

McDonald Village Council
Wednesday, November 6, 2024
Regular Council Meeting

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

Visitors: Ken Miner

1. The November 6, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:04 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – present	Mr. Joynes – present
Mrs. Reckard – present	Mr. Jones – present
Mr. Metzinger – 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 October 17, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the October 17, 2024 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye	Mr. Joynes – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye	Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye	Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to amend the agenda and add Legislation E:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye	Mr. Joynes – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye	Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye	Mr. Smith – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Lewis received the application for the ARC Ready Grant. He has a conference call scheduled on Monday regarding how the funds can be spent. He will report on this at the December Committee meetings. Mayor Lewis spoke with Superintendent Kevin O'Connell regarding the possibility of a State Of the Village town hall meeting sometime in January. The school is open to the idea and will possibly integrate the civics and government classes. A meeting will be set up to discuss this further.

Mayor Lewis stated that Matthew from KO Consultants reported on grants that have been applied for which total about \$40,000 for our safety forces. He spoke with Matthew today about the EPA grant that Mr. Domitrovich would like to apply for.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich was not in attendance. He had an excused absence for this evening's meeting. There was no report.

Police Chief Ryan Ronghi stated that he gave KO all the information needed to apply for the vest grant. This grant is roughly \$8500 worth of vests and vest carriers.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum stated that there have been 462 calls to date. Billing to date is \$140,672 with revenue at \$66,988. There have been 168 transports to date compared to 99 in 2023. ALS transports last year were 31 compared to 81 this year. Mutual aid numbers from October 17-November 6 were three given and six received and Lane has been in the Village twice. Chief Marcum stated that inventory has been recorded and is up to date. There are a few new people on the department that are being trained on the pumpers so everyone is able to run the apparatus and do everybody else's job.

The Fire Department was passing out candy for Trick or Treat. Unfortunately, the bonfire was not permitted due to the wind. The Fire Department was able to handle all the football games. Chief Marcum stated that the FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters grant is opening November 12. He has spoken with Matthew from KO regarding this grant. KO Consulting filed a BWC grant for a power cot. The Fire Department has made it through several rounds and are just waiting for a decision from the BWC. This is a good sign the grant will be awarded.

6. Reports of Village Officials cont'd.

Office Manager Amy Cunningham stated that the new Watchfire sign has been installed. Also, effective November 1, if a defendant requests a continuance on any scheduled date there will be a \$20 fee if the Mayor grants the request.

Mayor Lewis thanked Mrs. Cunningham for her hard work in looking at the antiquated fees and charges throughout the Village.

Solicitor Ross stated no report. He stated that Mrs. Cunningham is proactive, more so than reactive, in reaching out to him and staying on top of things.

7. Committee reports:

President Pro Tem Mr. Schmidt thanked the Fire and Police Departments for Halloween. It's always nice to see them going around. The kids get a charge out of that. He also thanked the Fire Department for their help with the Ram Roast. Mr. Schmidt also likes to point out when McDonald beats Mineral Ridge. Mr. Schmidt stated that Council met this evening and the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, Council minutes, legislation, and the addition of the Overtime Ordinance.

Parks & Buildings Mr. Jones stated that the pallets that were unable to be used for the bonfire on Halloween will possibly be used for Christmas In the Village. This will be a small fire to keep everyone warm. Mr. Jones stated that the NHS students will be working on a project next Spring at the park. Mr. Domitrovich met with a few students from NHS and discussed plans for the project. The students will paint a mural on the concrete pad that resembles a mural that was previously painted. The NHS students will also add to the original. More details will follow.

Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger stated that the Police Department is working on a vest grant with KO. Also, there was discussion about a Lateral Transfer Ordinance. There will be a Safety meeting next week to finalize the details. Mr. Metzinger thanked the Fire and Police Departments for Trick or Treat.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith stated that legislation this evening includes an amendment to the Overtime/Comp Time Ordinance. Also, there was a brief discussion on a medical claims issue. Mr. Smith stated that there is a second reading of the 2025 temporary budget. This will not be our budget but a starting point. Solicitor Ross stated that there is one section in the Overtime/Comp Time Ordinance that states employees can accrue comp time up to 40 hours. Once they reach that limit, they can not accrue anymore. They have to be paid overtime in accordance with the law. Included in

7. Committee reports cont'd.

the ordinance is a sentence that states “At the end of the calendar year, all remaining unused comp time accrued during that calendar year will be paid out to the employee at the employee’s base hourly rate of pay on or before January 31 of the next calendar year”. After last evening’s discussions, Solicitor Ross is not sure if that is what the Village wants. If this is not what Council wants, Solicitor Ross can easily make that change and excise that sentence before the second reading. This way employees can continue to accrue comp time up to 40 hours which carries over into the next year. Mr. Smith will discuss this with the Department Heads and let Solicitor Ross know.

