

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: July 21, 2015

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:15 P.M. to 7:40 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	Absent
Councilman Mark Dille	Absent
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

EMPLOYEES: Chief of Police Troy Copeland, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Patrolman Victor Weyant

VISITORS: Jay Cordray, Jessica Sabine, Shannon Wells, Shayna Roberts, Judy Ray

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

Excuse Absent Council Member

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to excuse Councilman Dille and Councilman Robison from the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of July 7, 2015

Councilman Newton 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; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

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

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

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Public Participation

Shannon Wells addressed Council regarding the Capital Bill Grant that was awarded for the Opera House in the amount of \$400,000. In order to spend that money, she had to find another \$400,000. Mrs. Wells applied for an ARC Grant; it went before Columbus yesterday and she received the official word today that they have been approved \$179,656. Mrs. Wells stated she can get another \$200,000 from CDBG funding making up the total needed to match the Capital Bill money. They have a cost estimate from RVC for \$779,000; this will cover everything from structural repairs to foundation work that needs done at the theatre.

Fiscal Officer Henry questioned if this would be state or federal monies. Mrs. Wells stated the Capital Bill Grant is state money; however, ARC and CDBG will be federal money. Fiscal Officer Henry stated we needed to keep all of this in mind; if we spend \$750,000 in Federal Grants in a years time, we will need a Single Audit.

Mayor Finley stated yes, that can get very costly.

Shannon Wells and Shayna Roberts (Coordinator for the Tourism Office) addressed Council regarding a new autumn outdoor event they are planning to try and help the downtown and local businesses. Mrs. Wells would like approval to close the Square.

Mayor Finley stated closing the square is always a disaster and a lot of work. Mayor Finley questioned if the closing of Kennebec Avenue from the Stop Sign at the Square to Liberty Avenue and use the Court House porch and First National Parking Lot would work. Mayor Finley stated the Village wants to support this and it sounds like a great event; if alternate places do not work; we would definitely support the closing of the Square.

Mrs. Wells stated they will discuss this and come back to Council.

Mayor Finley brought to Mrs. Wells attention the expense the Village is looking at for future water projects that was brought to the Council at the last meeting.

Mrs. Wells stated she seen that; however, CDBG does not like to repair and won't fund maintenance projects. They would do the water line project as long as there are matching funds in place. Mrs. Wells stated water line replacements are easy grants; however, they are a 50/50 grant. Mrs. Wells stated if we replaced the tanks instead of painting them that she could get grant monies for that. If the Village wished to go that route, she would apply for the Grant in 2016 and the money would be received in 2017.

Mayor Finley stated the Village Administrator is looking into that now. Mayor and Council were concerned if the tanks could go that long.

Jessica Sabine, Chief Marketing Officer from Shriver's Pharmacy addressed Council regarding an event to be held at the Pharmacy on July 29, 2015. Ms. Sabine stated they wanted to create an event to promote Samo, the Village's K9. Officer Weyant will be doing drug search demonstrations; a Pharmacist will be getting into the bite suit; and, there will be free food, refreshments and free dog treats. They would like to see the Village involved, introduce Samo to the community; and, show how the Police Department and the Pharmacy are working together to fight drugs in our community.

Councilman Robison entered the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

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Judy Ray, resident of the Village questioned, "What is the definition of the Mayor and Council regarding the water bill."

Mayor Finley stated we have a water and sewer ordinance and that is what we have to go by.

Ms. Ray stated we should know if it shows "0" consumption that the property is vacant and she should not have to tell us it is vacant.

Village Administrator Thompson questioned if Ms. Ray came in and told the Water Clerk the property was vacant.

Ms. Ray stated she did not; that the previous renter did.

Village Administrator Thompson stated per Village Ordinance the property owner has to report vacancies to the Village in order to get the vacant rate.

Ms. Ray stated she did not have to do that in the past.

Mayor Finley stated the current ordinance came into effect in 2013; and, that is what we have to go by until it is changed. Mayor Finley pointed out in the ordinance the section on vacancies and explained it to Ms. Ray.

Mayor Finley stated he and Council will review the ordinance and take it under advisement.

Ms. Ray questioned what she should do with her current bills.

Mayor Finley stated they need paid.

Mayor Finley reported John Krikbride has volunteered his labor to work repairing the tennis courts and trimming the shrubbery. Mayor Finley stated the Village will pay for the materials. Mayor Finley stated Mr. Kirkbride is doing a really nice job; and, thanked him for his service.

