

McDonald Village Council
Thursday, October 17, 2024
Regular Council Meeting

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

1. The October 17, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:03 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – present	Mr. Joynes – absent
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 2, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the October 2, 2024 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – 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 accept the agenda as presented:

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – 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 stated that for the month of September, Mayor's Court had computer fund \$179, court costs \$798, additional costs \$174, Village revenue from fines \$932, Niles Municipal Court fines \$303.50, and parking tickets \$25 for a grand total of \$2,411.50.

Mayor Lewis thanked the Oktoberfest committee for hosting a great event, especially Kim Schmidt for leading the event. The grant applications are open for the ARC Ready grant. Mayor Lewis would like to discuss this further in next month's Committee meetings. He has also spoken to Applied Partners, the new owners of the mill. They are moving forward with a number of things.

Mayor Lewis would like to remind residents to lock their doors. Be sure your vehicles are locked. If you see something, say something. Lastly, Mayor Lewis stated that there will be a bonfire and costume contest on Halloween.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich stated that the curbside branch program is done for the season. The Street Department will come out on an emergency if there is storm damage or a need to bring down a dead tree. Next week will begin our curbside leaf pickup. The street paving project this year is going well. Mr. Domitrovich spoke with the contractors and they will be out next Monday and Tuesday to do the grinding and paving.

Police Chief Ryan Ronghi reported on the New Chief's conference that he attended last week in Columbus. He discussed a few things that he would like to implement in the Police Department. Chief Ronghi is gathering information to implement a wellness program in the Department also. He applied to join the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police which will be another resource to better the Department. Lieutenant Caraway attended Firearms Instructor school last week as well. He will be doing the qualifying training moving forward. Chief Ronghi distributed the lateral transfer ordinance proposal which he would like to discuss at the next Committee meetings.

Chief Ronghi thanked Kim Schmidt and everyone involved in the Oktoberfest. It was a great day and a great event.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum stated that year to date EMS billing is \$132,680 and revenues are at \$61,235. The Fire Department is at 159 transports to date compared to 93 in 2023.

6. Reports of Village Officials cont'd.

The Fire Department has provided mutual aid 10 times and received one. Lane has been in the Village twice since the last meeting. The Fire Department was awarded \$4,922 for the Ohio EMS grant. Chief Marcum discussed what the Department was able to purchase with the grant. Almost all of the funds from the Trumbull County grant have been expended. Chief Marcum discussed the status of items purchased with this grant. To date there have been 436 calls for service compared to 399 last year.

Chief Marcum has been working with Medicount regarding non-payment from some insurance companies. There is about \$5000 that is over 90 days old. Chief Marcum is hopeful that Medicount can recoup this for the Village. The Fire Department has not been receiving much money on self-pays. Chief Marcum is looking at some options for in-house collections. There is about \$14,000 that is outstanding.

Chief Marcum stated that the new lieutenants are doing great. He is working on dividing up the responsibility as to who will take care of what. Fire Department morale is at an all-time high. Chief Marcum stated that a few employees on the roster have not participated in the past year. He is planning to send out some letters shortly and possibly remove individuals from the roster if they do not respond. Chief Marcum also stated that there will be a bonfire for Halloween.

Office Manager Amy Cunningham stated that the website has been updated with the Codified Ordinances. She is updating the codified books currently. Mrs. Cunningham stated that we are working with our health insurance broker. She has also reached out to Love Insurance regarding package insurance.

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, legislation and November meetings. He also thanked his wife for all her excellent work for the Oktoberfest. Mr. Schmidt stated that so many people loved the event. It is not just Kim, it's everybody on the Committee, the Village employees, Police and Fire. Everybody was there participating.

Park & Buildings Mr. Jones thanked everyone involved in Oktoberfest. It was a huge success. Mr. Jones gave a shout out to Kim Schmidt who spearheaded the event. He also thanked the volunteers. Everything went very smoothly and everyone had a great time.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger stated the Oktoberfest was a hit. Kudos to everyone involved.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith stated that there is a first reading of the temporary budget. Council has an opportunity for revisions before the second reading. Mr. Smith stated that the Oktoberfest was a lot of fun. He gave kudos to the tennis team who came down and played some tennis against the residents. The band and auxiliary groups had a captive audience during their performances. The pumpkin walk is also a nice addition to the Oktoberfest.

Service Committee Mrs. Reckard thanked Kim Schmidt and her family as well as everyone involved in Oktoberfest. There is legislation for the gas aggregation. The new supplier will be Eastern Power and Gas. The price of \$3.85/Mcf for 24 months is effective February 1, 2025. The residents will have to opt-in to this program.

Planning Commission Mr. Jones stated that there is a public hearing on Monday, October 28 at 5:00 p.m. for a zone change request. Immediately following will be a Planning Commission meeting. Both will be held in Council Chambers.

Community Chest Mrs. Reckard stated that the next meeting is October 24 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Metzinger stated no report.

Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Joynes was not in attendance. No report.

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 Temporary Appropriations For 2025 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 2025.

11. Legislation cont'd.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

B. Emergency Reading Of A Resolution For The Purpose Of Authorizing The Mayor And Fiscal Officer To Enter Into An Agreement Of Endorsement With Eastern Power And Gas, LLC.

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

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard that Resolution No. 1911-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried

C. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance Approving The Editing And Inclusion Of Certain Ordinances As Parts Of The Various Component Codes Of The Codified Ordinances Of McDonald, Ohio.

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

11. Legislation cont'd.

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard that Ordinance No. 3300-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$69,819.39.

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
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Metzinger at 6:28 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer