

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: May 6, 2014

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:14 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: Chief of Police Troy Copeland, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, and Village Administrator John Thompson

VISITORS: Anne Deliman, Carol Morris, Fred Morris, Teresa Brannon

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of April 15, 2014

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

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to add the billing from Malta Village in the amount of \$12,993.74, 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.

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to approve the bills with the addition of the billing from Malta Village, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

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.

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Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation

Council signed off on the April Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation.

Public Participation

Ms. Anne Deliman, owner of The Paw Print addressed Council regarding an Open House she will be having on May 17th. Ms. Deliman stated she had already received permission from Mayor Finley to close Riverview Lane from South Tenth Street to South Ninth Street between the hours of 2 P.M. to 8 P.M. and wanted to thank everyone for that. Ms. Deliman questioned if she needed anything to block off the road.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he will get the road closed signs ready for the event.

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley passed information around for Council to view regarding Time Warner's merger.

Mayor Finley reported April Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$5,095.06; Morgan County Treasurer - \$332.50; Treasurer of State - \$1,052.50 for a total of \$6,480.06. Mayor Finley reported April Income Tax receipts as \$82,601.70. Mayor Finley reported April Parking Meter receipts as follows: Fines - \$205.03; Meters - \$1,343.39 for a total of \$1,548.42.

Mayor Finley reported he was in receipt of a letter from the M & M Jaycees asking for permission to close the Square for the Cruise-In on June 14th from 12 P.M. until 8 P.M.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to allow the closing of the Square for the Annual Cruise-In, 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.

Fiscal Officer Henry will get a letter out to them letting them know of the approval.

Mayor Finley passed information around for Council to view regarding Buckeye Hills upcoming meeting.

Mayor Finley reported he recently met with the Architect and reviewed cost estimates and plans for a new Village Hall. Mayor Finley has the plans here for Council to review after the meeting. Mayor Finley stated he and Council will need to sit down and discuss these and to see if we can apply for any grants if Council wishes to proceed with this project.

6:22 P.M. – Teresa Brannon entered the meeting.

Ordinance 14-13

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 14-13, AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE TRADE OF THE PROPERTY.

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Councilman Bragg 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; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-13 on emergency measure, 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 14-13 was duly adopted.

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported a Preconstruction Meeting was held today on HVAC for the Opera House. The Bid opening is the 19th of May at 2:00 P.M. in the Commissioner's Office. Village Administrator Thompson stated it should be installed and in place by the end of August.

Village Administrator reported there was an incident on Fourth Street; Councilman Newton went with him to view the problem. The hill has slipped where the Gas Company had done work last year; it has been turned over to them and their Engineer is to come look at it.

Village Administrator Thompson reported Shannon Wells will be at the next council meeting to discuss the Distress Grant and the surveys that were sent out. At this time she will have proposed projects for Council to look over and select. We will apply for this grant the end of May or first of June.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the Engineers are working on the Sewer Separation Project; hopefully we will have a closer estimate on it, so we can start applying for grants.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the crew has started working on getting the pool ready for the summer. Everything is backed up due to the weather.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he will be getting an estimate for a plastic lining for the pool floor to seal up the cracks; may be able to put this through the Distress Grant.

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland reported the month of April was very busy for the Police Department. They had 47 traffic citations; 11 Misdemeanor arrests; and, 60 traffic stops.

Chief Copeland stated he is putting in for a Grant for some equipment for the Police Department. The deadline is May 14th. He is applying for \$17,000 for in car cameras that includes audio when outside of the vehicle; it also includes a wireless server to download photos remotely.

Chief Copeland reported he has contacted Noble County Jail Monday to see if they could house some of our inmates. Chief Copeland stated Regional Jail charges \$60 per day to house an inmate; whereas, Noble will house them for \$50 per day. Chief Copeland stated we took three prisoners over tonight for the first night of housing.

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Mayor Finley stated we are not only doing this to save money; but, it is a closer safer drive for the Officers. Nelsonville is full a lot of times; and, the criminals are beginning to know this.

Chief Copeland stated it is hard to find a jail to take females. He has made some calls to Zanesville to see if we can have a space for them up there.

Chief Copeland stated the entire County has two spaces at Regional; and, we can rarely house one there.

Chief Copeland had the following reports:

1. A drunk driver knocked down a Speed Limit sign at the Intersection of Seventh and Eighth Streets; he was found guilty tonight and was ordered to pay restitution.
2. There was a home burglary; with the theft of a pistol; case is under investigation.
3. Braggs Furniture had a U-Haul stolen.
4. Two intoxicated men were arrested for stealing lawn chairs at Kroger at 1:30 in the morning.
5. An Officer attempted to stop vehicle on State Route 78 for speeding; they fled going at a rate of speed over 100 mph. That vehicle crashed on Mummey Road; the passenger was hurt. The driver was convicted.
6. There was a felonious assault case on Halcyon Avenue.
7. A juvenile was punched and given a broken jaw on Halcyon Avenue; charges are pending.
8. Officer Weyant has been attending a class this past Monday and Tuesday for Advanced Roadside Impairment.
9. Chief Copeland will be attending a Taser Instruction Class in London this Thursday and Friday. He will then be able to teach other officers the use of a Taser.
10. Officer Scott McClain is scheduled to work three days a week; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
11. We had two Officers on patrol Prom Night. There were not problems and everything went well.

