

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: March 19, 2013

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 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 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, and Solicitor David Tarbert

VISITORS: None

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of March 5, 2013

Councilman Matheney made a Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, 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.

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to approve the bills, 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.

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley reported he joined the Ohio Valley Mayor's Association today. This will be a good way to network with Mayor's in other communities. Mayor Finley is hoping to get a lot of good information out of this.

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Mayor Finley reported he spoke with a lady today from the Utility Commission. She wants to meet with the Mayor in regards to things in Ohio; and, would like the opportunity to meet with Council also.

Councilwoman Gessel reported Congressman Steven Stivers will be at the Lincoln Day Dinner Saturday Evening at the American Legion.

Mayor Finley reported he recently heard from Inger Mitchell with Ashland Oil. They have the remediation proceeds to start digging up the dirt at the old Ashland site; they will be taking soil out and having it tested. This project is to begin within 30 days. Their plans are to refurbish the old gas station; however, they haven't decided what they are going to do with the other building yet.

Mayor Finley reported Village Administrator Thompson is representing the Mayor at a meeting in Caldwell this evening.

Mayor Finley stated Chief Copeland is finishing up his probation period today. All of Council concurred that Chief Copeland is doing a good job.

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to appoint Troy Copeland as Chief of the Village of McConnelsville Police Department, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

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.

Questions were brought about as to why the "Ahead Signs" located on the Stop signs (on the Square) were removed.

Mayor Finley stated he had a Court Case that was challenged; and, in talking with the State we found that they should not be displayed there. The State is going to come in and put up a sign stating "Stop for Crossing Traffic".

Questions then arose as to where people were to stop at when approaching the Square. Chief Copeland stated you only have to stop once at the stop bar, not the stop sign; you do have to yield to people crossing the crosswalks.

Ordinance 13-04

Ordinance 13-04, AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH WATER AND SEWER RATES. This Ordinance is still tabled for additional information for completion.

Ordinance 13-08

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 13-08, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ALLEY WEIGHT LIMITS.

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

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Councilman Matheney made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 13-04 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.

Ordinance 13-08 was duly adopted.

Village Administrator John Thompson

In Village Administrator Thompson's absence, he has given a report to Council. *See attached.*

Councilman Bragg reported on the meeting with John Rauch. Mr. Rauch took all of our information back with him; he will work up figures and is to be back with us by the end of March. Councilman Bragg stated there is a free software program from the EPA called C.U.P.S.S.; this program will help in calculating rates needed in the future. Mr. Rauch stated we should raise rates an average of 3% each year for inflation.

Mayor Finley reported Terry Mayle with Morgan-Meigsville stated they found a substantial water leak where they have been losing water for several years. With this finding their water consumption should decrease greatly, along with our percentage from Malta should go down.

Mayor Finley reported the Village Administrator is preparing to apply for a CDBG Grant to purchase a generator for the McConnel Run Pump Station.

Mayor Finley stated Village Administrator Thompson also has a cost sheet prepared for Council. *See attached.*

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland thanked Council for their vote tonight and will continue to do the best he can for the position.

Fiscal Officer Ellen Hemry

Fiscal Officer Hemry stated she hopes this new report will clarify things a little more for Council; and, reduce any confusion.

Fiscal Officer Hemry reported February month to date expenditures and revenues; and, year to date expenditures and revenues, as follows:

General Fund month to date expenditures \$39,406.79, revenue \$55,675.26; total increase of \$16,268.47; year to date expenditures \$81,108.26, revenue \$81,568.98; total increase \$460.72.

Street Fund month to date expenditures \$4,841.73, revenue \$4,884.33; total increase of \$42.60; year to date expenditures \$8,018.18, revenue \$11,399.30; total increase of \$3,381.12.

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Water Fund month to date expenditures \$14,083.11, revenue \$41,493.22, \$7,410.62 of that amount came from Morgan Meigs; total increase of \$27,410.11; year to date expenditures \$28,791.60, revenue \$78,100.63; total increase of \$49,309.03.

Sewer Fund month to date expenditures \$24,713.02, revenue \$48,499.55, \$9,622.26 of that amount came from Malta for Joint Sewer Operations and Maintenance; total increase of \$23,786.53; year to date expenditures \$50,158.43, revenue \$108,820.43; total increase of \$58,662.00.

Water Capital Projects Fund month to date revenue \$2,380.06; year to date revenue \$4,429.19. To date, we have not begun expending out of this fund.

Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilman Dille reported he had a Recreation Meeting last Thursday with Teresa Brannon, Councilwoman Blackburn, and Village Administrator Thompson in attendance. Councilman Dille reported Ms. Brannon is having problems finding a place to train lifeguards. Councilman Matheney stated he has found a place; therefore, everything has since been resolved.

Councilman Dille stated Ms. Brannon was questioning the concrete slab at the Pool; and, when it would be put in. Village Administrator Thompson had stated at the meeting he will get it as soon as the money is available.

Councilman Dille reported Ms. Brannon is getting new signs made for the Pool. The Pool will be closing at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday this year to enable extra time for parties.

Councilman Dille stated Village Administrator Thompson will be hiring the lifeguards with Ms. Brannon's guidance. Councilman Dille stated there is a question regarding 40 hours and paying Seasonal Worker's overtime. Solicitor Tarbert is reviewing this, and will bring his findings back to the next meeting.

Councilman Matheney stated he is going to get with Village Administrator Thompson regarding the ordering of the new ramp for the pool.

Councilman Bragg reported the next Park Board Meeting will be held on March 26th at 7:00 in Malta's Council Chambers.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Matheney suggested each of Council to walk our alleys. Councilman Matheney stated they are in bad shape.

Mayor Finley stated we are going to repave and repair some of them this year through the Distress Grant. Mayor Finley stated we are looking at purchasing a paving box to do some of our own alleys.

Councilman Matheney stated we need to go around when it is raining and look at streets and see where the water is running down and onto resident's properties.

Village Administrator Thompson entered the meeting at 7:33 P.M.

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Economic Development Committee

Councilwoman Gessel reported she met with Mike Workman on annexation. Mr. Workman stated a petition would be needed to begin the annexing process. Mr. Workman urged her to meet with John Wells as he has done research regarding this in the past. Mr. Workman commented if Council moves forward with this, it will be the best thing Council has ever done for the Village of McConnelville.

Mayor Finley stated he would like Mr. Workman to attend a Council Meeting and explain what he has worked on and where he is at so far.

Councilwoman Gessel stated Mr. Workman has put a lot of work into this and has very good plans and ideas.

Finance Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn reported the Tax Committee met today; as of the end of February revenues are down from last year. Councilwoman Blackburn reported Fiscal Officer Henry is in need of an office so she can work in privacy with residents regarding their taxes; and, in auditing returns. This is a large liability issue for the Village if any information would be viewed or overheard. Councilwoman Blackburn stated Fiscal Officer Henry has previously discussed this concern with the Mayor. Councilwoman Blackburn stated she realizes we do not have much room; but, this is something we have to think about and hopefully rectify.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned if the Police Department could move next door; and, then that would open up the basement offices. Councilwoman Blackburn stated we also have discussed partitioning off part of the Village Administrator's Office for the Police also; then, the Fiscal Officer and Mayor could both have offices in the basement.

Public Safety Committee

Councilman Bragg reported we still need to keep in mind the properties in town regarding property maintenance.

Technology and Website Committee

Councilman Robison reported he has updated the Website with Park information.

Other Business

Village Administrator Thompson stated Council will see on his report Tim Bragg is now the responsible person in charge of the water system. Village Administrator Thompson stated this has nothing to do with Damon Drake's performance; it is just best to have the person working on the water system be the license in charge.

Councilman Dille questioned if Mayor Finley had met with Deana Clark. Mayor Finley stated yes, he relayed all the information to her regarding the rental of the office space; and, she is taking the information to the other parties and is to get back with him.

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Adjournment of Meeting

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adjourn, 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.

The meeting was adjourned till April 2, 2013 at 6:30 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.