

Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of Council
March 11, 2014 – 6:30 pm
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Posting of the Colors by the Monroe Fire Department Honor Guard, Mayor Routson opened the regular meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:35 pm.

Roll Call

The following members of Council were present: Steve Black, Anna Hale, Todd Hickman, Robert Routson, and Suzi Rubin.

Staff members present: City Manager/City Engineer William J. Brock
 Law Director K. Philip Callahan
 Director of Finance Kacey L. Waggaman
 Fire Chief John P. Centers
 Director of Public Works Daniel J. Arthur
 Director of Development Kevin Chesar
 Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk of Council Angela S. Wasson

Visitors: Jason Abbott, Erik Johnson, Susan Wise, and Chie Yoshimura.

Mr. Black moved to excuse Mr. Kelley and Mrs. Stillman; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Mrs. Hale moved to approve the Finance Committee and Council Minutes of February 25, 2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

Lieutenant Matthew Grubbs introduced recently appointed Ryan Hadley, Firefighter/Paramedic/EMT. Mr. Hadley is a Paramedic, Swift Water Technical Rescue Operations Level, Road Rescue Technician, Fire Safety Inspector, and Haz Mat Technician.

James Lee, with the Public Utilities Commission, informed Council that the Public Utilities Commission is in charge of regulating the rates of investor-owned utilities and, along with that for more than the last decade, consumers of energy have had the opportunity to shop for their energy supplier. The Public Utilities Commission has launched a new website www.energychoice.ohio.gov to serve as a one-stop shop to learn more of their opportunity and to know what to look for. Mr. Lee advised he is available to talk more about this with City Council and any other organizations that may be interested.

Mrs. Rubin asked about aggregation. Mr. Lee explained that it means you have the pooling power to get a better rate for a city, as well as, the residents. The more consumers there are the more opportunity there is to get a better rate. It is placed on the ballot and, if adopted, Council would hold public hearings and negotiate with the supplier for a rate.

Jason Abbott and Erik Johnson with Arcadis presented the recent water rate study. The last study was prepared in 2008 by Arcadis. Since that time the economy has changed tremendously. For the recent study a different financial model was used with bond coverage calculation. Bond coverage considers total expenses and the total revenues. The study recommends a 3.20% increase beginning 2015.

Mr. Brock advised that the Finance Committee of Council will review this information to make a recommendation on our rates.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2014-07. An Ordinance approving the final plat of Deer Walk.

Mr. Brock reported this is the final plat for Deer Walk that recently received approval from Council for a Planned Unit Development amendment.

Mrs. Hale moved to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-07 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2014-07 by title only.

Mrs. Hale moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-07; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 09-2014. A Resolution supporting the request by the Butler County Transportation Improvement District for STP funds administered through the Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments for the transportation improvement project known as the Yankee Road Relocation Project and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported that this supports the application of funding through OKI federal funds for the extension of Salzman Road. The TID will be the applicant and Monroe has worked with the City of Middletown over the last few years for this extension. The advantages will be removing industrial traffic from the school area and getting it off the railroad crossing and opening up land for development. We have a good chance of receiving funding with an approximate match of \$400,000. We would negotiate with the other parties on paying for that match. Mrs. Hale asked

if it would be going through the McKinley farm. Mr. Brock advised it would and he has spoken with one of the members of the family. He feels comfortable moving forward with the design.

Mr. Black asked if there is an Economic Impact Analysis showing the impact on Middletown and Monroe. Mr. Brock replied that it will be important to do as we get closer to discussing the match.

Mrs. Hale moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 09-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 09-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Hale moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 09-2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 10-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and CGI Communications, Inc. for the development and implementation of a community video and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock explained this is a free program to the City of Monroe that will provide video content for our City. The will speak with advertisers in the area and that is where they receive the money to make the video. He noted that anyone can visit www.mayors.tv to see examples.

Mrs. Hale moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 10-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 10-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Hale moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 10-2014; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 11-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and Lexipol LLC for the development of a policy manual for the Department of Fire.

Mr. Brock stated that this is currently in use by the Police Department for policy updates and Lexipol has now expanded to fire departments.

Mr. Black asked about Lexipol's experience with fire department manuals and how it differs from the current policy. Chief Centers explained that Lexipol has been working on the fire department program for approximately a year and a half. The policy is currently updated locally and the Lexipol training will benefit the department.

Mr. Hickman asked if the policies will address paramedics for just fire. Chief Centers advised that the protocol for paramedics comes from the Greater Miami Valley EMS Counsel and the policy and procedure manual will address operations such as the way we check equipment and how we log in drugs.

Mr. Hickman asked who updates the policy now and how many Ohio fire departments use this. Chief Centers replied that he updates the policy and there are approximately 10 fire departments looking at Lexipol.

Mrs. Hale moved to consider this the first reading of Resolution No. 11-2014 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 11-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Hale moved to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 11-2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to set the dates for the Community Wide Garage Sale for June 6, 7, and 8, 2014.

Mrs. Hale moved to set the dates for the Community Wide Garage Sale for June 6, 7, and 8, 2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to set the date for the Spring Large Item Pickup for June 14, 2014.

Mrs. Hale moved to set the date for the Spring Large Item Pickup for June 14, 2014; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion approving the December 2013 Finance Reports as submitted.

Mrs. Hale moved to approve the December 2013 Finance Reports as submitted; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Rubin explained that Substitute House Bill 5 has passed the House and is in the Senate. They will adjourn for the summer in May and we need to protect what we can because it seems like they are cutting off more of our revenue.

Mrs. Hale moved to amend the agenda to consider Emergency Resolution No. 12-2014; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 12-2014. A Resolution strongly opposing the passage of Substitute House Bill 5 by the Ohio General Assembly and encouraging the adoption of the changes recommended by the Ohio Municipal League and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Hale moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 12-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 12-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Hale moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 12-2014; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mrs. Waggaman handed out a document that reflects what changes will be made from the temporary appropriations and the permanent appropriations that will be on the next agenda.

Mrs. Waggaman also handed out an updated forecast based on these appropriations.

Mr. Brock will provide Council with the differences in last year's budget and what the balance was. 2013 is closed and we can move forward with this year.

Mr. Brock noted no funds were appropriated for the fireworks donation for this year and can be added if Council would like to.

Mr. Black noticed there is a lot of garbage on the interchange. Mr. Arthur will look into that. Mr. Black pointed out that the pot holes on Britton Lane were taken care of quickly.

Mrs. Hale moved to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss an economic development matter pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) (8); seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Roll call vote: five ayes. Motion carried.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:23 pm.

Mrs. Hale moved to reconvene into regular session; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mrs. Hale moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, CMC
Clerk of Council