Councilman Bragg stated he heard a complaint on kids and Eighth and Bell being disrespectful.

Councilman Bragg stated he also had a complaint last evening from Malta Mayor Hill that Officers are driving inside the Park on the walking trail.

Chief Copeland stated he has told them to patrol over there as much as they can. He will check into whether or not they are driving on the walking trail.

Teresa Brannon, Pool Manager, stated including the Assistant Manager she has a total of six applications for Lifeguard. She questioned when she could start interviewing and hiring,

Mayor Finley told her to get with the Village Administrator to schedule the interviewing and hiring.

Ms. Brannon stated there are only four Lifeguards coming back; the other two are new and just graduated last week.

Ms. Brannon stated she already has the pool rented out; she is in contract with the Seventh and Eighth Grade Class parties.

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Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilman Robison questioned what we were going to do with the office front next door; advertise?

Mayor Finley stated he was waiting to hear what Council decides to do.

Councilman Dille reported he has talked to James Hoskinson; he has nets for the baseball facility (at the Park). These will help the building from being hit with the balls.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he received a phone call this week regarding a grant that has expired. It was applied for in 2011 for putting greens at the Park for \$10,000.

Village Administrator Thompson reported we also have another Grant outstanding for the lift chair and painting at the pool for around \$8,000. The painting was completed with other monies; and, he was waiting for a report from the Historical Society in order to complete it.

Village Administrator Thompson stated we have a couple options; repurpose the money and ask for extensions on each Grant or turn it back in and it will go back to Morgan County to be reapplied for. Village Administrator Thompson stated if we repurpose the money and ask for an extension we will lose points when it comes around to be applied for again. He does not know to what extent it would be.

Village Administrator Thompson stated since we were the only applicants, we do not have to use the money for the putting greens; nor, the lift chair.

Discussion was made on some improvements that could be made at the Pool with the money.

Mayor Finley asked Council what did they wish to be done; repurpose the money on both grants, or turn it back in.

Village Administrator Thompson reminded them this was a 75/25 grant.

Councilwoman Gessel asked Village Administrator Thompson what his recommendation was. Village Administrator Thompson stated he hated to see money go back.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to repurpose the money on both Grants; and, ask for an extension, 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.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he will get back to Council on the details after he has discussed it more with ODNR.

Village Administrator Thompson reminded Council we also currently have an ODNR Grant for the boat docks.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Newton stated he has scheduled a Streets and Alley Committee Meeting on May 12th at 6:00 P.M. to be held here in Council Chambers.

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Councilman Newton requested not to receive a bill sheet in advance; to just receive it when they came for the meeting since it normally has to be updated.

Mayor Finley stated the reason for it coming out in their packets was to give them time to review the bills more thoroughly and bring any questions they might have to the meeting.

Councilman Newton stated in reviewing our Water Agreement with Malta, our late penalty is five percent; we currently have a ten percent penalty to our Village Residents that are late. Councilman Newton does not feel our residents should pay a higher penalty than the Village itself would if paying late. Councilman Newton asked the Public Utilities Committee to review this matter.

Councilman Newton stated there is an amendment to our current Income Tax Ordinance he feels is not right and would like to see it repealed. This matter was turned over to the Finance Committee for review.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned if we have an Ordinance pertaining to handicap scooters. It was noted just through the Ohio Revised Code.

Councilwoman Gessel stated she has been receiving complaints about their yards where the Gas Company completed work last year. It was noted they would need to contact Columbia Gas if they have a complaint.

Councilman Robison stated he has received a complaint regarding the lot at Ninth and Union.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she has received a complaint of rats and creatures coming in and out of a house by the Library.

Mayor Finley stated they will need to address this with regards to the Property Maintenance Ordinance.

Economic Development Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn reported there was another meeting regarding the "Festival". Those in attendance were Ginny Bond, Michele Lockwood, and herself. They are looking to get a sponsor for a band up and place it on the Courthouse stairs; hold the parade later in the evening; and, then the fireworks later in the night. They are working on and receiving donations.

Councilwoman Blackburn wanted to remind everyone the Extravaganza is at the end of the month.

Public Utilities Committee

Councilman Bragg reported the Joint Utility Committee met yesterday evening.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the UV is up and running at the Sewer Treatment Plant.

Finance Committee

Councilman Robison stated he will check his schedule and then set up a Finance Committee Meeting.

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Technology and Website Committee

Councilman Robison reported the lady with Relay for Life has sent information to him and he has added it to our Website. Councilman Robison stated he will bring the survey results with him to the next meeting.

Other Business

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilman Newton 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 May 20, 2014 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.