

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION

Held: December 18, 2012

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:04 P.M. in the McConnelsville Village Office. Mayor John W. Finley called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Councilman Tom Bragg	Present
Councilman Rhett Matheney	Present
Councilman Terry Robison	Present
Councilman Mark Dille	Present
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

**EMPLOYEES:** Chief of Police Troy Copeland, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Solicitor David Tarbert

**VISITORS:** Fred Smith, Jim Rex, and Gene Voytko

#### **Invocation**

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Minutes of December 4, 2012**

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Bills of the Village**

Councilman Robison made a Motion to approve the bills, seconded by Councilman Matheney.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

##### **Public Participation**

Mr. Jim Rex addressed Council regarding water problems at the fairgrounds. Mr. Rex stated their bill has increased tremendously; and, it appears they are using more water this time of year than normal. They feel there is a problem and they are not sure if it is the

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meters or if there is a leak. They are requesting assistance from the Village to find the problem.

Village Administrator Thompson stated this is the first he has heard of it as no one has called, or come to the office regarding it. Village Administrator Thompson stated he will send the guys down to check the meters and help narrow the problem down.

Mr. Fred Smith from MS Consultants wished everyone a Merry Christmas. He addressed Council regarding the past year; there was just one project and they feel it went very well. The Sewer Project came in under budget; and the \$10,000 retainer was spent in about half a year.

Councilman Bragg stated it was nice working with them this year; everything went well.

#### **Mayor John W. Finley**

Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from the OEPA with the annual sludge report. If anyone wishes to see a copy of this report, please contact him.

Mayor Finley reported he also received an OEPA report dated 12/7/2012. This letter was addressed to the Village Administrator and if anyone wishes to see it, please let him know.

Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from ODNR regarding a Nature Works Grant for the swimming pool. We have been awarded \$8,859.00; it must be approved by the State of Ohio Controlling Board on January 14, 2013. This Grant will cover swimming pool improvements of installing an access lift and fresh paint.

Councilman Matheney stated we currently have one ramp and by the end of 2013, we will be required by code to have two. This will allow us to fulfill our requirements.

Mayor Finley stated each Council Member has been given a letter from Chris Christie and John Wells in reference to the Clarence R. Hess property. Mayor Finley stated since the Village does not have the funds to pursue this he went to the County and discussed it with them. They do not have the funds either, so we would like to see it go back to Mr. Hess.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he has met with the Commissioners and Prosecutor Howdyshell. The issue we are running into is the County can give back their portion; unfortunately the Village cannot. We would have to declare it excess property and bid it out if we wanted to get rid of it prior to it reverting back to Mr. Hess; our only option is to let the time frame run out.

Mayor Finley stated at the last meeting it was questioned as to how many parking meters were in the Village; the number is 103 meters.

It was noted the Streets and Alley Committee will review adding a street light in the Kendlewood Subdivision.

#### **Resolution 12-40**

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 12-40 to be passed on emergency, A RESOLUTION REDUCING THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place on emergency measure, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

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Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to adopt Resolution 12-40 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 12-40 was duly adopted.

#### **Resolution 12-41**

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 12-41 to be passed on emergency, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND.

Councilman Matheney made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Dille.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to adopt Resolution 12-41 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 12-41 was duly adopted.

#### **Village Administrator John Thompson**

Village Administrator Thompson reported the asphalt part of roof is completed. They did find some slate that needs repaired; that is what Council passed the Resolution for earlier this evening. We are going to try and get it covered with the grant money; we will know more tomorrow.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the sidewalk on the Eighth Street bridge is completed.

Village Administrator Thompson reported our Issue I project only received 60 points instead of 75 at the District level; that put us in a tie for the last funding spot. We will probably not be funded in 2013 for paving; however, we can reapply for the same project with Small Governments in January. Small Governments normally only do water and sewer projects; but, we will still apply for it.

Village Administrator Thompson reported we have a problem with the storm sewer separation. Once we closed the outfalls it has created backing up of water in front of Braggs Furniture Store; it is flooding our sewer system. We are doing research to evaluate where the problems are at, we have to put at least one CSO back in.

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Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from Ohio Municipal League. On February 6, 2013 there will be a Legislative Luncheon at the State House Atrium. The cost is \$50 for the first person and \$25 for each thereafter; if anyone wishes to go they are welcome, just let him know.

#### **Chief of Police Troy Copeland**

Chief Copeland thanked Councilman Robison for adding the anonymous tip line to our website. Chief Copeland stated anyone can go online and give an anonymous tip; it will go directly to the Chief's e-mail and it is totally anonymous. Chief Copeland stated he hopes this will be used.

Chief Copeland reported the old cruiser that did not sell is going to Fire House to be chopped up for training; and, then we will send it off to the scrap yard.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she has had a couple people complain about the cops sitting by the fairgrounds without any lights on. She questioned if this was legal.

Chief Copeland stated Ohio Law only mandates they have marked cars; they do not have to have their lights on.

Mayor Finley reported he has had several positive comments on more patrolling in the village.

#### **Fiscal Officer Ellen Hemry**

Fiscal Officer Hemry gave Council a copy of her November report. Mayor Finley noted we are well within our budget this year and thanked Fiscal Officer Hemry and everyone for keeping expenditures under control this year. Mayor Finley stated we have all worked well together this year.

Mayor Finley stated he received a book from Opera House Inc. It is a quite involved study and review of now, soon after, and down the road. Mayor Finley told Council he will leave it on his desk for them to review at their convenience.

#### **Recreation & Buildings Committee**

Councilman Matheney reported the pool is off and running; the heat is on.

Councilman Matheney reported himself, Councilman Bragg; and, Councilman Dille attended the last Park Board Meeting. He stated it was a good meeting. Councilman Matheney reported the Oscar Roberts Youth Foundation donated \$3,000 to replace the grinder pump. Councilman Matheney stated as long as that foundation continues to receive monies, they have agreed to donate money each year to the Park for day-to-day maintenance. The dollar amount donated each year will be based on what is brought into the fund that year.

The next Park Board Meeting will be held on January 29, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in Malta Council Chambers.

#### **Public Utilities Committee**

Councilman Bragg reported the next Joint Utility meeting will be held on January 14, 2013 in Malta Council Chambers.

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#### **Finance Committee**

Councilwoman Gessel reported the Tax Committee met today; monies collected year to date are up \$9,653.91. As of the end of November, we have collected \$364,126.93.

Councilwoman Gessel stated the Uniformity issue is on hold until January; with the change in the General Assembly, maybe we won't take as big of hit.

#### **Technology and Website Committee**

Councilman Dille stated he is going to get an additional license for another e-mail address at a cost of \$4 per month, or \$48 per year. This will allow us to produce a better calendar on our website. It will cost the Village just under \$900 for 15 licenses; this billing comes due in February.

#### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Robison.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

The meeting was adjourned till January 8, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. at the McConnelsville Village Office.

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John W. Finley  
Mayor

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Ellen M. Henry  
Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Village of McConnelsville concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.