

On Monday, December 14, 2015 at 7:00 PM Mayor Fries opened the Council meeting with a word of prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited by those present.

The regular meeting for the Council of the Village of Monroeville was then called to order.

Present at roll call:	Terry Reed	And:	Melissa Fries, Mayor
	Craig Franklin		Bonnie Beck, Clerk-Treasurer
	Mark Rupp		Tom Gray, Administrator
	Kevin Rasnick		Jim Barney, Solicitor
	Chris Raftery		
	Bob Whitacre		

Also attending: Ann Beck, Attorney Doug Clifford, Darrell Moll, Jim Bond, Robb Smithson, and the coaches and players for the 2015 Lady Eagles Volleyball Team.

The financial report and bank reconciliation for November, 2015 were electronically sent to the Council members prior to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Fries asked that the agenda be amended to include Resolutions 2015-47 and 2015-48 and Ordinance 2015-30, which were not completed at the time the Council documents were e-mailed to members. Craig Franklin made a motion, seconded by Kevin Rasnick, to accept the amendments and approve the agenda as amended. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION

Mayor Fries stated that in the interest of time, she would like take the liberty to present a proclamation to the 2015 Lady Eagles Volleyball team, and proceeded to recognize them and their accomplishments, and read aloud the proclamation. After the reading, the Lady Eagles and their coaches were applauded, and they then left the meeting at 7:05PM.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Terry Reed, to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2015 Council meeting as presented. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve the November financial reports as presented. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Robb Smithson introduced himself, noting that while he was not a Monroeville citizen, the decisions of the Village's leadership impacts him and his family. He stated that he has done some more research on **Optotraffic** and, noting that he is open minded and his mind can be changed, hasn't yet found one reason why it's a good thing. Mr. Smithson stated that according to the FBI, Toledo is the fourth largest hub for human trafficking in the US, adding that human trafficking is the fourth largest profit making business. The average age of a child forced into this sex trade is 12-14 years old. Toledo is just a short distance from Monroeville on Rt 20, and Opto (hereinafter referred to as "Opto") will not be doing anything to stop individuals who are trafficking. He also stated that if someone who had 10 points on their licenses and would be driving through town and get "caught" on the Opto camera, he would not lose his license because of how the Opto does their citations. Mr. Smithson stated that he read in the Council minutes that there are 25-30 thousand vehicles a day that travel through Monroeville. He said he doesn't know how accurate that number is, but he recalled hearing at the October meeting that there were around 83 citations issued, which is 1/1000% of the traffic flow. This would mean that either there isn't enough effort being put into enforcement, or we don't have a traffic problem. Mr. Smithson briefly touched on a newspaper article that the hearing officer would be appointed by the Chief and asked how he could be judge, jury and executioner, and then noted the lack of clear definitions of speed limits. He specifically noted that the school zones aren't clearly marked, the Broad Street sign doesn't state the school zone hours that are restricted, and corporation limits are not clearly defined. He stated that if the rules are clearly defined then they can't be clearly enforced. Mr. Smithson asked if there was a data policy in place for the information regarding the cameras, and expressed concern about a data breach, especially during high traffic volume times such as holidays. He stated that if the cameras were not about revenue, then why don't we negotiate a contract to buy our own cameras and not have to pay Opto anything. Also, if it's not about revenue, then we could start a community service program for teenagers about safe driving, drunk driving and avoiding drugs. If this isn't about revenue, he said he couldn't think of a better place to put that money for our community. He emphasized the need for a policy that would limit the use of cameras on high traffic volume days, such as holidays, due to the need to get drunk drivers off the roads. Mr. Smithson specifically addressed the Mayor, stating that when she was sworn in she swore to uphold the Constitution, and he doesn't believe the use of traffic cameras are upholding the integrity of our Constitution. Mayor Fries opened the meeting up for responses. Captain Bond stated that the camera is a laser unit, and they will be stopping just as many vehicles, if not more, with the use of the camera. The officers have the option to either issue an Opto citation or make personal contact with the driver when

they observe speeding. The camera just adds more enforcement, Capt. Bond said, adding that he can make 7 or 8 citations just using the camera, as well as 2 to 5 personal stops in the 28-minute school zone period. The Hearing Officer is a bar certified attorney, said Capt. Bond, pointing to Doug Clifford as that person and noting that Mr. Clifford is Norwalk's former law director. Fines will be issued at his professional discretion, as he has years of experience in doing so. Capt. Bond also noted that State law sets the standards for speed controls, and the law is that the speed limit is the last one posted. Mayor Fries stated that this is something that can be looked into further, adding that the Village Administrator and others participated in the interview process for the Hearing Officer, adding that we have followed every letter of the law to implement this program. Regarding the use of Opto for the camera program, the technology and equipment alone is very expensive, and with this program we have no costs and no ties to this and can drop it at any time. Mr. Smithson commented that this makes sense, then asked if there was a policy in place for the public to review as to how this program is regulated. Kevin commented that Council relies on the opinions of those who know more than they do based on their experience and knowledge, and they trust those opinions.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor - Mayor Fries read aloud the proclamation that was presented on November 28th to the Mike Adelman family at the tree dedication ceremony. She then read the letter of resignation from Terry Reed from his position as a Council member. Kevin Rasnick made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to regretfully accept Terry's resignation. No discussion. All voted "yea" except Terry, who abstained. Motion carried. Mayor Fries then read aloud a Certificate of Appreciation for Terry's 8 years of services as a Council member, and presented him with the document. The Mayor reminded Council that there will be two seats open as of January 1st, and noted that Craig Franklin has submitted his letter of interest to retain his seat. She then swore Craig in with the Oath of Office. Mayor Fries stated that after interviewing Douglas Clifford for the position of **Hearing Officer**, it was her recommendation to hire him for that position to administer the appeals for Opto and parking citations or violations. A Resolution is on the agenda to enter into an agreement with Mr. Clifford. Mayor Fries stated that an e-mail was sent to Council members regarding the proposed change for Council meetings. Based on the responses she received, she would like the Rules of Council to reflect that beginning in January the **Council meetings** will be on the second Tuesday at 6:00PM at the township hall, with work sessions held on the fourth Tuesday at 6:00PM at the Administrative Offices. She asked Bonnie to send a thank you note to the Township Trustees for the use of their building, and to inform them of the Council meeting change. Mayor Fries commended the Recreation Board members for another successful Christmas in the Park event, and the Village employees for the festive look the Village has due to their efforts with the Christmas lights and decorations. Police report - Mayor Fries asked if anyone had any questions regarding the police report. No one were voiced. Administrator - Tom reported that over the weekend the Wastewater Treatment Plant experienced a failed sensor. Maximum limits were reached by Monday morning, but everything is back on line and operating smoothly thanks to the staff. The mechanism will require regular and customary maintenance. All departments are somewhat ahead of the curve due to the great weather we've had. Tom encouraged support with furthering the relationship with the **Monroeville Eagle Fastpitch Association**, offering a brief outline of their goals. Tom said this issue needs further dialogue, and asked Jim Barney if he had anything to add to this. Jim stated that it's important to make sure the Recreation Board understands that they are the only ones who have the authority to make decisions and spend the money, and that all funds used for the parks and recreation programs have to go through the Village. It will be necessary to meet with the Recreation Board to establish boundaries. Tom said we want this endeavor to be successful, and suggested maybe creating a relationship similar to New London's, where funding is solely from outside sources. The 501(c)3 dialogue will be encouraged with assistance from Jim and Travis Thompson. Tom added that Kevin does a great job offering comments at the Rec Board meetings. Tom then reviewed the information regarding support of Village services with the establishment of **on-call pay**, using the example of employees being out of town during an emergency, and suggested a weekly pay of \$100 per person. Tom stated that he was aware that the employee policy handbook would have to be modified to include this proposal. This proposal would put us in a position in which we could share resources and do some cross-training. Mark asked Bonnie if the budget could handle the additional \$15,000 a year, and Bonnie said she didn't know (because of not knowing how the on-call shifts would be shared among the departments). Tom then spoke about the position of a Utility Worker, and asked for the authority to advertise internally for the required 5 days, accept applications, and hire an individual at the end of the posting and after the interview process. Bob Whitacre made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve this procedure as presented. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea." Referring to the proposed on-call procedures, Chris commented that this would be easier to do than to hire someone. Capt. Bond remarked that he would be in favor of this, as he works third shift and it's frustrating to have to go through the list of who to call when the phone is ringing with people calling in about a power outage. Kevin asked how much more would be spent by using mutual aid. Tom replied that we have had to use Thompson Electric twice for power outages, and retainer fees can be high. Tom added that he's not sure where everyone is with training, but he would work with each division head to establish rotations, adding that this procedure is essentially an insurance policy. The Mayor recommended setting up the rotation as far in advance as possible so the employees can plan their weekends/holidays. Discussion. Tom said there would be no pay switching for individual

days - the on call pay is only by the week. Terry asked about vacations, and Tom replied that while he meets with the division heads every Monday, no one can account for unforeseen circumstances, so there will be some "gotchas". Terry said he thinks this is a good thing for the community. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Terry Reed, to approve the on-call pay procedures. No further discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea." Clerk-Treasurer - Bonnie asked for a motion to either accept or deny the name change for the ownership of the 7-Eleven store for their liquor license. Kevin Rasnick made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to accept the proposed name change as presented. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea." Bonnie asked if anyone had any questions regarding the proposals for the **Village's health insurance package**. Chris expressed concern that self-insurance groups generally are not around for a long time. Bonnie said she had apprehensions about self-insurance groups, too, but the Jefferson Group has been operating for over 25 years, and is the largest consortium in Ohio. She added that the bottom line is that after the proposed 18-month plan expires for SummaCare, we will be forced to participate in the Affordable Care Act, (ACA) which accelerates premiums and is more restrictive. Self-insurance groups are not subject to ACA, and the Jefferson Group allows us input on how our plan is written. Bob asked about the proposed plan, and Bonnie said it was written to match SummaCare's, which has a zero deductible. Kevin Rasnick made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve the Jefferson Health Plan for the period of 2-1-16 to 6-30-17 as presented. No further discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

