

McDonald Village Council
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
Re-Organizational Council Meeting

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

Visitors: Nick Kish, Linda Metzinger, Suzanne Livingston, Joe Midlick, Tracy Bosheff, Jack Miskell, Lee Evans and Stacy Foster.

1. The January 7, 2026 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:02 p.m.

1a. Oath of Village elected officials.

Councilwoman Reckard, Councilman Metzinger and Councilman Bosheff were sworn in by Solicitor Ross.

2. Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – present

Mrs. Reckard – present

Mr. Metzinger – present

Mr. Smith – present

Mr. Bosheff – present

3. Pledge of allegiance

4. Approval of the December 18, 2025 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the minutes as mailed.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt– aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Smith – aye

Mr. Bosheff – aye

Motion carried.

5. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to amend the agenda and add Executive Session under Miscellaneous.

5. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

7. Election to the following offices:

- President Pro Tem

It was moved by Mr. Smith to nominate Mr. Schmidt as President Pro Tem.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

-Planning Commission Representative

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to nominate Mr. Bosheff as Planning Commission Representative.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

8. Mayor's Yearly Appointments:

Mayor Lewis read his appointments into the record. See Attachment A.

8. Mayor's Yearly Appointments cont'd.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to accept the appointments as presented.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis read his appointments for Committees into the record. See Attachment A.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to accept the appointments as presented.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Lewis read his appointments for the Homecoming Festival Committee into the record. This will not be a public committee meeting as it only has one elected member of Council. It will be reported on at each of the Council meetings. See Attachment A.

It was moved by Mrs. Reckard to accept the appointments as presented.

Roll call:

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

9. Mayor Monthly and Yearly Financial report.

Mayor Lewis stated for the month of December, Mayor's Court had computer fund \$40 court costs \$132, Village revenue from fines \$320, Niles Municipal Court fines \$445 and parking tickets \$95 for a grand total of \$1032.00.

For the year 2025, Mayor's Court brought in costs \$10,364.00, fines \$6,407.00, fees \$226.60, and miscellaneous receipts \$7,099.30. The total to the Village was \$21,522.30, the total to the State of Ohio \$2,478.00 and the total to others \$96.60 for a grand total for Mayor's Court of \$24,096.90.

Mayor Lewis stated that the yearly building permit report is as follows:
There were 42 building permits issued with a total value of \$1,042,679.50 and fees of \$2,130 for 2025.

10. Mayor's Yearly Address:

Mayor Lewis reviewed the highlights of 2025. The Village hosted its first State Of the Village public forum in February. There was a facelift of the community room building. An annual paving project was completed. The park shanty was upgraded with funding from the Oktoberfest committee. The water tower upgrades and cleaning are still ongoing. The sewage plant had a large pump upgrade.

One noticeable difference has been the collaboration with the school since mid-2025. This began with the changes in the Board of Education and Superintendent position. The Village and school worked together to accomplish a great deal. Mayor Lewis is looking forward to how this relationship develops moving forward.

There were a couple great volunteer activities in 2025. Mr. Muckridge organized a clean-up day. Students at the school painted the fire hydrants within the Village. A new scoreboard was installed in the high school baseball field. The baseball association, the school and the Village worked together on this project. The Village welcomed two new businesses into the Village: P & D Power Washing and Painting and the Village Creamery. We had a successful Oktoberfest. The Homecoming Festival was the best we have had in decades. The Village finally has a fully staffed Police Department. The Fire Department is at record numbers that we have not seen in Mayor Lewis's tenure. We have over 30 grant applications for over \$1,000,000. We did not receive this amount but it is the most we have ever applied for. We are still waiting on several applications.

10. Mayor's Yearly Address cont'd.

Mayor Lewis visited several Mayor's conferences, meetings, etc. which included his visit to the State House. He plans to return and ask for some money in the capital budget.

Mayor Lewis stated that this is the most engaged Council that the Village has had in a long time. He gives them a lot of credit. Council has made some very difficult decisions in 2025. We all know that our budget is spending at a bit of a deficit and Council was stuck with some options. It is either we maintain status quo, cut services or proactively look at ways to generate revenue. Mayor Lewis believes that Council made the right choice. It was inevitable to pass on the cost of garbage. The Village was one of the last communities within the State that still paid that expense. This now falls on the resident and we are still one of the cheapest in the State. The income tax forgiveness may not be popular but is definitely necessary. Mayor Lewis is looking forward to what 2026 brings with Council.

There was the unfortunate demolition of McDonald Steel. The Village is working actively with the current owners and hoping to have a new business and final end-user in place.

11. Report of Village Officials

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich stated no report. He congratulated Mrs. Reckard and Mr. Metzinger who are both very functional members of Council. Mr. Domitrovich congratulated Mr. Bosheff as well.

Police Chief Ryan Ronghi stated no report. He echoed Mr. Domitrovich's sentiment. Chief Ronghi is looking forward to working with Mr. Bosheff and continuing to work with Mr. Metzinger and Mrs. Reckard.

Fire Chief Fred Marcum stated that there were 540 calls for service. Mutual aid from December 18 to January 6 were: four given, four received and Lane has been in the Village four times. The new ambulance is complete except for two brackets that hold one of the sirens on. They will not release the ambulance until the brackets are in. Penn Care is working with them to release the unit and get it to graphics. They will install the brackets when they come in. Chief Marcum is waiting on a decision from Medics for that. Chief Marcum welcomed Mr. Bosheff and congratulated Mrs. Reckard and Mr. Metzinger.

11. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

Office Manager Amy Cunningham welcomed Mr. Bosheff and congratulated Mrs. Reckard and Mr. Metzinger.

Solicitor Doug Ross congratulated Mr. Bosheff, Mrs. Reckard and Mr. Metzinger. In the last decade or so, the cohesiveness of Council has been really good and they work well together. Solicitor Ross is looking forward to continuing to work with such a good Council this year.

12. Remarks from persons or groups present: Lee Evans, 942 Parkside Place. Mr. Evans is the treasurer of the baseball association. McDonald has one of the largest groups in the Trumbull County area. Mr. Evans thanked the Mayor, Council and Mr. Domitrovich for all the help they have given over the years. Mr. Domitrovich and his employees go above and beyond with helping to maintain the fields and getting them ready to play. The baseball association was able to put some money back into the fields last year. They are taking on most of the material cost while the Village employees provide the work. Mr. Evans appreciates this. The baseball association has also had some financial challenges. Mr. Evans stated that they have had to raise the cost for participation. The baseball association is looking for ways to generate revenue and reduce costs. They would like Council to consider allowing them to host a post-season tournament. It would be held in the middle of July. This would be a softball tournament. There is a large demand for tournaments in the area. The baseball association is hopeful that they can use the revenue to reduce the fees for existing players and families and also to continue to invest in the fields. Mr. Evans is willing to discuss this in Committee Meetings if Council would consider it.

Mayor Lewis stated that our Parks and Buildings Chair, Mrs. Reckard, will contact Mr. Evans if this is something Council would like to discuss in Committees.

13. New Business: none.

14. Miscellaneous:

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to enter into Executive Session at 6:28 p.m. to discuss the appointment of a public official with no business to follow.

14. Miscellaneous cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Smith – aye

Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Smith to exit Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Smith – aye
Mrs. Reckard – aye
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye
Mr. Metzinger – aye

Motion carried.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Bosheff at 7:23 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer