

McDonald Village Council  
October 23, 2025  
Regular Council Meeting

Staff: Police Chief Ryan Ronghi, Fire Lieutenant Trevor Willoughby, Attorney John Chaney, Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich, Fiscal Officer Stephanie Smith, and Office Manager Amy Cunningham.

Visitors: Patrick Mulligan, Kathleen Miskell, and Brian Bosheff.

Press: Bob Coupland, *Tribune Chronicle*.

1. The October 23, 2025 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 5:10 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – absent\*  
Mrs. Reckard – absent\*  
Mr. Metzinger – present

Mr. Joynes – present  
Mr. Jones – present  
Mr. Smith – present

\*Mayor Lewis stated that Mrs. Reckard and Mr. Schmidt are not in attendance due to work obligations.

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 8, 2025 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Smith to approve the October 8, 2025 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

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

Roll call:

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Lewis stated that everyone is dressed casual for the meeting since the Ram Roast is this evening. He encouraged everyone to attend after the meeting. Go Blue Devils!

Mayor Lewis was approached by two senior students, Rita Domitrovich and Juliana Krumpak, about having a Feed the Need Fun Run to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank. The event would take place Saturday, November 29 at 9:00 a.m. with a one-mile kids' fun run at the facility on Second Street. The event would be followed by an adult 5K which would start at the facility, go through the streets and end at the facility. This is their senior NHS project. This would be at no cost to the Village and all proceeds would benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank. Mayor Lewis is asking for Council's approval to allow them to have the event.

It was moved by Mr. Jones to allow the NHS students to have their fun run on November 29.

Roll call:

Mr. Jones – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis would like to remind residents that the old mill property is a construction zone and private property. No trespassing signs are posted. This is a dangerous site to be on. Not only will individuals risk injury but they risk arrest. The folks at AP McDonald plan to pursue any types of charges on anyone they find on that property.

Mayor Lewis stated that the Police Department has been short-handed for quite some time. Patrick Mulligan has been recommended by Chief Ronghi and Captain Caraway. He is a retiree from the City of Youngstown. Mr. Pat Mulligan comes with a great deal of experience. Mayor Lewis is asking Council for a motion to approve the hiring of Pat Mulligan as a full-time patrolman with the McDonald Police Department effective immediately.

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Joynes to approve the appointment of Pat Mulligan as a full-time officer in the Police Department.

Roll call:

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mr. Mulligan was sworn in by Attorney John Chaney.

6. Report of Village Officials:

**Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich** stated that the install of a new submersible pump is now complete. Western Reserve Mechanical put in new rails, a new pump, new hoses, and everything looks good. Mr. Domitrovich worked with an arborist with Davey Tree to identify which trees need remedied or removed.

**Police Chief Ryan Ronghi** stated no report. He thanked Council and the Mayor for appointing Officer Mulligan. The Department has been short for quite some time. They are excited to fill the position with somebody that has the experience of Officer Mulligan. Chief Ronghi wished the Blue Devils good luck.

**Fire Lieutenant Trevor Willoughby** stated no report.

**Office Manager Amy Cunningham** stated no report.

**Attorney John Chaney** stated no report.

7. Committee reports:

**Councilman Don Smith** stated that Caucus met this evening and the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, Council minutes, and legislation. November Committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, November 4. November Council meetings will be held on Wednesday, November 5 and Thursday, November 20. Also discussed was the hiring of Officer Mulligan and the Feed the Need Fun Run.

**Park & Buildings Mr. Jones** stated no report. He thanked everyone that came down to the Oktoberfest to help support the park fundraiser. Mr. Jones also thanked the many

7. Committee reports cont'd.

volunteers that spent most of the day helping. They worked hard and it definitely did not go unnoticed.

**Safety Committee Mr. Joynes** stated no report. He congratulated and welcomed Officer Mulligan.

**Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith** stated that he and President Pro Tem Schmidt met with Chief Ronghi, Captain Caraway, and some members of the school board last week. They were considering the possibility of a full-time SRO through the school district. They are looking at a lot of things. There is some apprehension on the part of the school board about what their finances are going to look like. Mr. Smith stated that the Village is working along with them to try to get them a reasonable number for what that might involve. They have asked that we have that information to them before their next board meeting in November.

**Service Committee Mr. Joynes** stated that the water tower is fully cleaned and there is a mixer installed on the inside. Painting has begun for the paving project on Dakota. Mr. Joynes is hopeful that the painting and tar sealing will be completed by next week.

