

McDonald Village Council
Wednesday, August 21, 2024
Regular Council Meeting

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

Visitors: Matt Jamison and family, Katie Marino, Anthony Combis, Ryan Vernell, Sarah Marino, Lou and Dee Ronghi, Hannah and Jacob Sort, Larry McClain, Lt. William Ward, John Fields, Michael Sobinovskiy, Jeff Savnik, Allan Fields, Austin Bucan, Larry Manaro, Ken Jones, Trevor Willoughby, Ron Pratt, Louie Ronghi, Ken Miner, Danica Ronghi and children, Lance Ronghi, Judy Sheridan, and Bob Zajack.

Press: Bob Coupland, *Tribune Chronicle*.

1. The August 21, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:36 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 July 17 and July 31, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the July 17 and July 31, 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 legislation B:

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Lewis stated that for the month of July, Mayor's Court had computer fund \$110, court costs \$467, additional costs \$87, Village revenue from fines \$830, Niles Municipal Court fines \$375.00, and parking tickets \$155 for a grand total of \$2024.00.

Mayor Lewis would like to appoint Ashley Angel and Annette Schick to the Fire Department. Both are firefighter/paramedics who come with a great deal of experience.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to accept the Mayor's appointments to 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.

Mayor Lewis would like to appoint retired Fire Chief Todd Stitt as an honorary firefighter. Former Fire Chief Todd Stitt assisted the Fire Department a couple weeks ago during the chaos of a storm. He expressed interest in coming back in some type of capacity.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to accept the Mayor's appointment of Todd Stitt as an honorary firefighter.

Roll call:

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

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

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis would like to make three appointments to the Police Department. At the end of May, our former chief retired. These three individuals have exceeded the last three months. Safety Day was probably the best one that we've had. These three individuals have great experience. They have bloodlines in police work and put the Village first in everything that they do. It is an honor to promote these three gentlemen. Mayor Lewis would like to promote Ryan Ronghi as our Police Chief. He would also like to promote Brandon Caraway as our Lieutenant and Dave Smith as our Police Sergeant.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to accept the Mayor's appointments of Chief Ronghi, Lieutenant Caraway and Sergeant Smith.

Discussion: Mayor Lewis stated that these men are exactly what we need in this Police Department. We look for guys that put the Village first but, most of all, really care. They indeed care. Mayor Lewis is confident the Village is in great shape and he looks forward to some great things coming from these guys and the Department.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

Chief Ryan Ronghi, Lieutenant Brandon Caraway, and Sergeant Dave Smith were sworn in by Solicitor Ross. The pinning ceremony followed.

Mayor Lewis stated that KO Consulting met with himself and the department heads. KO Consulting has all of our needs and wants. Matthew Ellis will be our primary contact with KO. It looks as though they will be applying for 50 grants on the Village's behalf. This is on a schedule of about four to five per month over the next couple years. We should have a complete readiness assessment in our hands within 30 days.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich stated that thanks to Dan Daniluk Jr. and Karen Ruby, the parking lot across the street has been blacktopped and parking stripes

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

have been painted. He also congratulated all of those appointed to their positions this evening.

Police Chief Ryan Ronghi thanked everyone for the confidence in himself and his guys. They will all work together.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum congratulated the three officers that were promoted. To date, there have been 344 calls. Year to date billing is \$109,260 with revenues being \$48,488. There have been 131 transports to date compared to 74 in 2023. The mutual aid numbers are balancing out. Chief Marcum reported on mutual aid numbers with other communities.

The portable radios from the MARCs grant are in. With the grant, the Fire Department was able to purchase nine portables and two mobile units. The portables are in service. They are currently waiting on authorization prior to adding the two mobile units. The Billy Goat is this Saturday. All the planning is done and everything is in place. The Fire Department is starting to receive some items that were ordered through the Trumbull County grant.

Chief Marcum discussed the new Fire Department patches that were created. These patches were recently updated. Chief Marcum stated that the Fire Department was selected late last year for reporting through CMS. He filed for a hardship and just heard back that the hardship was denied. This is a complicated process. The Fire Department has until October to complete this reporting.

Office Manager Amy Cunningham congratulated the new Chief, Lieutenant, and Sergeant. She looks forward to continue working with them in their new capacities. Mrs. Cunningham met with Team Office to discuss computer upgrades. She will be looking into quotes from other companies as well. The information will be forwarded to KO Consulting. Mrs. Cunningham has forwarded the quote for the message board over to KO as well. Mrs. Cunningham, Mayor Lewis and Solicitor Ross are working on implementing some additional charges to Mayor's Court. These will be implemented soon.

