

McDonald Village Council
Thursday, December 19, 2024
Regular Council Meeting

Staff: Police Lieutenant Brandon Caraway, Fire Chief Fred Marcum, Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich and Office Manager Amy Cunningham.

Visitors: Troy Rhoades, Ohio Edison.

1. The December 19, 2024 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:30 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 December 4, 2024 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the December 4, 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 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 met with MHS Student Council and the date for State of the Village has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. Information will be sent out in the water bills. Also, the Tribune will be contacted. There will be significant planning for this event in January.

Mayor Lewis would like to appoint Jeff Rowland as a firefighter.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger to accept the Mayor's appointment of Jeff Rowland to the Fire Department.

Roll call:

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis would like to remind everyone that Mayor's Court will start at 8:00 a.m. beginning in January 2025. He will enforce this start time. Mayor Lewis wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich thanked Troy Rhoades for his introduction. It was very thorough and informative. Mr. Domitrovich thanked the office staff, service chair and Solicitor Ross for all their effort in getting things done for applications and tying up loose ends for the end of the year.

Police Lieutenant Brandon Caraway stated that Chief Ronghi is requesting that Officer Bucan not be reappointed for 2025. This is based off a mutual decision. There are conflicts in Officer Bucan's schedule with his new full-time job. Chief Ronghi would like to wish Officer Bucan the best moving forward.

Officer Pesa would like to carryover 40 hours vacation. When Officer Pratt was hired, the Police Department spoke with Council and they agreed that he would immediately receive three weeks' vacation. In discussing this, it was discovered that the Ordinance would need to be amended. The Police Department then started discussing lateral

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

transfers. The Police Department still does not know if Officer Pratt has vacation or not for this year. If he was to have it, he would like to carry some over for 2025.

The Police Department is looking at purchasing a cruiser from Niles. It is a 2018 with 72,000 miles for \$8500. For this price, it comes with everything except for the radio. This would replace the 2016 cruiser with 110,000 miles. This cruiser would be donated to the Street and Water Department.

The Police Department has old taser cartridges from the old tasers. They are talking with Weathersfield to trade these for possibly some used MBT's, which are computers. The Police Department received delivery of their 84-gun safe which will be used to store department hand guns and long rifles.

Chief Ronghi is in the process of changing the Ordinance that would change Lieutenant Caraway's title to Captain. Solicitor Ross had suggested that other items in the Ordinance be reviewed as well.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum thanked Dara Sandy, Cody Bartholomew and Dale Martin for the time they put into the Village. Unfortunately, schedules change and they were not able to give us the time that we require. He wishes them the best on their endeavors. Chief Marcum would also like to welcome Jeff Rowland to the Department. Total calls to date are at 525 which makes this the busiest year the Village has had. To date last year was 487. The EMS billing to December 18 is approximately \$157,000 and revenues are \$76,376 which is \$36,659 higher than last year. The Fire Department has transported 187 people this year, last year was 118. Mutual aid was given six times and the Fire Department received one. Lane has only been in the Village once since the last meeting.

Chief Marcum thanked Mayor Lewis for his hard work in helping to obtain the funds from Trumbull County Commissioners for the ambulance. Chief Marcum said they made a good team. The Village was awarded \$175,000 for the purchase of an ambulance. Chief Marcum is hopeful that he will receive a favorable quote and will move forward with ordering an ambulance once a decision is made.

Chief Marcum stated that the Fire Department now has a comprehensive inventory list. He is working on a policy to review and update the inventory list monthly. This is critical to have the inventory list for grant writing and the overall net worth of the Village. Chief Marcum explained the authorization that will be required of MARCs radios beginning July 1, 2025. This is coming at a cost. Chief Marcum is compiling all the data. The Police Department radios will be affected as well.

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

The FEMA grant has been submitted. Chief Marcum worked with Matthew Ellis from KO to get this done. KO submitted for \$897,000 for a fire truck. Chief Marcum wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs. Reckard thanked Ken and Ashley, both EMTs, and Officer Pratt. They called 911 last Tuesday for her mom, who was having a heart attack. Mrs. Reckard thanked them for their professionalism and getting there so quickly. They saved her mother's life.

Office Manager Amy Cunningham stated that the continuance fee that was implemented for Mayor's Court on November 1 seems to be effective. This is helping to clear out our docket. The Public Hearing for the rezoning of 305 W. Marshall Road is set for January 8 at 5:30 p.m. All letters to surrounding residents have been sent out and the legal notice has been published. Mrs. Cunningham wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Solicitor Ross wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

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 January meetings. The Reorganizational meeting will be held on January 8. Committee meetings will be held on January 21. The Council meeting will be held on January 23. Also discussed were Police Department carryovers and Troy Rhoades from Ohio Edison spoke briefly. The State of the Village will be held on January 22 at 7:00 p.m. The Fire Department appointment of Mr. Rowland, fire roster removals, and staff medical expense reimbursements were discussed as well. Mr. Schmidt wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He thanked everyone for their hard work.