Service Committee Mrs. Reckard stated that the Village is waiting for quotes on package and employee health insurance. Tom Bellish from Buckeye Energy will be sending out mailers to residents so they can choose to opt-in for Eastern Power and Gas. That price is locked in at \$3.85 for two years. The Village will receive a grant from Eastgate for the 2025 Paving Project which will include, Nebraska, Utah and a small part of Dakota. Lindy Paving still has two items to finish before the 2024 Street Paving is complete. Some of the signage needs to be changed. Also, Lindy needs to finish the crack seal on Ninth Street and New Jersey and partial on Connecticut.

Mayor Lewis hosted a Mayor’s Breakfast last month where he took an informal survey with residents about paying for garbage. Council has to be proactive with this in giving advance notice to Ohio Valley. There was discussion regarding a town hall meeting after the first of the year. Water pumps are in for the backup of the waste water plant. The Ohio EPA wants the Village to show documents of separation of the water tower that will not be put back into service. Western Reserve Mechanical will help with permits that will show the pipes are now disconnected. Mrs. Reckard stated that there is legislation for a ten-year assessment of professional services regarding the maintenance of the water tower. Mr. Domitrovich is moving forward with Tactical Protection for surveillance cameras. He was also notified by the Ohio EPA that there is a 100% funded grant for a generator that can be used at the water tower.

Planning Commission Mr. Jones stated that there was a Public Hearing along with a Planning Commission meeting last week. Discussed was a possible zone change of a property from RA to CA due to a business moving in. There was a discussion with the neighbor and new business owners. The Planning Commission members along with the Solicitor and Mayor visited the location and walked around to see what the best outcome would be. There will be another Planning Commission meeting on Monday, November 11 at 5:00 p.m. to further discuss this change and make a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Jones stated that changes in the building permit and zone change fees were also discussed. These fees have not been changed for a long time and are definitely overdue.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Our fees are way below what other communities charge. Mayor Lewis stated that the zone change request meeting cost the Village a couple hundred dollars. It is an absolute necessity to get the fees up to date. It is not a money-making move. It's a cost neutral move.

Community Chest Mrs. Reckard stated that there was a meeting on October 25 in the Community Room. There was a discussion on increasing the amount of money given on vouchers to residents in need. The Community Chest will donate \$300 to Christmas In the Village. They also give \$50 Dollar General gift cards to residents in the apartments. Community Chest is making plans to donate to Santa's Workshop at Roosevelt Elementary. They will also donate Amazon's gift cards to some of the high school students in need and to the Grandma Elf project. They will have elections for new officers. Donna Dolsak has been a part of Community Chest for 34 years. Mrs. Reckard thanked her for all her hard work and compassion. The next meeting is November 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Metzinger stated no report.

Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Joynes stated that Larry Manaro is doing a very nice job in communicating with him all the updates on planning the event. They have a verbal commitment with the normal food vendors. Anthony Moore is working on contracts to get sent out with exclusivity for the food vendors. The stage rental will go through Struthers Table and Chair. A couple of the bands requested a little more space under the tent. Mr. Joynes stated that they are renewing their bingo license. Also, there are two bands booked. Old Skool will be performing on Thursday and 80s Proof will be performing on Friday. The Committee is still brainstorming ideas for Saturday. Please let Mr. Joynes or Larry Manaro know if anyone has ideas they feel may be beneficial to the event. The Committee will be looking at sponsors at the early part of next year. Mr. Joynes stated that there will be volunteer opportunities throughout that week.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Second Reading Of An Ordinance To Make Temporary Appropriations For 2025 To Various Divisions Of The Village Government For Each Of The Several Objects For

11. Legislation cont'd.

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 2025

It was moved by Mr. Smith that the ordinance pass second 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 For The Purpose Of Authorizing The Mayor, Fiscal Officer, And/Or Village Administrator To Enter Into A Master Services Agreement And Scope Of Work No. 1 With Utility Service Co., Inc., 535 General Courtney Hodges Boulevard, Perry, Georgia 31069, To Provide Professional Services For The Village's Water Tower And Storage Tank Located At 645 McDonald Avenue, McDonald, Ohio 44437.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard to suspend the Rules of Council.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard that Resolution No. 1912-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Roll call:

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

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

11. Legislation cont'd.

Motion carried.

C. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance To Amend 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 to suspend the Rules of Council.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye	Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye	Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Jones – aye	Mr. Metzinger –aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Ordinance No. 3301-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye	Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye	Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Jones – aye	Mr. Metzinger –aye

Motion carried.

D. 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.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye	Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Joynes – aye	Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Jones – aye	Mr. Metzinger –aye

11. Legislation cont'd.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Resolution No. 1913-24 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

Motion carried.

E. First Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Ordinance No. 2948-03 Concerning Employee Overtime, The Provisions Of Which Are Currently Set Forth In Section 161.05 Of The McDonald Village Codified Ordinances.

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.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$126,284.32.

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. Jones – aye

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

12. Fiscal Officer's report cont'd.

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 6:35 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer