

Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of Council
August 26, 2014 – 6:30 pm
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor 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, Suzi Rubin, and Lora Stillman. *Mr. Black arrived at 6:55 pm.

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 Development Kevin Chesar

Visitors: Christina McElfresh, Chie Yoshimura, and Susan Wise.

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

Approval of the Minutes

No Minutes were available.

Visitors

- **Introduction of Recently Promoted Richard Mascarella as Assistant Fire Chief**

Chief Centers introduced Richard Mascarella who was recently promoted to Assistant Fire Chief. Assistant Chief Mascarella introduced his family members in attendance and his wife pinned him with his new badge.

Rick Pierce with The Chamber of Commerce invited everyone to the annual steak fry on September 11, 2014.

Committee Reports

Mrs. Rubin reported that Finance Committee discussed the reports that are provided to Council commenting that the cash reconciliation reports take additional time because of waiting until all of the bank statements are received. We would like to have our budget report at the first meeting of the month and the Finance Committee will review the final report the month after they close.

Mrs. Stillman added that Council will be getting the budget report for the month preceding at the first Council meeting of the month.

Old Business

Resolution No. 48-2014. A Resolution amending Emergency Resolution No. 40-2014 to increase the blanket purchase order amount for the Public Entities Pool of Ohio.

Mr. Brock noted that this will allow for the first insurance payment for the beginning of 2015.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 48-2014 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 48-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Resolution No. 48-2014; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2014-20. An Ordinance increasing the salary of the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Members of Council.

Mrs. Rubin moved to remove Ordinance No. 2014-20 from the table; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Routson reflected on previous comments made concerning the increase and proposed amending the amounts in the legislation to \$350.00 for Council members, \$400.00 for the Vice Mayor, and \$450.00 for the Mayor.

Mrs. Stillman felt that it was still a large increase. She recalls conversation about contributions to the Ohio Public Retirement System. However, when her term is up she will send in a form to receive the money back and, provided it is rolled over into an IRA, she will not be penalized. This is not something she is doing for the money. She is doing it as a community service and would consider \$250.00 for Council and still believes that the Vice Mayor and Mayor should receive an additional amount.

Mr. Hickman supports Mayor Routson's recommendation even though he doesn't do this for the money.

Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Rubin agreed with Mr. Hickman.

Mr. Clark is worried about the message this sends and is comfortable with no increase.

Mayor Routson moved to amend Ordinance No. 2014-20 to increase the salary of members of Council to \$350.00 per month, the Vice Mayor to \$400.00 per month, and the Mayor to \$450.00 per month; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Rubin moved to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-20 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2014-20 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2014-20; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: four ayes, two nays (Clark and Stillman). Motion carried.

New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 51-2014. A Resolution approving a Then-and-Now Certificate in the amount of \$3,978.42 to James M. Mancini and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported that this cost is related to the OPBA negotiations for the arbitrator.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 51-2014 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. 51-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 51-2014; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 52-2014. A Resolution declaring the necessity of repairing certain sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and driveway aprons in the City of Monroe, County of Butler, Ohio, requiring that abutting property owners repair the same, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock explained this is the first step in an assessment project to prepare for resurfacing next year. The two streets in particular are Deneen and Valleybrook. In addition to resurfacing on Valleybrook there is some culvert required. One of the issues we are dealing with on Deneen is a decision to cap some of the concrete and it makes it difficult to determine what concrete was bad. We are in the process of determining whether to replace the entire curb or take out what is bad and asphalt over it. If we just take the asphalt down and replace only the bad curb that will be \$60,000 of work. If the curb were raised it would be an additional \$50,000 that the City would be responsible for. He noted this is an item to be discussed by the Public Works Committee.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 52-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 52-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 52-2014; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 53-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a utilization agreement by and between the City of Monroe and the Punjab Sports Club and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock advised this is the third year that this club has used the park and the do a great job cleaning up the park.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 53-2014 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. 53-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 53-2014; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 54-2014. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an athletic facilities utilization agreement by and between the City of Monroe and the Monroe Fall Baseball for Monroe Community Park and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock stated this resolution is an agreement for fall youth baseball.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 54-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 54-2014; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 55-2014. 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 and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock noted this accepts the amounts and rates as determined by the Butler County Budget Commission.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 55-2014 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. 55-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 55-2014; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 56-2014. A Resolution declaring official intent with respect to reimbursements of temporary advances made for expenditures for capital improvements for the municipal purposes in fiscal year 2014 to be made from subsequent borrowings and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock explained that this reimbursement resolution allows us to begin projects and be reimbursed from the bond proceeds. Council has been provided with a list of projects, the bond amount, what would be advanced from the General Fund, paid from the TIF and RID funds, and capital improvement funds. One of the projects is Britton Lane. We would like to fund that project from the General Fund and use RID monies to pay ourselves back. For Carson Road, we would use \$220,000 of capital improvement funds and bond the rest. Council would determine what would be bonded and what would not be bonded.

Mr. Black asked if Mason Avenue would be incremental funding and Mr. Brock advised those funds are in the RID fund to pay for that project.

Mr. Hickman asked what are the disadvantages of doing this and are there any other communities doing this. Mr. Brock advised there is no disadvantage to doing this. Even though we do not end up bonding it, it just covers our basis.

Mrs. Waggaman explained that we are required to adopt the resolution before the project begins even though we may not bond any of these. It helps decide whether or not you want to spend down the cash available or reimburse ourselves from the bond proceeds.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 56-2014 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 56-2014 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 56-2014; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2014-21. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2014-08 otherwise known as the permanent appropriations ordinance, to meet current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Monroe, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2014.

Mrs. Waggaman explained the amendments to the appropriations ordinance as follows:

- In the General Fund there were personal service adjustments due to payroll allocation adjustments as a result of new positions created and merit increases that were not budgeted for.
- There was a large income tax refund this year.
- In the Parks personal services we adjusted that to reflect the actual hours worked in the parks.
- In Police there was a forfeiture from last year that had to be paid out this year.

- Payroll was reduced in the Fire Fund for the amount that we are increasing in operating. We used to do transfers then the auditors wanted to see it differently.
- The Fire Fund increasing the operating costs for the three grants they have received.
- The D.A.R.E. grant is being disbursed in two half payments rather than the full amount.
- Enforcement and Education Fund is going to be used this year. Sometimes they use these funds and sometimes they do not.
- 2004 RIDs there is a portion of Mason Avenue and storm project that will be paid out of that fund and the school reimbursements as a result of the back year adjustments from the County.
- Capital Improvement Fund is increasing the operating by \$70,000 for the design services; partially for the Union Road Retaining Wall Project.
- Water Meter Equipment and Replacement Fund was new last year and needs to include a small portion for this year and repay the advance to the General Fund.
- Law Enforcement Fund is not going to be used for capital, so that is moving to operating and increasing for additional cash they have received.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 2014-21 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2014-21 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-21; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-22. An Ordinance adopting an allocation plan for the distribution of certain personal services and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock stated that this reflects the moves made earlier this year.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-22 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 Ordinance No. 2014-22 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-22; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014 –23 An Ordinance levying assessments for street lighting, listing real properties to be assessed located in Butler County, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported that this is the annual legislation assessing street lighting. This takes a lot of staff time and we are looking at ways to make it easier. For example, the City of Trenton includes these payments with their utility bills.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-23 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-23 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-23; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014 –24 An Ordinance levying assessments for street lighting, listing real properties to be assessed located in Warren County, and declaring an emergency.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-24 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 Ordinance No. 2014-24 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-24; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014 –25 An Ordinance directing the Director of Finance to certify any and all unpaid assessments to the Butler County Auditor for mowing of property in violation of Chapter 674 of the Codified Ordinances and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock advised this is an assessment of unpaid mowing violations for the past year.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-25 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 Ordinance No. 2014-25 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-25; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: seven ayes.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014 –26 An Ordinance directing the Director of Finance to certify any and all unpaid assessments to the County Auditor for all unpaid water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and trash accounts and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported this is for the assessment of unpaid utility bills.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-26 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 Ordinance No. 2014-26 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-26; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2014 –27 An Ordinance determining to adjust special assessments levied for the purpose of constructing certain improvements and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock explained these are the assessments for Corridor 75 Park.

Mrs. Rubin moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-27 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 Ordinance No. 2014-27 by title only.

Mrs. Rubin moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2014-27; seconded by Mr. Black. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion authorizing the expenditure of \$12,550.00 to Black Dawg Sealcoat for the seal coating and restriping of the pavement areas at Monroe Community Park.

Mr. Brock noted this was anticipated and included in the budget for this year.

Mrs. Rubin moved to authorize the expenditure of \$12,550.00 to Black Dawg Sealcoat for the seal coating and restriping of the pavement areas at Monroe Community Park; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to not request a hearing for the transfer of a C1 and C2 liquor permit from MAENG INC to MPKP Enterprise LLC.

Mrs. Rubin moved to not request a hearing for the transfer of a C1 and C2 liquor permit from MAENG INC to MPKP Enterprise LLC; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion setting the date of October 18, 2014 for Large Item Pickup.

Mrs. Rubin moved to set the date of October 18, 2014 for Large Item Pickup; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion setting the date of Beggar's Night for Friday, October 31, 2014 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Considerable discussion was held concerning the high school football game on Friday night and scheduling this on a night different than surrounding communities.

Mrs. Rubin moved to set the date of Beggar's Night for Friday, October 31, 2014 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm; seconded by Mrs. Stillman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Brock reported that the school agreed to pay 50% of the School Resource Officer's salary and proposed that Butler Tech pay 10% with the City paying 40%. He will bring the agreement to Council following discussion with Butler Tech.

Mr. Brock requested a decision from Council on the color of the shingles for the City Building roof.

Mayor Routson moved to have green shingles on the City Building; seconded by Mrs. Rubin. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Brock referred to an intergovernmental agreement that would extend Salzman Road and will bring this before Council at the next meeting.

At the request of Mr. Black, Mr. Brock advised that due to the weather the bridge on Butler-Warren Road is now estimated to be complete September 26, 2014.

Mr. Black commented that the onramp from I-75 north to State Route 63 east is getting progressively worse. There is a stretch of blacktop that is buckling. Mr. Brock stated that ODOT has replaced that expansion joint before and Mr. Morton will contact them to repair.

Mr. Black thanked all of the public safety employees that were involved in the recent drowning.

Mrs. Rubin moved to recess into study session to discuss shooting ranges, sexually oriented business regulations, salt bids and snow removal, IDI development agreement, and the re-chassis project; seconded by Mr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Council recessed into study session at 8:14 pm.

Discussion was held with Mr. Chesar about proposed regulations for both indoor and outdoor shooting ranges.

Mr. Chesar advised that Council will be presented with legislation updating the regulations for sexually oriented businesses in the future.

Gary Morton discussed with Council the challenges his department faces with snow removal and the salt shortage.

Jennifer Patterson reported that a proposed amendment to the current IDI development agreement will be presented to Council for consideration at a future meeting.

Chief Centers reported that he is continuing to work toward the re-chassis project.

Executive Session

Mrs. Rubin moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss the purchase of property; seconded by Mr. Clark. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Council adjourned into executive session at 9:48 pm.

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

Adjournment

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

Council adjourned at 9:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, CMC
Clerk of Council