

McDonald Village Council  
May 6, 2026  
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.

Visitors: Kathleen Miskell and Lynn Miller.

1. The May 6, 2026 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Ray Lewis at 6:12 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. Schmidt – present  
Mr. Metzinger – present  
Mr. Bosheff – present

Mrs. Reckard – present  
Mr. Smith – present  
Mr. Sanson – 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 April 22, 2026 Council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to approve the April 22, 2026 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

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

Mrs. Reckard – aye  
Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

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

Roll call:

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

Mrs. Reckard – aye  
Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report- Mayor Lewis stated that, for the month of April, Mayor's Court fund, computer fund \$60, court costs \$99, Village revenue from fines \$350, Niles Municipal Court fines \$325.40 and parking tickets \$50 for a grand total of \$884.40.

Mayor Lewis stated that, with the house explosion in Girard last week, there has been an effort with the local mayors to get this issue brought up at the Statehouse. There is very little we can control as a Village but, hopefully, we can get our State and Federal legislators involved in regulating. Mayor Lewis stated that our thoughts go out to the family that lost their home.

Mayor Lewis made the trip to Columbus for the bicycle helmets that the Village was awarded. He is working with Chief Ronghi and Mr. Jones at the grade school. Village Creamery has gotten involved as well. Next week, the Cop Cones Program will be launched. In addition, Mayor Lewis drove to a data center while he was in the Columbus area. He got out of his car, stood and listened and took a couple videos. He encouraged everyone to do this themselves. Mayor Lewis's observation was pleasant. There was no noise. He heard birds chirping. There were houses being built within 500 feet of the data center. Again, Mayor Lewis is not trying to sway thoughts. He encourages folks to educate themselves on these developments. Also, Mayor Lewis did his own research on electric rates in New Albany where the data center was located. He got on Apples to Apples. There are a lot of mistruths out there and Mayor Lewis encourages people to educate themselves with the facts. It is hard to find facts unless you really look for them yourself. With that being said, there has been a great deal of work behind the scenes with setting some parameters and zoning restrictions for these types of businesses should one decide to set up shop within the Village. As it stands now, Mayor Lewis does not believe there are any communities within our area that have restrictions in place. We can only control what we can control. That includes setbacks, noise levels, light pollution, buffering, etc. We cannot control their power use or if they get their water from the river. That is the EPA and utilities. Mayor Lewis stated that he, Mr. Domitrovich, Mr. Bosheff and Solicitor Ross have been working on preparing what may be the final draft that could come to Planning Commission in the very near future. This will protect us. We will make sure the public is well aware. There will be public hearings and comments. Mayor Lewis stated that he knows some folks will see this in the minutes and think that the Village has plans. There is no secret behind the scenes. Mayor Lewis stated that, if somebody knows something to let him know. Again, he is welcome to business down there. His number one priority is residents first. At the end of the day, we need to get business down there. If we do not have commerce in this Village, we will not have a

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

Village. That is a very real fact. When your school and your Village are your number one and number two employers, that does not bode well.

Under the recommendation of Chief Marcum, Mayor Lewis would like to promote Alex Williams from probationary firefighter to full firefighter status.

It was moved by Mr. Schmidt to move Alex Williams to full firefighter status.

Roll call:

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

Mrs. Reckard – aye  
Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

Motion carried

Mayor Lewis stated that the Village is still searching for park attendants. He is asking everyone to recruit. He is hoping to appoint park attendants at the next meeting. Mayor Lewis still has not made a decision on scholarships. The assembly will be held on May 21.

6. Report of Village Officials:

**Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich** stated no report.

**Police Chief Ryan Ronghi** stated that there were 154 calls for service and 21 traffic stops in the month of April. He also discussed how the bicycle helmets would be distributed in the grade school. Chief Ronghi stated that he would get rules out to the parents. The F.O.P. is giving three \$500 scholarships this year. One recipient is a Girard student. Chief Ronghi discussed some issues with the 911 center. There is a meeting on May 12 with police chiefs in the area, Trumbull County Commissioner Tony Bernard and a member of the 911 committee. Chief Ronghi will keep Council informed.

**Fire Chief Fred Marcum** stated that there have been 196 calls to date. Mutual aid from April 22 to May 5 are six given, none received and Lane has responded twice. Chief Marcum commended the Fire Department for their response to a fire in Weathersfield. To date, there have been 69 patients transported, charges are \$69,723 and revenue is \$24,563. The equipment from the State Fire Marshal's grant has been ordered. Chief Marcum and Matthew Ellis from KO have applied for the Norfolk Southern and State

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

Farm Safe Neighborhoods grants. Chief Marcum stated that the permit to burn the building for a controlled burn has been approved by the EPA.

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

**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, firefighter probationary period, Timeclock Plus and the Flock camera contract. Mr. Schmidt thanked Mayor Lewis, Solicitor Ross and Mr. Domitrovich for all their efforts to make sure things are what they are supposed to be and that it is safe for everyone if something were to come to fruition.

**Parks & Buildings Mrs. Reckard** stated that the applications for park attendants have been opened up to the juniors. Mayor Lewis challenged Council to reach out to any students that they might know regarding park attendants. The park opens the first week of June, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Hopefully there will be Saturday hours too. Mr. Schmidt will train the park attendants in CPR. Kim Schmidt and Mr. Domitrovich are working on the Memorial Day service which will take place on Monday, May 25 at 1:00 p.m. Council members are encouraged to attend. Mrs. Reckard is working on finding a guest speaker for that day. She also thanked all that are doing the work to make sure the Village has regulations in place.

**Safety Committee Mr. Schmidt** stated that there was a discussion on the AFG grant for a fire truck. That has been put on hold. There is also a mini grant for a heart monitor. Chief Marcum will get some more information on that and whether there is a match. Mr. Schmidt stated that Chief Marcum may be selected to be a reviewer for AFG grants. There was a discussion to allow him to go, if he is selected for this. Mr. Schmidt spoke with Chief Marcum about the QR code for the resident survey. The four spots for the Flock cameras have been determined. They will be put in place for a trial. Mayor Lewis picked up 60 bicycle helmets. There was a discussion on how they would be distributed to the kids. Mr. Schmidt stated that the quotes for Police Department cruisers were provided. Discussions will continue on this.

**Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Smith** stated that the renovations to the Police Department should be happening alongside the construction at the school. Solicitor Ross

7. Committee reports cont'd.

brought everyone up to date on the resolution to proceed. We are hoping to have this available for Council's consideration at the next meeting.

**Service Committee Mr. Metzinger** stated that there is a second reading of the cybersecurity ordinance. There was a discussion on the EPA violations. Mr. Metzinger emphasized that this is not a water quality violation. Scott Verner from MVSD contacted the Village on the progress with the dam. The paving project should be ready to start by the beginning of July.

**Planning Commission Mr. Bosheff** stated that Planning Commission plans to meet about the data center legislation soon. He thanked Solicitor Ross and Mr. Domitrovich for their work on this legislation.

**Levy Exploration Committee Mr. Smith** stated that this meeting was combined with the Finance Committee. He had no further report.

**Homecoming Festival Committee Mr. Schmidt** stated that everything is going smoothly. They are still working on bingo.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: Lynn Miller, 924 Ohio Avenue. Mrs. Miller is hoping that, if the cameras go in, it will help with the dirt bikes. There are a tremendous amount of dirt bikes racing and police are racing after them. Chief Ronghi does not know if it will help with that. The cameras are license plate readers. Ms. Miller is just worried about someone getting hurt. The speed they are going is beyond even doing wheelies. Chief Ronghi is aware and he hopes this helps with that as well.

9. Old Business: none.

10. New Business: none.

11. Legislation:

A. Second Reading Of An Ordinance Adopting A Cybersecurity Program In Accordance With Ohio Revised Code Section 9.64.

It was moved by Mr. Metzinger that the resolution pass second reading as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Metzinger – aye

Mr. Schmidt – aye

11. Legislation cont'd.

Mrs. Reckard – aye  
Mr. Bosheff – aye

Mr. Smith – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

Motion carried.

B. First Reading Of A Resolution Adopting The Alternative Tax Budget Of The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, For Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2027, And Submitting Same To The Trumbull County Auditor.

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

Roll call:

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

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report:

Mrs. Smith stated that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$137,891.17 suspending the \$2,688 payment to Timeclock Plus pending the Solicitor's review.

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 and approve the amount of \$2,688 pending review.

Roll call:

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

Mr. Schmidt – aye  
Mr. Metzinger – aye  
Mr. Sanson – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: none.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Sanson at 6:43 p.m. All voted aye.

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Mayor

Attest to:

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Fiscal Officer