BOARD/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Commission - Chris reported that the PC met on December 1st and discussed the proposed new signage for the school. There has been no construction timeline or drawing received yet. They discussed changing their meeting time, and determined that they would meet at 7:00PM on the Monday immediately preceding the Council meetings. HRJFD - Terry reported that the HRJFD Board met on December 2nd. There were 16 calls in November, and they are still waiting on the Knox boxes, which will be a good thing for everyone using them. They are discussing a mutual aid contract with Groton Township, but it hasn't been worked through yet. Terry commented that the HRJFD Board does a lot more than people realize. Recreation Board - Kevin said he was absent from the November 16th meeting, but is aware that they talked about the buggy ride and Christmas in the Park event. They will not be meeting in December.

LEGISLATION

Mayor Fries asked for a motion to suspend the rules for the following pieces of emergency legislation. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to suspend the rules. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

RESOLUTION 2015-43 ADVANCE MONIES FOR PHASE X ELECTRICAL PROJECT

A Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to advance monies from the General Fund to the Phase X Electrical Distribution Upgrade project to cover construction and material expenses until the American Municipal Power Inc. funds are received, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Terry Reed made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adopt Resolution 2015-43 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

RESOLUTION 2015-44 REPAY MONIES FOR PHASE X ELECTRICAL PROJECT

A Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to repay the General Fund for the advancement of funds used for the Phase X Electrical Distribution Upgrade project and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to adopt Resolution 2015-44 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

RESOLUTION 2015-46 AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into an agreement with T. Douglas Clifford for the provision of an Administrative Hearing Officer for parking and speed enforcement appeals, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adopt Resolution 2015-46 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

ORDINANCE 2015-28 SANITARY SEWER RATES

An Ordinance amending the schedule of rates for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Fund for the Village of Monroeville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency was presented to passage. Bob Whitacre made a motion, seconded by Kevin Rasnick, to pass Ordinance 2015-28 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

ORDINANCE 2015-29 SUPPLEMENTING APPROPRIATIONS

An Ordinance amending or supplementing certain funds for temporary appropriations Ordinance No. 2015-11 was presented for passage. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to pass Ordinance 2015-29 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

RESOLUTION 2015-47 ADVANCE MONIES TO MONROE STREET FUND FROM GF

A Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to advance monies from the General Fund to the Monroe Street Sanitary Sewer Project to cover construction expenses until the Ohio Water Development Authority funds are received, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adopt Resolution 2015-47 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

RESOLUTION 2015-48 REPAY MONIES TO GF FROM MONROE STREET FUND

A Resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to repay the General Fund for a portion of the advancement of funds used for the Monroe Street Sanitary Sewer Project, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adopt Resolution 2015-48 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

ORDINANCE 2015-30 EMPLOYEE WAGES

An Ordinance authorizing the wage/salary increase for certain employees of Monroeville, Ohio and declaring an emergency was presented for passage. Craig Franklin made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to pass Ordinance 2015-30 by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

ORDINANCE 2015-23 WATER TAPS AND FEES

An Ordinance amending Sections 929.01 and 929.02 of Chapter 929 of Monroeville's Codified Ordinances regarding water taps and fees was presented for third and final reading. Kevin Rasnick made a motion seconded by Craig Franklin, to pass Ordinance 2015-23 on third and final reading by title only. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

APPROVAL OF BILL SUMMARY

Craig Franklin made a motion, seconded by Terry Reed, to approve the bill summary for check #036102 to 036209, and including 036021, 036029 and 036057. No discussion. Motion carried with all voting "yea."

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Mayor Fries stated that at the first meeting she will be making committee appointments. Douglas Clifford then introduced himself, stating that he has had over 14 years of experience in law, a lot of that being in defense work. He has already talked to Chief Lyons about expectations from the use of traffic cameras as a supplement to the department's current activity. Council welcomed him as the Village's new Hearing Officer. Kevin confirmed details about Thursday's employee luncheon, and Mayor Fries reminded Council members to bring a dessert. Mark commented on the need to have committee appointments, noting that the purpose of the work sessions was to discuss varied topics as a whole rather than in separate committee meetings. Mayor Fries stated that if certain issues needed research then the committee members could do that. She reminded Council that in January and February the township meetings will be the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM, then for the rest of the year their meeting time will change to 8:00PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before them Kevin Rasnick made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adjourn. No objections were voiced. The meeting adjourned at 8:14PM.

Bonnie Beck, MMC, Clerk-Treasurer

Melissa Fries, Mayor

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