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

**Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Smith** stated no report.

**Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Joynes** stated no report. He would like to wish the football team good luck. He also wishes good luck to all the fall sports in their post-seasons. Mr. Metzinger stated that Mineral Ridge is going to lose.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: Kathy Miskell, 841 Connecticut Avenue. Mrs. Miskell contacted Vortek Aquatic Structures out of Canada. The representative, Amy, confirmed that McDonald purchased the splash pad from them in 2015 but they did not have them install it. She stated that the splash pads are designed and manufactured for all ages and abilities. So, it is very unlikely that an older person would break it intentionally. With McDonald having a park supervisor, the student attendants, the Police and Fire Departments across the street, Mrs. Miskell does not understand why there is an age limit on the splash pad-just the splash pad. Any child can get hurt, any adult can get hurt. We have runners from other areas without having an age problem. The splash pad is only open eight to ten weeks a year. Mrs. Miskell stated that, when they go to other areas, families play in the splash pad and there has never been a problem. Never once has she seen a problem. When it was voted on, there was only one person that is here that voted on that because it was back in 2015. Mrs. Miskell is asking Council again, please. She is

8. Remarks from persons or groups present cont'd.

trying to be proactive. Mrs. Miskell is not trying to be mean or hurt anybody in McDonald. She just thinks it is ridiculous that other areas do not have any problems but McDonald seems to think there will be a problem. Mrs. Miskell does not understand that. It does not make common sense to her. Mrs. Miskell gave Council two suggestions: either have anyone over 13 be accompanied by an adult or just try it for two weeks a month. See if there is a problem having the older kids there. Mrs. Miskell does not think the older kids will want to be there. Mrs. Miskell stated that it is very frustrating. She is sure Council is frustrated with her saying the same thing every meeting. Mrs. Miskell feels this is the right thing for all the people in McDonald. She can not see why brothers and sisters that are a few years apart can not play in the splash pad together because of an age. It is ridiculous. You go any place else and they are there. The parents are sitting and watching. We have so much added security there with the Police and Fire Departments right across the street. How much more security do you need in a park? Mrs. Miskell hopes Council will think about it and get back to her.

Mayor Lewis asked Mrs. Miskell if she would like to see Council vote on this. She replied that, yes, she would like to hear why they will not vote on this. Mayor Lewis stated that this was a lengthy discussion in Committees that are in public minutes. Mayor Lewis stated that Mrs. Miskell was present for that. Mrs. Miskell stated that she was here but she did not hear anything. Nobody would put a motion up. Mayor Lewis told Mrs. Miskell that, if she would like to see Council motion this on the floor, he can ask them prior to the next meeting if someone wants to motion. If Council decides to vote to change it, that is what they are here for as a voting body. If they do not motion to change it, it does not change. Mrs. Miskell agrees. Mayor Lewis is trying to be helpful. Mrs. Miskell would love to see a motion. Mayor Lewis stated that there was about a 25-minute committee in which the splash pad was the sole focus of conversation. Mayor Lewis stated that Council is completely transparent. There are no secrets, there is nothing hidden. Nobody is trying to make underhanded decisions. Mayor Lewis is more than willing at the next meeting, to ask Council if they would be willing to vote. That does not mean Mrs. Miskell would get what she wants but, again, this was discussed at length as to why. Mayor Lewis is willing to do what he can as Mayor to help Mrs. Miskell's needs be satisfied or have her understand where everyone stands. Mrs. Miskell stated that, as long as the Mayor understands that, even if Council votes against it, she has the right to come back. Mayor Lewis stated that she can come back to every meeting. He encourages her to do so.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Second Reading Of An Ordinance To Make Temporary Appropriations For 2026 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 2026.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Jones – aye

Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

B. First Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Village Ordinance No. 3199-16 Regarding Water Rates And Authorizing The Village Administrator To Amend And Increase The Water Rates And Schedule Beginning December 1, 2025, Which Will Be Reflected In The First Billing In April of 2026.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Joynes – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Jones – aye  
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

C. First Reading Of An Ordinance For The Purpose Of Amending Previous Ordinance No. 3257-21 To Revise The Charges For The Operation, Maintenance, And Replacement Costs For The Use Of The Village's Wastewater Treatment Facility And Sewage System Effective December 1, 2025 Which Will Be Reflected In The First Quarter Of 2026 Billing In April Of 2026.

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

Roll call:

Mr. Joynes – aye

Mr. Jones – aye

11. Legislation cont'd.

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$61,750.44.

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. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Joynes at 5:36 p.m. All voted aye.

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Mayor

Attest to:

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Fiscal Officer