

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: November 17, 2015

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:28 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	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, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Foreman Tim Bragg

VISITORS: Jay Cordray, Cory Scott, Diane Offenberger, Larry Cordray, Shawn Shannon

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of November 3, 2015

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

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to approve the bills, 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.

Public Participation

Mr. Cory Scott addressed Council regarding decorating the three trees in front of the apartment building he lives in.

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Village Administrator Thompson stated there is nothing he is aware of that would prevent him from doing so.

Councilman Newton made a Motion to allow him to use the Village's electricity, 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 Motion Carried. They cautioned him to be careful when doing so; and, to make sure there were no extension cords across the sidewalk.

Mr. Larry Cordray addressed council stating he had a couple of issues he would like to discuss with them. Mr. Cordray's first concern was the parking on East Jefferson Avenue where the old school house used to set. Mr. Cordray stated the larger dual cab trucks stick out into the lane of traffic making you have to go into the left lane when turning onto Jefferson from State Route 78. His other concern was parked cars by Shrivvers on Liberty Avenue. There have been close calls when they back out into traffic. Mr. Cordray suggests parallel parking.

Mayor Finley thanked Mr. Cordray for bringing his concerns to Council, turned the matter over to the Streets and Alleys Committee for review; and, to bring a recommendation back to Council.

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley stated as all were aware, the traffic lights fell down at Tenth and Main Street. The poles rusted off at the ground and they fell down, we had previously checked the poles; however, you could not see it from the outside as they rusted from the inside out. Mayor Finley stated no one or nothing was hit other than the ground. Mayor Finley stated the Village Administrator has been in contact with Jess Howard Electric and they should have the estimates in within the next couple of days.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he thinks the cost will be between \$15,000-\$20,000 to put up the poles and cables.

Councilman Dille questioned if we could do the armed poles.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the cost would be too much; and, the time frame would be a lot longer.

Mayor Finley stated he contacted Debbie Foust, the Planning and Engineering Administrator with ODOT; and, there isn't any funding available to help us with these lights.

Discussion was made on whether or not to put the street light back up or leave it a four way stop.

Chief Copeland stated he felt the street light should be replaced.

Mayor Finley questioned if we kept it a four way stop, could we use the flashing stop signs.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the problem with the four way stop is the placement of the signs. The road widens out making it hard to see them North and South bound.

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Councilman Newton stated he thought the new thin stop lights would be a lot lighter than what we have now.

Councilman Dille stated he would rather we look into something to make it look nicer if we were going to pay out that much money.

Chief Copeland said if we leave the stop signs, he feels it should be a two way stop since you cannot see the signs North and South on Main.

Council will wait to see what the cost estimate is before making their final decision.

Mayor Finley stated the Fiscal Officer received a letter from the Department of Commerce notifying Council of the expiring of the liquor permits and their renewal in February 2016. Council can object to any renewals that are a problem in our community, this must be done by January 4, 2016. Mayor Finley stated he would like to discuss this with Council to see if there are any we might wish to object to, he asked Council to review this and he will bring it to the next meeting for discussion.

Mayor Finley reported he received a newsletter from the Mayor's Association of Ohio, if any of Council wishes to review it. Mayor Finley stated he attends a yearly meeting and serves on the committee.

Mayor Finley reported he received information on the Ohio Ethics Laws and the Ethics Commission. Mayor Finley reminded Council that everyone needs to attend a class on this each term. Mayor Finley stated he will be attending an ethics class tomorrow for the Ohio Fire Council.

Mayor Finley reported he went to a meeting with Buckeye Hills this past Wednesday, November 11th; it was held at the Riecker Building and sponsored by Shannon Wells. There were several people in attendance, it was very well served. They provided a walking tour of the Village of McConnelsville and visited the Opera House. Mayor Finley stated the ARC Executive Director, Scott Hamilton along with several other Senators and Congressmen were represented.

Mayor Finley reported the Fiscal Officer has put out a notice of no spending after December 4th. The only exception is in an emergency; and, a purchase order must be cut.

Mayor Finley reported he met with a Grant Writer that works for ADR Engineering out of Newark. He will attend the next Council Meeting to discuss Grant Writing and the things that have changed.

Mayor Finley reported he appointed Bruce Lanning to the Park Board to represent the Village of McConnelsville.

Ordinance 15-22

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-22, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 84-20.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned what recommendation the committee came up with when they met last week. Councilman Bragg stated they did not come up with a recommendation.

After a brief discussion, Council decided to table Ordinance 15-22 until the next meeting for more review.

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Fiscal Officer Henry stated a decision needed to be made on this before the new Income Tax Ordinance can be completed; and, it must be passed and in effect by January 1, 2016.

Ordinance 15-23

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-23, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CURFEW LIMITS.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to pass Ordinance 15-23 on the second reading, seconded by Councilman Newton.

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 15-23 passed on the second reading.

Resolution 15-25

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 15-25, A RESOLUTION TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2016 EXPENSES FOR THE VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE.

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

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 Gessel made a Motion to adopt Resolution 15-25 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Dille.

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.

Resolution 15-25 was duly adopted.

Resolution 15-26

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 15-26, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE SEWER FUND.

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

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 Gessel made a Motion to adopt Resolution 15-26 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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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.

Resolution 15-26 was duly adopted.

Streets and Alley Committee

Councilman Dille reported the committee met at the Kroger parking area and they are making the recommendation to remove the three posts and put in a temporary single lane gravel base driveway from their parking lot to the Wharf Park parking lot. This will be one way and an exit only. The committee is hoping this will help eliminate some of the traffic congestion.

Mayor Finley stated it will be posted for no heavy truck traffic as well.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the alley will be posted one way off of Main Street through Kroger parking lot and into the Wharf Park parking lot. Everyone will enter Kroger parking lot off of Main Street and exit through either of the alley ways.

Ordinance 15-27

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-27, AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE THE ALLEYS ADJACENT TO 240 WEST MAIN STREET (THE KROGERS STORE) TEMPORARILY ONE WAY.

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

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 Dille made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 15-27 on emergency measure, 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.

Ordinance 05-27 was duly adopted.

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported the Village has received load of salt to start the winter and we will pick up leaves until it freezes on the ground. Residents are to continue calling the office when they have them ready.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with Foreman Bragg and discussed the lights on the monument. He will get with Jim Eppley to see if we can light it up a little better. They are going to put strips of reflective tape on the corners.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he will be advertising for bids for the Kennebec Hawk Interconnect on December 2, 2015. The bid opening will be on Monday, December 14th in the Commissioner's Office.

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Councilman Bragg requested Village Administrator Thompson to e-mail the estimates for the traffic lights out once he receives them.

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland reported one of the village cruisers hit a deer on Airport Road causing the K9 Cruiser to be out of service right now. Chief Copeland stated he is waiting on an estimate from the Insurance Company.

Chief Copeland reported two of the officers were randomly drug tested this month; we are keeping up to date on drug testing.

Chief Copeland reported Domino's is having a benefit for Samo on December 1st. Fifteen percent of their sales will be donated for the maintenance of Samo.

Recreation Committee

Councilman Dille reported he attended the Recreation Board meeting on November 9th. He stated there were very few members there; so they are now meeting quarterly instead of monthly. The next meeting is scheduled for February 2016.

Public Utilities Committee

Councilwoman Gessel reported the Joint Utility Committee met on November 16th. Councilwoman Gessel thanked those who attended the meeting and Fiscal Officer Henry for providing the cost of inspection and the price of the clarifier to Malta for their review prior to the meeting.

Councilwoman Gessel stated Village Administrator Thompson was there and spoke on behalf of the Village of McConnelville. He explained everything to the committee with regards to the clarifiers and the fact that the valves at the Fourth Street Pump Station will need replaced soon at a cost of around \$9,000. He also made them aware that AEP would be contacting them concerning a staging area in the event of a major electrical outage. Village Administrator Thompson submitted the 2016 Sewer Plant budget to Malta.

Councilwoman Gessel stated Greg Hill, Mayor Malta went over the Water Treatment Plant's Capital Improvements Projects for 2016. He noted they will need to purchase a new in-line chlorine meter, a new dehumidifier and a new truck. It was noted that on capital projects it is a 50/50 cost with the Village of McConnelville. He also discussed the maintenance improvements Malta will need to do at the Water Plant.

Councilwoman Gessel stated Malta's committee was pleased they have four new businesses and they complimented McConnelville on getting the new grocery store.

The next scheduled Joint Utility Meeting will be held on March 21, 2016 in Malta's Council Chambers.

Councilwoman Gessel thanked Mayor Finley for appointing her as Chairman of the Public Utilities Committee this past year.

Mayor Finley stated she has done a very good job.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to allow AEP to use the Kiwanis Jaycee Community Park for the staging area in the event of a major electrical outage; seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

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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 Motion carried.

Mayor Finley stated Village Administrator Thompson will be receiving information on this from AEP and will forward the information on to Malta. It will be a five year agreement.

Mayor Finley stated the Village of McConnelsville does not own the Water Treatment Plant and our portion of the water expenses from Malta equal to approximately 80% per month; this includes their loans, etc. If there is a capital outlay purchase, the Village's share that expense 50/50. Mayor Finley stated Malta owns 28 percent of the Sewer Treatment Plant and that is the percentage they pay each month for all expenses of the plant.

Finance Committee

Mayor Finley noted the Finance Committee will need to begin discussing raises for the budget.

Councilman Bragg stated the Fiscal Officer is working up figures for the committee.

Technology and Website Committee

Mayor Finley asked Council to begin working on a policy for any public media page an employee might have. Mayor Finley stated he recently attended a seminar that highly recommends putting a policy in place. Mayor Finley stated he wanted to start 2016 with one.

Other Business

Councilman Dille requested Jay Cordray, Reporter for the Herald, to let the public know about the change of the entrance and exit to the Kroger parking lot.

Councilman Robison noted he will be attending a Chesterhill Council Meeting in December in regards to Code Red. Councilman Robison stated the cost is too high for the EMA to absorb; therefore, beginning next year there will be a charge put on the Code Red Service.

Mayor Finley stated he received an e-mail from Melanie Baldwin; The Morgan County Community of the Arts is having an opening night on November 19th in the Community Room of the Riecker Building. The purpose of the open house is to introduce them to the community and appoint representatives to serve on the board of directors.

Executive Session

Mayor Finley requested Council to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel; with no action being taken when coming out.

Councilman Bragg made Motion to go into Executive Session, 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.

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Council went into Executive Session at 7:18 P.M.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Newton.

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.

Council came out of Executive Session at 7:27 P.M.

Adjournment of Meeting

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

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 December 2, 2015 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.