

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: February 2, 2016

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:07 P.M. in the McConnelsville Village Council Chambers. Mayor John W. Finley called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Councilman Tom Bragg	Absent
Councilman Darrell Newton	Present
Councilman Terry Robison	Present
Councilman Mark Dille	Present
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Diane Offenberger	Present

EMPLOYEES: Chief of Police Troy Copeland, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Solicitor David Tarbert

VISITORS: Jay Cordray, Shawn Shannon

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

Excuse Absent Council Member

Councilman Robison made a Motion to excuse Councilman Bragg from the meeting, seconded by Councilman Dille.

Votes were: Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Diane Offenberger, Aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of January 19, 2016

Councilman Robison made a Motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Dille.

Votes were: Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Diane Offenberger, Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

Councilman Newton made a Motion to approve the bills of the previous meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

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Votes were: Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Diane Offenberger, Aye.

Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation

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

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley reported January Parking Meter receipts as follows: Fines - \$275.00; Meters - \$1,568.62 for a total of \$1,843.62. Mayor Finley reported January Income Tax receipts as \$45,229.87. Mayor Finley reported January Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$3,046.00; Morgan County Treasurer - \$83.50; Treasurer of State - \$669.50 for a total of \$3,799.00.

Mayor Finley reported in the month of January we billed for 3,624,298 gallons of water and 3,393,581 gallons for sewer. Morgan Meigs was billed for 2,041,100 gallons of water. The top five water users were Trilogy, Schilling Apartments, McConnel Manor, East School; and, McDonalds. The total billing consumption was 5,665,398 gallons with a total loss of 533,602 gallons.

Councilman Bragg entered the meeting at 6:05 P.M.

Mayor Finley reported Council has received correspondence on training from Ohio Municipal League for newly elected council. We also received information from the President of OMCA; they are offering some of the required classes, with one of them being in New Lexington. All of Council was given this information.

Mayor Finley reported he received a request from the Reenactor's Association to close the Square. Mayor Finley stated after the last event Council had a discussion regarding there were not a lot of people here for the event and the closing of the Square hurt a lot of business owners. Mayor Finley stated he would like to work with the Reenactor's Association to find an alternate location. Mayor Finley stated one alternate place could be either the Court House lawn; or, the Village would be willing to let them use the Wharf Park Parking Lot. Mayor Finley stated another concern is the paper that is left on the ground after they blow the guns and cannons. Mayor Finley stated he is not opposed to the reenactment; and, it is good for the community. Mayor Finley requested the Fiscal Officer to write them back and ask for any alternative ideas and let them know of our concerns.

Village Administrator Thompson stated maybe we would be able to close the side streets as we done for Heritage Day.

Mayor Finley stated that is another alternative idea.

Ordinance 16-01

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 16-01, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS; EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION; EMPLOYEE BENEFITS; AND, INCREMENT PAY FOR WATER AND SEWER LICENSES for the third and final reading.

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Councilman Robison made a Motion to pass Ordinance 16-01 on the third and final reading, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

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

Ordinance 16-01 was duly adopted.

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported he attended the Small Governments Meeting last week; the tank painting project scored better than he anticipated. The Village made the cut, so it has moved on to Columbus for the state wide competition. Village Administrator Thompson stated over the last year, anything that has been submitted by our district has been funded; so he feels there is a good possibility that we will obtain this zero percent loan. Village Administrator Thompson stated the State will be meeting on May 5, 2016.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with Burgess & Niple about the creek bank at the swimming pool. Village Administrator Thompson stated the bank is eroding and they are concerned it is getting too close to our sewer line. He is estimating the cost to replace it with the village crew doing the work to be around \$20,000; if we hire it out he feels it will be closer to \$50,000.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with AEP about the service at Tenth and Main; they informed him the pole that fell down is their pole. They will be replacing the pole, so that should bring our costs down significantly. Village Administrator Thompson stated all AEP poles connected with the Village are on our contract, so we are paying "rent" on the poles.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he received an estimate of \$44,000 to put a lining in the base of the pool from OP Aquatics. Village Administrator Thompson stated he is going to contact Astro Pool and see what the concrete mixture is for the base; we may be able to dig it out and pour concrete ourselves. Village Administrator Thompson stated they would not begin this project until the pool closes for the season.

Mayor Finley stated the Pool Manager would like the amount of the estimate, as she wishes to work on some fund raising for it.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with Shannon Wells today and they are putting together another proposal for additional funding for the next round of the State Capital Budget. The State Representative that was here a few weeks ago highly recommended we put in for more funding; the remaining cost of the project will be around \$133,000; this is what we will be applying for.

Village Administrator Thompson stated we received \$400,000 this year; the project cost is around a million dollars. The state committed \$400,000 and Mrs. Wells is working on securing another \$400,000 for the match money.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the Village will have to incur some expenses; he does not know how much. Village Administrator Thompson stated he feels to receive \$800,000 in grant monies to help secure this building is worthy any type of investment the Village might have to put into it.

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Fiscal Officer Henry noted that the State Capital money is reimbursable; therefore, since the Village does not have that in their funds they will have to secure a loan in that amount and then pay it off as we are reimbursed. She noted she will be coming to Council with emergency ordinances at times for this process.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he checked with OP Aquatics today regarding purchasing a new pump for the baby pool. He will check with the County to see if they have any CDBG funding to help with this expense.

Village Administrator Thompson gave all of Council a copy of the Capital Projects he anticipates on doing in 2016, listed below.

CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2016

WATER

Replace pump at Kennebec pump station	\$ 25,000.00
Painting Standpipe	\$ 251,000.00
Hawk - Kennebec interconnect	\$ 100,000.00
Replace roof at 14th St.	\$ 12,000.00
Total	\$ 388,000.00

SEWER

8th - 9th - 10th Street sewer separation	\$ 1,100,000.00
7th storm sewer (bridge at creek back to Jefferson)	\$ 100,000.00
Clarifiers at sewer plant	\$ 170,000.00
Replace roof at 14th St.	\$ 14,000.00
Creek bank stabilization at pool	\$ 50,000.00
Total	\$ 1,434,000.00

OPERA HOUSE

Capital bill, ARC, CDGB	\$ 850,000.00
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RECREATION

New filter for baby pool	\$ 10,000.00
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TOTAL ALL DEPARTMENTS

Water	\$ 388,000.00
Sewer	\$ 1,434,000.00
Opera House	\$ 850,000.00
Recreation	\$ 10,000.00
Total	\$ 2,682,000.00

Village Administrator Thompson stated the Opera House project may roll over into 2017.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the equipment for the Sewer Plant clarifiers will be shipped February 5th.

Mayor Finley stated he and the Village Administrator met with the Chief of EPA. She came into the area to introduce herself; and, it gave them a chance to discuss some of the Village's concerns and needs.

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Mayor Finley reported he met with Joy Padgett, Deputy Director of EPA for the state and Kathleen Young from Governor Kasich's office. Mayor Finley stated he is still trying to secure funding through any loans or grants to build a new Village Hall. They see our need and will continue to work and try to help us.

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland reported the Dodge Durango is finally repaired and back on the road. It had a few transmission problems after the body work was done; however, it is all taken care of now. The Insurance Company has paid all of the vendors.

Chief Copeland reported the State has come out and mandated for more training for Police Officers starting this year. Chief Copeland stated previously they had to do four hours of training annually; this year it will be eleven hours; and, it will increase up to forty hours a year in the future.

Chief Copeland reported he has recently purchased and added Bitdefender on all of the police computers. Chief Copeland stated he had a few licenses left so it can be put on the Village Administrator's and other office computers.

Chief Copeland stated he was recently invited to Main Street Church of Christ to give a presentation on drugs; they also wanted a presentation on scams, so he had Officer Fisher with the Morgan County Sheriff's Office present that. Chief Copeland stated he wanted to thank the Church for giving them the opportunity and they appreciated the meal.

Councilwoman Offenberger questioned if the increase in training hours was online or hands on training.

Chief Copeland stated it will be both. They currently have scheduled an eight hour class to be taken in either Zanesville or Marietta; and, the other three hours will be taken online.

Councilwoman Offenberger questioned if we paid their wages the day they go to training. It was noted yes we do.

Chief Copeland reported there is currently a scam going around in the County. He is stating that he is Deputy Harris from the Morgan County Sheriff's Office and there is a warrant for you and they need the money or they will come arrest you. When you call the number back, they actually have an answering machine stating it is the Morgan County Sheriff's Office. Chief Copeland stated Sheriff Jenkins called him back; the number was from Gallipolis, Ohio. The number is disconnected as of today.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he is going to purchase a new computer for his office. He will be combining two computers; therefore, it will be fairly expensive as he needs a lot of memory and ram. Village Administrator Thompson stated he met with Jeff Babcock, an IT person and got all the specs from both computers and found out what he needed to purchase.

Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn reported the Pool Manager could not attend the committee meeting that was held on January 26th. Councilwoman Blackburn stated they went over things that needed repairs. There is still one life guard chair that needs fixed. They are discussing the cost of renting the pool for parties; reimbursement for life guard training; fund raising projects; and, getting the ads in the paper for hiring.

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Mayor Finley noted the slip is at the pool; but, it is not the pools slip. It could be a problem for the pool if we did not get it fixed; however, our concern right now is the sewer line. Mayor Finley stated the lights at the pool are poor and in bad repair, they do not work well and it costs a lot to work on them. Mayor Finley wanted to make sure we look for funding for these items as well; and, for the second diving board that Councilman Newton has brought up previously.

Councilman Dille reported Kevin Morrow contacted him and the next Park Meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in Malta's Council Chambers.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Dille stated he noticed some cars were not parking at the old grade school as they should.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she did not see a problem with them parking that way when there was a funeral.

After a brief discussion, Council stated maybe the Funeral Home would want to put signs up when there was a funeral for parking there.

Councilwoman Offenberger stated she and Councilman Newton has discussed possibly placing pennants or flags on the streets downtown and possibly putting flower baskets on the poles for a beautification project.

Economic Development Committee

Councilwoman Offenberger reported the committee met on the 26th. Councilwoman Offenberger stated she had met with the Village Administrator earlier in the day regarding annexing on up State Route 60 for the business owner. Councilwoman Offenberger stated it is come to a consensus that we do not annex at this time; to wait until we can go further up. Councilwoman Offenberger stated they felt there were too many legalities and hands in the pot to do it right now.

Public Utilities Committee

Councilman Bragg reported the committee met and discussed the water and sewer ordinance. They are going to look at it again; however, they need to sit down with the Village Administrator and go over it.

Councilman Newton stated he appreciated that as the way it is wrote up now, the increase could go on forever.

Councilman Bragg reported the next Joint Utility Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 21st at 7:00 P.M. in Malta Council Chambers.

Public Safety Committee

Councilman Robison stated he wanted to commend the Village Crew for the good job they done on the snow removal.

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Mayor Finley stated he has had discussion with the Village Administrator in regards to the old dump truck. We are beginning to have challenges in getting parts for it; and, we need to look at replacing it down the road.

Technology and Website Committee

Councilman Robison reported he has added the new water and sewer rates to the website. He has prepared a computer usage ordinance and will send it to the Solicitor for review.

Adjournment of Meeting

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

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

The meeting was adjourned till February 16 , 2016 at 6:00 P.M. at the McConnelsville Village Council Chambers.

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.