Park & Buildings Mr. Jones thanked everyone that supported or volunteered for the park's fundraisers this past year. There's a lot of great people in the Village and a lot of helping hands. Mr. Jones wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Safety Committee Mr. Metzinger wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mr. Schmidt asked where we are with the lateral transfer ordinance. Mr. Metzinger stated that, in talking with Chief Ronghi, they are ready to put it up for a vote. Mr. Schmidt asked if Mr. Metzinger talked with Solicitor Ross to which he responded that he has not. Mr. Metzinger stated that they can go over any questions that Solicitor Ross has at the beginning of the year, before the next meeting.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith stated that there several pieces of legislation. Legislation B, C and D are all Ordinances that deal with salary adjustments. They are being read as an emergency so they are effective as of the first part of the year. Legislation I is an emergency reading for the 2024 final budget. Mr. Smith thanked Fiscal Officer Stephanie Smith for all that she does in trying to make sure that line items stay where they need to be so we end the year without having anything in the negative. She works really hard and keeps everyone honest.

Lieutenant Caraway had mentioned that there are some officers who have or may have vacation that would carryover into the next year.

It was moved by Mr. Smith to allow full-time police officers to carryover up to 40 hours of vacation from 2024 into 2025.

Discussion: Mr. Schmidt confirmed that this vacation needs to be used within the first quarter of 2025.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried

Mr. Smith stated that we have an anomaly with Medical Mutual healthcare coverage that has resulted in the Village doing some additional reimbursement before the end of the year for the Office Manager and family. The total is \$787.65.

It was moved by Mr. Smith to reimburse our Office Manager for medical expenditures of \$787.65.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Mr. Smith wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Service Committee Mrs. Reckard stated that the mailers for the gas aggregation have been approved and they will be out to the residents soon. There are two resolutions to pass this evening. Mrs. Reckard wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Planning Commission Mr. Jones stated no report.

Community Chest Mrs. Reckard reminded the residents that there is help available. Please contact the Municipal Building if you know of anyone that needs help. They will get in contact with a Community Chest representative. There are also churches that offer assistance.

Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Metzinger stated no report.

Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Joynes stated no report. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: none.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Village Ordinance No. 3275-22 For The Purpose Of Adopting The Previously Established Schedule Of Fees For Building Permits, Zoning Permits, And Other Fees; And For The Purpose Of Increasing Certain Fees In The Schedule Of Fees.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

11. Legislation cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Jones that Ordinance No. 3304-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Discussion: Mayor Lewis thanked the Office Manager for her hard work on this. Some of the fees were way out of date and definitely needed to be increased.

Roll call:

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

B. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Ordinance Number 3281-23 (The “Salary Ordinance”) To Increase The Salaries And Wages Of Certain Employees Of The Village Of McDonald, Ohio; And For The Purpose Of Repealing Any And All Other Ordinances Or Resolutions In Conflict Therewith.

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. 3305-24 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.

11. Legislation cont'd.

C. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Ordinance No. 3268-22 Concerning The Appointed Position Of Village Fiscal Officer Created In Accordance With Section 733.262 Of The Ohio Revised Code.

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

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 Ordinance No. 3306-24 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.

D. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Village Ordinance No. 3233-19 To Provide A Raise For The Building And Zoning Inspector.

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

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

11. Legislation cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Ordinance No. 3307-24 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. Second Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Section 161.10 Of The Codified Ordinances Of The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, Entitled “Police Uniforms”.

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.

F. Emergency Reading Of A Resolution For The Purpose Of Accepting The Health Insurance Proposal From COSE Health And Wellness Trust And Medical Mutual Of Ohio Through National United Brokers, Inc., 4151 Executive Parkway, Suite 210, Westerville, Ohio 43081, For The Village Of McDonald, Ohio’s Employee Health Insurance Coverage For A One-Year (1) Term Commencing January 1, 2025 And Ending December 31, 2025; And Authorizing The Mayor, Fiscal Officer And/Or Village Administrator To Enter Into A Contract With COSE Health And Wellness Trust And Medical Mutual Of Ohio Through National United Brokers, Inc. For Health Insurance.

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

11. Legislation cont'd.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard that Resolution No. 1915-24 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

Motion carried.

G. Emergency Reading Of A Resolution Approving Change Order No. 1 To The Contract With Lindy Paving, Inc. Regarding The 2024 Street Resurfacing Program, And Authorizing The Mayor, Fiscal Officer, And/Or Village Administrator To Execute Change Order No. 1.

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

Discussion: Solicitor Ross stated that this is something that the service chair and Mr. Domitrovich sent over to him. This is in addition to the contract that was budgeted for a few months ago. Everyone knew this was coming but the Village just received the necessary documents to do the change order. Solicitor Ross believes that the Village needs to take care of this before the end of the year. This explains the emergency reading.

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. 1916-24 pass emergency reading as read.

11. Legislation cont'd.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

H. Emergency Reading Of A Resolution Authorizing The Mayor, Village Administrator And/Or Fiscal Officer Of The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, To Prepare And Submit An Application To Participate In The Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement And/Or Local Transportation Improvement Programs(s) And To Execute Contracts As Required.

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. 1917-24 pass emergency reading as read.

Discussion: Mrs. Reckard stated that this is necessary in proving that the Village is committed to participate with OPWC for the resurfacing of streets in the 2025 capital improvement project. It will be added to the application due this month.

Roll call:

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

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

Motion carried.

11. Legislation cont'd.

I. Emergency Reading Of An Ordinance To Make 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. Joynes – aye
Mr. Jones – aye

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

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Smith that Ordinance No. 3308-24 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.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

In the Fiscal Officer's absence, Mr. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$228,073.34.

I, Don Smith, Finance Chairperson for 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. Schmidt to accept the report from Finance Chair Smith given to him by the Fiscal Officer and to pay all bills as stated.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye

12. Fiscal Officer's report cont'd.

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Jones – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 7:04 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer