

**Monroe Council Agenda
Regular Meeting of Council
July 22, 2014 – 6:30 pm
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Routson opened the meeting at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

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

Staff members present:

- Law Director K. Philip Callahan
- Director of Finance Kacey L. Waggaman
- Director of Public Works Daniel J. Arthur
- Chief of Police Gregory C. Homer
- Fire Chief John P. Centers
- Director of Development Kevin Chesar
- Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk of Council Angela S. Wasson

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

Approval of the Minutes

Mrs. Rubin moved to approve the Council Minutes of July 8, 2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

None.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2014-18. An Ordinance amending the Personnel Policy Manual to comply with current law, provide clarification for classified and unclassified employees and necessary updates to assist all personnel to improve the service provided to the public. (Tabled July 8, 2014 – Second Reading)

Mrs. Rubin moved to remove Ordinance No. 2014-18 from the table; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Rubin moved to amend Ordinance No. 2014-18 as recommended; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading of Ordinance No. 2014-18 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2014-18 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-18; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-19. An Ordinance amending Section 1414.01 of the Codified Ordinances to adopt the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code and declaring an emergency. (Second Reading)

Mr. Chesar referenced the updates contained in the Council packet including clarifications on what constitutes a dangerous structure. Mr. Black referred to a section establishing minimum specifications to board up an unsafe structure and asked how that would relate to the old school building. Mr. Chesar advised it would need to go through the condemnation process and the regulations would apply to vacant structures.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-19 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-19 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-19; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 36-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Joint Economic Development District Agreement by and between the City of Monroe and the Township of Turtlecreek. (Second Reading)

Mrs. Waggaman noted this is the second reading.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 36-2014 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 36-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Resolution No. 36-2014; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 37-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept the proposal submitted by the Perfection Group for the implementation of certain energy efficient projects. (Second Reading)

Mr. Arthur noted this is the second reading.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 37-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Resolution No. 37-2014; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 42-2014. A Resolution expressing appreciation for the many years of service and accomplishments Gregory C. Homer has given to the City of Monroe as Chief of Police and declaring an emergency. (Second Reading)

Mayor Routson stated that this recognizes Chief Homer and asked if anyone present had any comments. Lieutenant Brian Curlis, Officer Bobby Sparks, and Chief Frank Robinson of the City of Riverside complimented Chief Homer on his leadership and improvements he has made to the Department of Police during his employment.

Mrs. Hale complimented not only Chief Homer, but all of the officers as well.

Mr. Hickman wished Chief Homer a happy retirement.

Mrs. Rubin wished Chief Homer good luck on his retirement and appreciated his service.

Mr. Black expressed his appreciation to Chief Homer for making the department a professional department.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 42-2014 in its entirety.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 42-2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Lieutenant Curlis introduced Officer Adam Binder and announced that, while off duty, Officer Binder witnessed a robbery and assisted in detaining the criminal while awaiting for the Warren County Sheriff's office to arrive. Council thanked Officer Binder for his representation.

New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 45-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and Michael Laage for administrative consultant services in the Department of Police and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Wasson advised this will authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement for consulting services during our search for a Chief of Police. Chief Homer will still be our Chief of Police until close to the middle of September.

Mr. Black questioned the necessity of having this contractor and asked if there wasn't anyone in house capable to assist with those duties. Mrs. Wasson advised that it was not a matter of not having anyone capable. We may have some that may apply for the Chief's position and based on the recommendation of the Ohio Chiefs of Police Association, someone that is applying internally should not serve as interim. Mrs. Wasson noted the contract has been changed to reflect the hours will be as set by the City Manager and not by the consultant.

Mr. Hickman asked what happens after September when the Chief is no longer here. Mr. Callahan explained that at the point when the Chief actually retires then one of two things are going to happen. Either the City Manager will bring in someone to be the permanent Chief or an interim Chief. I have not talked with the City Manager, but would guess that he would want to bring in someone as a permanent Chief by mid-September when our current Chief is gone. You could also go for a period of time where the City Manager, under the Charter and the Codified Ordinances, is the Director of Public Safety. The purpose of the contract is to bring someone in that could oversee and advise the Manager of the administration of the Police Department. This is a week-to-week contract.

Mr. Hickman doesn't believe we need a consultant until September. We just need to find a Chief and there are people here that we could use now. Mr. Hickman's understanding is that he was looking for an Interim Police Chief and not a consultant.

Mrs. Wasson stated that we would have the position filled until September and didn't anticipate that it would be much longer that we would be without a Chief of Police. She further stated that the resumes were due by August 8th, the assessment center will be held on August 22nd, with interviews being scheduled within two weeks following the assessment center.

Mayor Routson understood the consultant is an ex-police chief and would serve the same purpose. The point that it is a week-to-week contract and, if we do not feel it is the right thing or not working, we can work with the City Manager.

Mr. Clark asked if the structure of the Police Department allows for a person to take on this role because if there are two people with equal power under the Chief then one person cannot just take over the role. Mr. Clark did not agree with hiring a consultant.

Chief Homer explained that the patrol commander acts in the absence of the Chief of Police and, as the Ohio Police Chiefs Association recommends, someone who is vying for the position not be acting chief and that is probably going to happen.

In his research, Mr. Hickman saw where the person that served as interim ended up being appointed the Chief. While it is not the recommendation it isn't set in stone.

Mrs. Rubin felt that if you have two employees that wanted that job and you name one as interim there may be some that think it is a done deal and was of the opinion that we should accept the recommendation.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 45-2014 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. 45-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 45-2014; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: two ayes; four nays (Black, Clark, Hale, Hickman). Motion failed.

Emergency Resolution No. 46-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract by and between the City of Monroe and Adleta Construction for the Mason Avenue Improvements Project and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Arthur stated this will allow for a contract for the construction of Mason Avenue.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 46-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 46-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 46-2014; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 47-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract by and between the City of Monroe and John R. Jurgensen Co. for the 2014 Pavement Resurfacing Project and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Arthur reported that this will allow for a contract for the 2014 paving/resurfacing contract.

Addressing Mrs. Rubin, Mr. Black referred to a previous discussion about local contractors and would like to revisit this for the future. It was the consensus of Council to request the City Manager to provide information to add this to our bidding process.

Mr. Hickman agreed it was a good idea, but didn't want to limit ourselves to a local company that wasn't the best bid.

Mr. Callahan noted that even if a local company was the lowest bid after being reduced by a certain percentage Council still has the option of awarding the contract to the best bidder.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 47-2014 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. 47-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 47-2014; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion authorizing the expenditure of \$25,000 to All American Fire Equipment for the purchase of a truck for the Department of Fire.

Chief Centers explained that this is not needed as the vendor looking at the re-chassis project and due to a new ruling by the EPA the repurpose or re-chassing of a vehicle must be on the same type of truck it came off of.

Mrs. Hale asked how old the vehicle is that is currently being used and Chief Centers replied that it is 14 years old.

Consideration of Motion approving May 2014 Finance Reports as submitted.

Mrs. Rubin moved to approve the May 2014 Finance Reports as submitted; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

A resident informed Council that she spoke with Casey Sparks about the sale of Darlene Bishop's farm. She understands that it is zoned for a business park. She resides on Bridle Creek Drive and expressed concern about the speed of traffic as it is now and what it will be in the future in the circle.

Chief Homer advised we used the speed sign in the past and the circle in itself is supposed to be a traffic calming device. He will meet with Officer Sparks and include in his notes for his replacement.

Mrs. Rubin asked Mr. Callahan to put some language together for the local bidding option. Mr. Callahan offered to reach out to see what other communities have adopted.

Mr. Black asked Mrs. Waggaman about the status of the online payments option. Mrs. Waggaman has dedicated three hours every week to work on it and will take approximately three months.

Mr. Black suggested that Council consider holding work sessions to discuss what is on the agenda and have more positive input. Mr. Clark and Mr. Hickman supported this.

Mr. Callahan advised that the City of Miamisburg has a study session after the Council meeting to discuss items that will come up on future agendas and it seems to work well.

Mr. Hickman indicated the problem is we receive information on Tuesday and emails and it would be best to hold it before Council.

Mr. Black felt that if it was after the meeting we could discuss what is coming up in the future.

Mayor Routson moved to appoint Dan Clark to the Public Safety Committee and Public Works Committee; seconded by Mr. Black. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Clark reported that he attended the ribbon cutting at the new clinic at Mount Pleasant.

Adjournment

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

Council adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, CMC
Clerk of Council