Mrs. Shannon Wells asked for a Resolution to officially apply to the ARC, CDBG and Capital Money funding program.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he would like to have the Resolution prepared for Council to view before passage; rather than to pass on title only.

Mrs. Wells stated that would be fine.

Fiscal Officer Henry will prepare a resolution for the next council meeting.

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from MidEast Ohio Building Department; information was provided to Council in their packets regarding building permits.

Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from John Wells resigning from the Park Board. Mayor Finley stated he will need to find a replacement.

Mayor Finley reported Village Administrator Thompson wrote a letter to Steve Williams regarding the trial period on the traffic light.

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Mayor Finley stated Village Administrator Thompson received a letter from Ohio Public Works in regards to our Sewer Separation Project and he will let him elaborate on that.

Resolution 15-12

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 15-12, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND.

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

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

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adopt Resolution 15-12 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

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

Resolution 15-12 was duly adopted.

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported US Bridge has been working on the Fourth Street Slip and may be completed by the end of the week or first of next.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the boat docks are finished.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the lights were installed in the Council Chambers last Friday. Village Administrator Thompson stated it has really made an improvement; they have started the trimming out today.

Mayor Finley questioned if we could have our next meeting there. Village Administrator Thompson stated we have to deal with the chair situation.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he received the agreement from Ohio Public Works in regards to the next Phase of the sewer separation. He will need to get it signed and send it back in so the funding will be secured. Village Administrator Thompson stated the Revitalization money is ready to go, so we just have to decide when we want to take the loan out for the rest of the project.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he attended the Joint Solid Waste Meeting and they are redoing their policy. This must be done every fifteen years.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he received a letter from the State in regards to the Safe Route to Schools Project. Unfortunately the Village did not receive any grant money.

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Village Administrator Thompson reported he has been contacted by the Engineers on the water towers. Replacement cost of the Stand Pipe is \$600,000 and the Hawk Tank would be around \$700,000 to \$800,000.

Village Administrator Thompson asked permission from Council to purchase three prepaid credit cards in the amount of \$750 each. One would be for the Sewer Treatment Plant; Water Department and Sewer Department.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to approve the purchase of three prepaid credit cards for a total of \$2,264.85; seconded by Councilman Newton.

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

Fiscal Officer Henry has permission to cut a purchase order and purchase three prepaid credit cards.

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland reported Liberty Avenue will be closed from Kennebec Avenue to Seventh Street on July 29, 2015 from 5:30 to 7:00 for Samo Day.

Mayor Finley reported he thought he had a good deal on a police cruiser from Holstein and Associates; unfortunately it sold today.

Mayor Finley stated one of the cruiser's light bars has two power packs out of it; each one costs \$700. Mayor Finley stated he hated to put that kind of money into an old car and would like to find something to replace it with.

Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilman Newton reported Pool Manager Brannon has placed signs up requiring children to put their shoes on before going into the bathroom. Councilman Newton stated she is not having any problems of slipping with shoes being worn.

Councilman Newton stated the new pool signs have not been delivered yet. Councilman Newton reported the pool parties are beginning to start up good.

Councilman Bragg stated in looking over the balance sheet for the pool; he feels we are fortunate the income is where it is at with the weather being bad so far this year.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Bragg reported on the street in the Sandy Bank Addition. Councilman Bragg stated if we cannot get the trash trucks out of there, we won't be able to do anything with it.

Councilman Robison reported the Streets and Alley Committee met regarding putting gravel down on an alley; however, they are going to hold off since that alley will soon be tore up for a construction project.

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Finance Committee

Councilman Bragg reported he, the Village Administrator and Fiscal Officer met with the Health Insurance Agent today. If the Village keeps their current plan there is a 26.4% increase. Councilman Bragg stated we could change the deductible to drop the premium some; however, if we go to another newer plan, we will not be able to get back into the plan we are currently in and it is a very good plan. Councilman Bragg stated he would like to see the Village stay with the current plan and meet with the employees to explain that next year the deductibles could go up if the premium continues to increase at such large jumps. Council has the month of August to decide what they wish to do as the premium renewal is September 1, 2015.

Public Safety Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn reported she will be having a meeting tomorrow night at 6:00 P.M. to go over the Curfew Ordinance.

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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

The meeting was adjourned till August 4, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at the McConnelsville Village Office.

John W. Finley
Mayor

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.