Solicitor Ross congratulated the Police Chief, Lieutenant and Sergeant.

7. Committee reports:

President Pro Tem Mr. Schmidt congratulated everyone on their well-deserved positions. He stated that Caucus met this evening and the following items were

7. Committee reports cont'd.

discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, Council minutes, legislation, exiting summer recess, Levy Exploration Committee, codification, Police Department appointments, September meetings, and Fire Department appointments. Mr. Schmidt wished all the athletes participating in fall sports good luck. The girls' volleyball team took care of the Ridge Rams last night. Congratulations to the girls.

Park & Buildings Mr. Jones stated that the new owners of the mill are in the process of selling off the old equipment. They are also working with the Youngstown Steel Heritage Museum. It is nice to hear that some of the equipment will be salvaged and will be on display for years to come. The Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 12. All proceeds will benefit the park. Mr. Jones discussed some of the things to look forward to at the Oktoberfest. The bands that are playing the event are Saxon Club and No Funk No Justice. The Learning Tree will be sponsoring kids' activities in the park. Youngstown Bounce will be at the event as well. There will also be a craft market. Mr. Jones will have more information at the next meeting.

Mr. Jones stated that we received a quote to replace the handrails by the post office. We are looking at alternative ways to obtain funding to replace them. Mr. Jones thanked Heidi Hoffman along with all the park attendants and congratulated them on a successful year. It is a blessing to have Heidi working with the Village. She puts in a lot of hours and it really shows. Mr. Jones thanked Mr. Domitrovich for working with the park attendants and for adding Saturday splash pad hours. Mr. Jones congratulated everyone that was appointed. Mayor Lewis wanted everyone to be aware that his daughter, Michaylen lost to him in a race after the Spartan Challenge.

Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger that a few of the police officers will be going through taser training on September 3. This will allow them to train other departments. The Police Department also purchased new radar guns. The Fire Department turned in their SOPs. The Lane contract was also discussed, along with new appointments. Mr. Metzinger reminded everyone that school started today. Be extra careful on your commute. Mr. Metzinger congratulated Chief Ronghi, Lieutenant Caraway, and Officer Smith.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith stated that there is a first reading of the Amounts and Rates resolution. He will begin having budget meetings with the department heads. Mr. Smith has discussed salary adjustments for the Office Staff, Street and Water Departments. He congratulated Chief Ronghi, Lieutenant Caraway, and Sergeant Smith.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Service Committee Mrs. Reckard stated that the contracts list was emailed to everyone at the beginning of August. The bids for the 2024 paving project will be received on August 27. This project will improve the drainage and paving on Connecticut. Mr. Domitrovich requested the paving project for 2025. The roads that will be resurfaced in 2025 are Utah, Nebraska, and Dakota. These roads were chosen from a five-year study. The department heads submitted their needs to KO Consulting.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard to allow the Office Manager to codify the ordinances.

Roll:

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

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

Motion carried.

Mrs. Reckard congratulated all that were appointed this evening.

Planning Commission Mr. Jones stated no report.

Community Chest Mrs. Reckard stated no report. If anybody is in need, please contact the Municipal Building.

Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Metzinger stated no report.

Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Joynes stated no report. By next month, he should have information. Mr. Joynes congratulated the appointees.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Second Reading Of An Ordinance Prohibiting Within The Village Of McDonald Adult Use Cannabis Operators And Adult Use Cannabis Processing, Cultivation, Retail Dispensaries Or Other Businesses Intending To Process, Provide, Or Sell Cannabis As

11. Legislation cont'd.

Defined In, And Regulated By, Sections 3780.01 Through 3780.99 Of The Ohio Revised Code.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard that the ordinance pass second reading as read.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

B. First Reading Of A Resolution Accepting The Amount And Rates As Determined By The Budget Commission And Authorizing The Necessary Tax Levies And Certifying Them To The County Auditor.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that the resolution 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.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$276,667.32.

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. Schmidt – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye

12. Fiscal Officer's report cont'd.

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger –aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to exit summer recess and return to the regular meeting schedule.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger –aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Chief Marcum stated that the Fire Department patch design originated with one of our McDonald School students.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 7:26 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer