

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION

Held: February 17, 2015

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 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 Darrell Newton	Present
Councilman Terry Robison	Present
Councilman Mark Dille	Present
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

**EMPLOYEES:** Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Solicitor David Tarbert

**VISITORS:** Carol Morris, Fred Morris

#### **Invocation**

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Minutes of February 3, 2015**

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

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, 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 questioned how the K9 and other expenditures relating to the K9 were being made. He was concerned that tax payers money was funding the K9 when donations were to be the source to acquire the K9.

Fiscal Officer stated the donations are being deposited into the General Fund under a special line item specifically set up for the K9; as the expenditures are being made through the special line item. Fiscal Officer Henry stated the K9 Fund is being run through the General Fund as approved by the State Auditor's; and, she has a written legal opinion from Solicitor Tarbert.

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to approve the bills, seconded by Councilman Newton.

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Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Abstain; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Abstain; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

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

Mayor Finley reported on the current status of the K9 fund donations and raffle sales.

Mayor Finley stated being the largest municipality in the County; he has been appointed to the District 18 OPWC District Committee and has appointed the Village Administrator as the alternate.

Mayor Finley reported he met with Steve Williams from the Ohio Department of Transportation regarding several items around the village. Mr. Williams has been very diligent with trying to help with many things. Mayor Finley asked Mr. Williams for help with the Stop and Go traffic lights; especially the ones at the new bridge. Mayor Finley stated this was a large expense for the village earlier this year when the cables broke. Mayor Finley would like to see the lights removed from the cables and put on poles. Mr. Williams is working on grants and trying to help Malta as well. He is trying to replace the lights on both ends of the bridge and have them interconnected so they would work together to help the flow of traffic. Mayor Finley stated he wants to thank Mr. Williams publically for helping us on this.

Mayor Finley stated Mr. Williams is also trying to get a bike path/walking trail grant through the State. This would be along the river on the McConnelssville and Malta sides; the State would administer and take care of this grant.

Mayor Finley reported Chief Copeland left a report from a K9 in a neighboring community. He passed it around for Council to view. Mayor Finley stated it is a one year report; and, lists the statistics of the drug cases over the past year that the K9 was involved in.

Mayor Finley reported Officer Weyant has been spending some of his own time with different handlers.

#### **Ordinance 15-05**

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-05, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS, EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS; AND, INCREMENT PAY FOR WATER AND SEWER LICENSES.

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to pass Ordinance 15-05 on the second reading, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

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

Ordinance 15-05 passed on the second reading.

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

Village Administrator Thompson stated he received three (3) State of Qualifications for the Engineer Project(s). They were from MS Consultants, Burgess & Niple, and; ADR. Village Administrator Thompson stated he would review these and bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

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Village Administrator Thompson stated he has begun filling out the Safe Routes to School Grant. He run into a snag and had to meet with the Grade School Principal. She now has the paperwork and is working on their part; it is due by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has found two used Pelican Sweepers in Twinsburg. They were previously leased to the City of Akron. Village Administrator Thompson is going to contact the City of Akron to find out the history on them; and, go look at them himself. The cost will be \$75,000. He and the Fiscal Officer have discussed several different scenarios on how to purchase it.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has a meeting scheduled with our Insurance Company to do a risk assessment on the Village.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has laid out an office plan for the new Council Chambers/Mayor's Court. If Council wishes to see the current plans, he can take them over after the meeting. Village Administrator Thompson stated he is planning to have it framed in within the next two weeks; and completed within the next three weeks to a month. He is trying to complete it before weather gets better and the crew has to start working outside.

Councilwoman Gessel stated last fall the Council approved to purchase fencing to put around the Fourteenth Street building.

Village Administrator Thompson stated it was never purchased; however, it will be one of the first items to complete this spring.

Councilman Newton questioned how the building for the chlorine room was coming along.

Village Administrator Thompson stated they are still working on it at the Fourteenth Street building.

Councilwoman Blackburn questioned the dumpsters sitting along the road.

Councilman Bragg stated one is already gone.

A brief disucssion was made on possibly preparing an ordinance to regulate this in some way.

Mayor Finley stated he also has a similar concern with regards to parking of people working on businesses. They come in and get a hood for the meter and they could have it for a week or a month. Mayor Finley stated he would like to see it tightened up and maybe require them to get a permit to do this.

Councilwoman Gessel stated she has received a request from someone for the Village to purchase new nets for the Tennis Courts.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he will check into the condition of the current ones.

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

Councilman Newton reported Village Administrator Thompson is going to speak with Teresa Brannon to see if she is still interested in being the Pool Manager; and, advertise for life guards.

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#### **Streets & Alley Committee**

Councilman Dille reported the committee met on Wednesday February 11, 2015 and discussed adding additional parking meters. Councilman Dille stated at this point and time the committee is suggesting we do not pursue it. Councilman Dille stated he would like the other council member's opinion. Council concurred with the committee's decision.

Mayor Finley suggested putting in two hour parking signs for Monday through Friday during certain hours.

Councilman Dille stated he will stop in and talk to the business owner.

#### **Public Utilities Committee**

Councilwoman Gessel reminded everyone the Joint Utility Committee will be meeting on February 23, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in Malta Council Chambers. Councilwoman Gessel stated she would appreciate any council member to attend that is able to.

#### **Finance Committee**

Councilman Robison discussed the Village's penalty if they pay their water bill late verses the penalty the Village residents pay if they are late.

Mayor Finley stated he did not wish to see the penalty rate changed.

#### **Public Safety Committee**

Councilwoman Blackburn stated the Street Crew doing a great job keeping the streets cleaned.

Councilman Bragg stated if the residents could move their vehicles off the streets; the crew would be able to get back further when cleaning them.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she would like to see business owners clean their sidewalks better.

Councilman Robison stated he again saw individuals having difficulty getting to the sidewalk to feed the meters.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned if we had ordered more salt.

Village Administrator Thompson stated not yet.

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

Councilman Robison reported he has been researching Microsoft Pro3; and stated Dell has some that are cheaper. He will get pricing and get with Councilman Dille. Councilman Robison stated they have also been discussing a Server.

Mayor Finley stated he doesn't see the advantage of a Server; the expense verses the gain and what big benefits it would have and where we would get the funds to purchase one.

Councilman Dille stated he would schedule a meeting and go over that with Mayor Finley.

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Councilman Robison reported he recently found out the Homeland Security Grants which counties had a lot of success with over the years are now regional grants. The counties will not be receiving them individually, they have to go together with other counties to apply; and, one county would administer it.

#### **Adjournment of Meeting**

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

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

The meeting was adjourned till March 3, 2015 at 6:00 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.