

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION

Held: September 7, 2010

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:30 P.M. to 7:51 P.M. in the McConnelsville Village Office. Mayor John Wells called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Councilman Tom Bragg	Present
Councilman Rhett Matheney	Absent
Councilman Steve Inman	Present
Councilman Kevin Morrow	Absent
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

**EMPLOYEES:** Chief of Police Rocky Woodburn, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator Scott Brown, Solicitor David Tarbert

**VISITORS:** Carol Morris, Fred Morris

#### **Invocation**

Invocation given by Mayor John Wells.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Lead by Mayor John Wells.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Minutes of August 17, 2010**

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

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Bills of the Village**

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to approve the bills, seconded by Councilman Inman.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

##### **Excuse Absent Members**

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to excuse Councilman Matheney and Councilman Morrow, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

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#### **Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation**

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

#### **Mayor John Wells**

Mayor Wells reported he had received a rough score on the grant the Village was seeking for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. It appears we are not going to receive enough points to be funded. Mayor Wells stated there was less money than normal this year for funding; therefore, the total points needed were higher. Mayor Wells stated we might be funded through Small Government for this project..

Mayor Wells stated the Village has had a Police Officer position open for awhile; in which we received applications. Mayor Wells and Chief Woodburn met and they believe Doug McGrath stood out from the other applicants. Mr. McGrath has been working for the Morgan County Sheriff's Department for fifteen plus years. Mayor Wells stated he is appointing Mr. McGrath to this position with Council's confirmation. Mayor Wells stated he has offered Mr. McGrath \$16.00 per hour; he is a very experienced and well respected Officer with the County.

On the appointment of Doug McGrath as the new police officer, the votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Mayor Wells reported August Parking Meter Fines as \$1,746.26. Mayor Wells reported August Income Tax receipts as \$19,150.14. Mayor Wells reported August Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$3,918.50; Treasurer of State - \$562.00 for a total of \$4,480.50.

Mayor Wells reported Damon Drake has been hired onto the Utility Crew. Mr. Drake has a Class III Water License. His first day was today; September 7, 2010.

Mayor Wells stated Police Officers are appointed by the Mayor and Council confirms; whereas, the Village Administrator hires for the Utility Department and the Mayor confirms.

#### **Councilman Matheney entered the meeting at 6:36 PM.**

#### **Village Administrator Scott Brown**

Village Administrator Brown reported the valves and diffusers are done and the Wastewater Plant is back up and running. Village Administrator Brown stated eight of the rakes are broken in the clarifiers and need replaced. They have them temporarily fixed and are waiting on a quote for replacement from the manufacturer.

VA Brown reported Ann Bonner was in today; they looked at several trees around town and found that there are several that need addressed.

VA Brown reported the Village Engineer, Lee Conkel will here tomorrow at 10 A.M. for a meeting. All the design work is complete on the Streamlining Project and he will sit down and go over everything.

Village Administrator Brown stated he received a violation letter from the EPA for improper sludge record keeping. He will be sending a response letter to this violation.

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Village Administrator Brown stated the crew replaced a two inch waterline in the Button Addition.

Councilman Matheney reported he had been contacted by Mark Moellendick regarding TAM not coming back to fix where his meter pit was installed. VA Brown stated he had talked to Mr. Moellendick and he is wanting his entire driveway regraded as he does not think it looks right since the meter was installed. VA Brown stated if this is what council wants, he will take care of it. Councilman Matheney stated he did not feel we should gravel the entire driveway; however, he will go out and look at it himself.

Mayor Wells stated the Village Administrator mentioned that Ann Bonner had been in town; she is the Urban Forrester for ODNR out of Athens. Mayor Wells feels this is a great service she provides; we use her to consult and it is a free service.

#### **Fiscal Officer Ellen Hemry**

Fiscal Officer Hemry reported she had received a letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce Liquor Control Division regarding W. W. Country Tavern's liquor license being up for renewal. They are questioning if council wants to have a hearing on this or not. None of council had any objections; therefore, the Fiscal Officer was instructed to return the notice indicating no hearing was being requested.

#### **Ordinance 10-27**

Mayor Wells introduced Ordinance 10-27, AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH WATER AND SEWER RATES.

Councilman Matheney made a Motion to pass Ordinance 10-27 on the second reading, seconded by Councilman Inman.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Ordinance 10-27 was passed on the second reading.

#### **Resolution 10-29**

Mayor Wells introduced Resolution 10-29, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

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

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adopt Resolution 10-29 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Matheney.

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Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilman Kevin Morrow, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 10-29 was duly adopted.

#### **Resolution 10-30**

Mayor Wells introduced Resolution 10-30, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INCREMENTAL PAY INCREASES RESULTING FROM EMPLOYEES OBTAINING DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATOR LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to pass Resolution 10-30 on the first reading, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 10-30 was passed on the first reading.

#### **Resolution 10-31**

Mayor Wells introduced Resolution 10-31, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE SEWER FUND

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

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Matheney made a Motion to adopt Resolution 10-31 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 10-31 was duly adopted.

#### **Finance**

Councilwoman Gessel stated she needed to schedule a Finance Committee meeting to discuss the Pay/Vacation Ordinance before the next Council meeting. The meeting was scheduled for September 17, 2010 at 12:00 P.M. in Council Chambers.

Councilwoman Gessel stated she received an e-mail from John Morris and he was hoping to have the site up by the meeting tonight and the e-mails to be set up by tomorrow.

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#### **Public Safety**

Councilman Inman stated Mayor Wells, Adam Shriver and himself met last week regarding the \$75,000 grant the Opera House Incorporated received and he is working on finding out the rules and regulations of where the money can and can't be used.

Councilman Inman stated he has noticed the noxious weeds and properties have been getting cleaned up recently. However, he would like to have a committee meeting and discuss expanding the scope of the Parking Meter Enforcement Officer's position. Councilman Inman feels he is quite diligent when it comes to enforcing the meters and would like to possibly change his title into more of a Code Enforcement Officer.

#### **Economic Development**

Councilwoman Blackburn stated she heard they were completing the project on Kennebec and was wondering if a guardrail was being installed. VA Brown stated he really was not sure.

Councilwoman Blackburn questioned if the Pheasant Ridge Addition was still a go. Mayor Wells stated verbally; however, no paperwork has been received yet.

Councilwoman Blackburn questioned if the Village crew could take down banners, etc. once they were outdated. Mayor Wells stated he had an issue with this also, especially the for profit signs. Mayor Wells stated he was going to instruct the crew to take down for profit signs. VA Brown stated in order for a sign to be put on the State road right of way; it has to be non-profit and can't be any advertising. Mayor Wells stated he is giving the directive to take them out.

Councilwoman Gessel questioned what the state of the Village's sign was. VA Brown stated it was to take four weeks and that time is here, so it should be received soon and installed.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated the new pool signs never got put up all summer. Mayor Wells stated he will have it done.

#### **Recreation**

Councilman Matheney stated he would have a full report at the next meeting regarding the pool.

Village Administrator Brown reported he had a received a phone call from Pat Page wanting to have a parade through town with horse drawn carriages singing songs; a Christmas Carole in September.

Discussion was made in regards to whether or not they were requesting to close the streets; Chief Woodburn will get with her to see what their actual plans are. Mayor Wells stated if they aren't requesting to close the streets, there will be no need for Council to approve anything.

Mayor Wells reported on the Kiwanis-Jaycee Park. He stated the tires are disappearing and the old school scoreboard has been erected.

Mayor Wells stated there is still approximately \$7,200 in the sidewalk funding if anyone else is interested in doing their sidewalks.

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Councilman Matheney questioned if there was anything in the Ordinance book about skateboarding. Mayor Wells stated nothing specific.

Councilman Matheney reported there is a whole group making a mess out of the parking lot at First National Bank and in front of Shrivvers Pharmacy; they are smoking dope, urinating in public, and leaving trash around everywhere.

Mayor Wells stated most of the complaints Councilman Matheney had were not of them skateboarding; but, trespassing, smoking dope, urinating in public and littering. These are all offenses against the law. Mayor Wells directed Chief Woodburn to get the Police Officers on this and get it stopped. Mayor Wells requested Solicitor David Tarbert to look into curfew laws.

#### **Executive Session**

Councilman Inman made a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Council went into Executive Session at 7:19 P.M.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Inman.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Council came out of executive session at 7:50 P.M.

#### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Councilman Inman made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Rhett Matheney, Aye; Councilman Steve Inman, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

The meeting was adjourned till September 21, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. at the McConnellsville Village Office.

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John A. Wells  
Mayor

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Ellen M. Henry  
Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Village of McConnellsville 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.