

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: May 7, 2013

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:30 P.M. to 8:41 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	Absent
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

VISITORS: Gretchen Blazer with Public Utilities Commission of Ohio; Mike Workman with Morgan County CIC; Alex Hastie, Attorney for Wing Slingers

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of April 16, 2013

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

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

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

Councilman Matheney entered the meeting at 6:34 P.M.

Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation

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

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Public Participation

Gretchen Blazer with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio addressed Council regarding the electric choices available. Ms. Blazer gave a packet to council explaining the price to compare. Ms. Blazer stated the potential savings is basically on half of your billing not the full bill. PUCO has an apples to apples chart on electricity to help you choose your electric supplier; not all of the companies will allow you to be on the budget. Ms. Blazer stated each contract is very different; ask questions to make sure you are doing what you want to do. If there are any questions, she stated individuals could call PUCO and they would assist them. (Packet attached)

Alex Hastie, Attorney for Doug Spurlock; WingSlinger's addressed Council regarding the transfer of a liquor permit. Mr. Hastie asked Council to consider the application so Wing Slinger's could be reopened on Main Street at the same location they were. Mr. Hastie stated they would employ approximately fifteen employees; thus, putting money back into the community. Mr. Hastie said if approved; it will be up for renewal each year as all permits are.

Councilman Bragg questioned what type of liquor permit this was. Mr. Hastie stated it was a D-1; D-2; D-3; and, a D-6. The license is currently so they can be opened until 1:00 A.M.; however, they will be applying for a 2:30 license. It was questioned what a D-6 Permit was; and, they were informed it was for Sunday Sales.

Councilwoman Blackburn thanked him for coming and explaining this to Council as there had been a lot of questions; and, now they know what is going on.

Mayor Finley stated he thought only so many licenses could be approved. Attorney Hastie stated that is no longer true, you used to only be able to transfer within a Village; and, now you can transfer from City to City.

Mike Workman, the Executive Director of Morgan County Community Improvement Corporation addressed Council regarding annexation. Mr. Workman stated he was here at the invitation of Councilwoman Gessel.

Councilwoman Gessel thanked him for coming. Councilwoman Gessel stated Council has been discussing annexation and thought Mr. Workman could advise us the steps that will need taken; and, she was interested in the TWP 209 Plans.

Mr. Workman stated he was not Legal Counsel; therefore, this was coming from a strategic planning point of view, not a legal point of view. Mr. Workman stated there are a lot of questions that would be better answered by Legal Counsel.

Mr. Workman stated CIC is an organization that looks for ways to promote opportunities to stabilize the community; create and retain jobs; and, provide an economic base for the community.

Mr. Workman reported in 2010, CIC engaged the Rural Community Assistance Program to come and look at our community to get a feel for what assets we have and what we should be building on. As a result of that work, Mr. Ben Kinney with RCAP built a Strategic Plan for the County. Some of the issues and goals for the community was to support and plan infrastructure.

Mr. Workman stated there is a lot of potential and opportunities for the Village to expand its corporation limits. If we were able to expand them; it could invite more opportunities for businesses to become established if they had water and sewer services. Mr. Workman said we as a community need to try to encourage our younger generation to stay here; build and invest in our community.

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Mr. Workman stated McConnellsville is an unusual Village along the River; other villages have a lot of empty store fronts where we still have ours occupied. Mr. Workman stated we don't want to lose the character of our Village; and, this could possibly be done through zoning.

Mr. Workman stated with Township Road 209, the CIC has the idea to develop an Innovation Center for Entrepreneurs to come and learn how to start a business; this would be a training center and also a place to start the business. If they are successful in doing this; they would be able to offer to our younger generation the ability to learn how to start their own business. Mr. Workman stated this is several years away before it could be completed.

They have also been looking at combining Muskingum County Business Incubator to work as a hub and spoke system; share resources with them. Mr. Workman stated there is still a lot of work to do yet. It would help us to maintain our human capital.

Mr. Workman stated they would be interested in annexing the remaining part of the CIC property into the Village.

Mr. Workman thanked Steve Williams with ODOT for helping to make Township 209 into a State Route. They have two-thirds of the road replaced and will be completing the additional one-third in the very near future.

Mr. Workman stated for the long term, a concern he has is that we don't trap ourselves into isolation in Morgan County. Mr. Workman stated we have fairly limited resources to start; if we were able to connect a pipe from McConnellsville to a regional line we would not be isolated with our water situation.

Councilman Bragg questioned if the CIC owned any land on the other side of TWP 209. Mr. Workman stated that land was owned by AEP.

It was noted the Village would need two-thirds of the property owners to agree to the annexation.

Mayor Finley questioned if there was anything the Village could do to help CIC or anything they can do to help us.

Mr. Workman stated the attitude of CIC is planning and problem solving. They want to have an openness and collaborate with other entities. If we pull together we have an enormous potential. In order to make us stronger and better takes collaboration.

Mr. Workman stated if council needs help in any way please come and discuss it with them. They have access to resources at State and Federal levels. It takes a community and a village to raise a child. If we don't pull together we are not going to be doing that.

Mr. Workman stated CIC meets the second Thursday of every month in his office.

Mayor Finley asked how the members are chosen and how long are the terms were for. Mr. Workman stated they are one year terms; under Ohio Revised code three-fifths of the board are filled by the Public or Appointed Officials and two-fifths are from the Private Sector. They are elected by the board themselves; if anyone is interested let him know.

Councilman Robison requested a listing of the board members. Mr. Workman stated he would get that sent out to them.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned if they wished to proceed with any annexations, would our first step be to get an Attorney. Mr. Workman stated yes; it is very involved.

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Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley announced Finley Fire's Open House will be on May 19th from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Mayor Finley reported April Income Tax receipts as \$68,919.93. Mayor Finley reported April Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$4,081.00; Morgan County Treasurer - \$101.00; Treasurer of State - \$1,262.00 for a total of \$5,444.00. Mayor Finley reported April Parking Meter receipts as follows: Fines - \$310.00; Meters - \$1,770.27 for a total of \$2,080.27.

Mayor Finley reported the latest Water Billing from Malta has been passed out to the Committee.

Mayor Finley reported he received a request from the M & M Jaycees to close the Square on June 8th 2013 from 12:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. for the Walter Dalzell Memorial Cruise In.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to approve the closure of the Square from 12:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. for the Walter Dalzell Memorial Cruise In; 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.

Ordinance 13-04

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

Village Administrator Thompson reported he just received the last of the information from John Rauch; he will get it together and take to the committee.

Councilman Bragg set a Public Utility Meeting May 16, 2013 at 1:00 P.M.

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported the concrete pad at the pool has been poured and they have started preparing it for opening day. They will finish caulking it tomorrow and begin painting on Thursday.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he submitted the ODNR Nature Works Grant on May 1, 2013. If received, we will be able to put in thirty to forty feet of boat docks.

Village Administrator Thompson reported EPA has approved the plan for the UV at the Waste Water Plant. The Engineers are working to get the advertisement ready; and, hopefully it will be out to bid next week. Village Administrator Thompson stated he had to put in a request to extend the time frame for the Grant since we needed to use it for leverage with the Distress Grant.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the Gas Company is getting ready to begin laying pipe. They are starting on North Fifth; then they will proceed to Union and move on to Bell. Village Administrator Thompson stated the Village is saving thousands of dollars as they are videoing our sewer lines as they go; and, getting the information to us. This will

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give us a better understanding of our lines; and we will have maps along with cards notating where the lines are and their depths.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has received a quote for the flat roof of the Opera House. His plans are to have it installed by June. The Cultural Society is being absorbed by another agency; therefore, he would like it completed before this happens.

Village Administrator Thompson reported we are beginning the Distress Grant work. Due to needing three different Engineer quotes; things will be prolonged a few more weeks; however, we have plenty of time. He would like to begin with the heating and air conditioning of the Opera House; complete the paving in the fall; and, the sidewalk later on in the summer.

All of Council commented they like the look of the new globe and lighting. Council would like to see the lighting extended throughout the town.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with the Finance Committee Friday evening along with two insurance agents to discuss their insurance offers and quotes. Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with Wells Fargo on Monday.

Village Administrator Thompson gave a recommendation letter to Council, recommending the Village stay with our current carrier.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she was very impressed with our current Agent and the coverage's offered by his company. Councilman Dille concurred.

Councilman Matheney made a Motion to accept the Village Administrator's proposal and retain Kinder Insurance Agency/The Ohio Plan as our Property and Liability Carrier; 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.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he wanted to make Council aware that he gave the Mayor a letter recommending we hire Teresa Brannon at Pool Manager again for the 2013 Season. He would like to hire her part-time now so she can begin ordering supplies, hiring staff; and, officially act for the Village. He is recommending Tricia Nesselroad at \$7.50 per hour as Assistant Manager.

Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilman Dille reported he e-mailed to Council a listing of the properties he thinks needs attention. Mayor Finley stated he would submit the list to Chief Copeland.

Councilman Dille stated the parking lot at the Kiwanis-Jaycees Park has low storm drainage. Councilman Dille stated he has currently cleaned them out; however, he and an EZ Grout employee are going to build them up.

Councilman Dille made a Motion to de-annex the curve in the road on TWP 209; but, not the State Garage Property, 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 Finley will contact them and to let them know of Council's decision.

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Village Administrator Thompson stated he would need to get a legal description and have an Ordinance drawn up for Council to pass at the next Council Meeting.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Bragg mentioned the trash trucks are still traveling areas they are not supposed to be in. Mayor Finley stated he would discuss this matter with Chief Copeland.

Economic Development Committee

Councilwoman Gessel reported there were several people retiring that have been a big benefit to our community. She noted some as: Dr. Richmond, Dr. Leeper, Mrs. Blythe Schubert and Sara Hurst.

Councilwoman Gessel also brought attention to Council that The Breathing Room has closed; this will be a big loss to the Village.

Public Utilities Committee

Councilman Robison stated he should have something to bring to Council regarding the Water and Sewer Ordinance after the Committee meeting on the May 16, 2013.

Finance Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn scheduled a Special Tax Committee Meeting on May 21, 2013 at 3:00 P.M.

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilman Robison made a Motion to adjourn, 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.

The meeting was adjourned till May 21, 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.