been 80 calls to date. Chief Marcum is looking at the Safer grant and what the qualifications are. The awards for the 2023 FEMA grant will start in April. There are three rounds of awards which will run until September. Chief Marcum would like to consider a fire truck replacement ask with the 2024 grant money. Chief Marcum met with Mr. Metzinger regarding the levy. More details will follow at next month's Committee meetings. Chief Marcum has talked with Medicount. The Fire Department is looking at a slight increase in the EMS billing. He is looking at increasing fees a slight amount.

Chief Marcum is in the process of assigning responsibilities to the members of his department. Also, the Billy Goat will be August 24. The Fire Department has already begun planning for this event. Lieutenant Dan Jamison will be attending a "Train the Trainer School Shooting" scenario. This is a week-long training in Girard. Chief Marcum thanked Council for their consideration to the "destroy list" and the donation to the County.

**Office Manager Amy Cunningham** was not in attendance. No report.

**Solicitor Ross** stated that he and Marijo were in Niles Municipal Court today for about seven to nine income tax cases. They had one resident pay several years in full and another showed up and agreed to pay. It is worthwhile and Marijo works hard at it. Mayor Lewis thanked Marijo for her hard work on this.

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. April Committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, April 2. Caucus and Council meetings will be held April 3 and 17. The Mayor attended the Trumbull County District Board of Health meeting. Village employees are currently working on a water main break. Also discussed was the Fire Department destroy and donations list, Farmer's Market dates, Civics Day, and applications for summer help.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

**Park & Buildings Mr. Jones** stated that Concerts in the Park will begin on Thursday, July 11 and continue for six weeks at the Ramsay Pavilion. There are a couple interviews scheduled for an activity director at the R.E.S.T. Program. The Easter Egg Hunt is at 11:00 a.m. on March 23. This event is hosted by Jaclyn Kuntz and her Girl Scout troop. Also helping with this event is Student Council, who filled 1,500 eggs. There is a rain date for Sunday, March 24. Mr. Jones thanked Doug Flere and his group of volunteers. They spent most of last Saturday working on upgrades at the ballfields. He also thanked 2M Excavating for donating the slag, Paul Wolford donated the trust brick, and Ferguson donated the drain and pipe fittings. Also, thanks to Jon Noel, who used his excavator for digging. Mr. Jones stated that the Farmer's Market will be a fundraiser for the park. We will have fresh and local produce and other things such as honey, jams, and baked goods. This event will be held at the Ramsay Pavilion on June 22, July 20, August 17, and September 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Jones to allow for a group of volunteers to utilize the Ramsay Pavilion on the dates stated for a Farmer's Market.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

**Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger** stated that the Fire Department has some equipment that is no longer salvageable. They also have some old radios that they would like to donate to the County.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to destroy and donate various equipment within the Fire Department.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to waive Patrolman O'Neill's final six months of probation within the Police Department.

Discussion: Mr. Metzinger stated that Officer O'Neill has been an asset to the Village and we are glad he is here. Mayor Lewis stated that this has been standard procedure done with our previous new hires based on leadership's recommendation.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

Also, Mr. Metzinger wished Mr. Joynes a Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith** stated no report.

**Service Committee Mrs. Reckard** stated that the TAC meeting is April 4 at Eastgate.

**Planning Commission Mr. Jones** stated no report.

**Community Chest Mrs. Reckard** stated that the next meeting is April 25 at 5:30 p.m. If you know of any residents in need, please call the Municipal Building and they will get in touch with someone from Community Chest.

**Levy Exploration Mr. Metzinger** stated that he met with Chief Marcum. They will have a discussion at the next meeting.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Third Reading Of Ordinance No.3292-24 Amending The McDonald Fire Department Tuition Assistance Program To Promote The Betterment Of The Village Fire Department.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger that Ordinance No. 3292-24 pass third reading as read.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$75,557.41.

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: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 6:36 p.m. All voted aye.

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Mayor

Attest to:

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Fiscal Officer