

On Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM Mayor Fries-Seip opened the Council meeting with a word of prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was then recited by those present. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held at the American Legion, 8 S. Main Street.

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

Present at roll call:	Bob Whitacre	And:	Melissa Fries-Seip, Mayor
	Craig Franklin		Deb Ewell, Administrative Specialist
	Chris Raftery		Tom Gray, Administrator
	Sam Wiley		Jim Barney, Solicitor
	Sue Rogers		
	Mark Rupp		

Also attending: Police Chief Gary Lyons, Neal Materni with Poggemeyer Design Group, Don Clark and Wes Brewer from the Water Department

The June financial reports and bank reconciliations were previously distributed to Council via email.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Fries-Seip asked for Council's approval of the agenda. Sue Rogers made the motion, seconded by Sam Wiley. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Sue Rogers, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2020 regular Council meeting as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **APPROVAL OF JUNE FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Craig Franklin made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to approve the June 2020 financial reports as presented. Chris Raftery noted a correction to the disposition of minutes before we got any further, the date should be June 9<sup>th</sup>. The motion on the floor for the financial reports carried with no discussion.

#### **APPROVAL OF SECOND QUARTER CREDIT CARD REPORTS**

Chris Raftery moved, seconded by Sue Rogers to approve the second quarter credit card reports. Motion carried with all in favor.

#### **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

None

#### **VISITOR**

Tom Gray stated he invited Neal Materni to attend tonight to offer a brief overview of the Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Project, as well as the Water Meter Replacement Project. He asked Wes and Don to attend tonight to share with us the discussions they have on a regular basis concerning the infrastructure. In the 2021 time frame we are also going to propose to you to follow up and replace the water line on us 20 from Hollister all the way to subway. These projects are going to run concurrently and it is important to strive to improve our infrastructure. The water line replacement project has been approved by the State of Ohio as a 30-year loan, 0% interest, with a 50% principal forgiveness. Our water meters are dated from 1928-1931. Our pipe in North Ridge Street is 100 years old. Tom reviewed the projects we've completed over the years and noted it is important to continue improving our infrastructure.

Wes had a section of cast iron pipe from North Ridge Street that is 100 years old. Cast iron will crack. Everyone is chasing infrastructure, we are not unique in this. He explained how they fix the cracked pipe with metal bands and gaskets, but the bands can't fix long cracks. Then it involves replacing sections. He went on to explain everything that is involved in the process of repairing water lines. Discussion. Chief Lyons asked with the State granting heavier trucks on the roadways, does that affect any of the brittleness in the pipes from the vibrations? Neal Materni stated it certainly can. He went on to explain why in more technical terms. Also, if lines are less than five feet deep the risk could go up more. Installation is critical. Sue Rogers asked if all the Village pipes were this old, Wes stated no, there are a lot that have been replaced. Don said probably over 50% of them are that old, or more. Bob Whitacre asked how we were able to get the 50% forgiveness. Neal Materni said with the COVID situation, the State allocated additional funds with anticipation of some municipalities not submitting because of financial implications it might have on them not being able to proceed with the project. The Village also qualified because of the small community basis. It just all came together. It is a blessing obviously, and we'll take it. Tom Gray said there is a caveat – 50% of council has to take two online courses. A 101 series on financial attributes and a 201 series on water system planning. He would like all of council to consider it.

Neal Materni passed out handouts for the **Broad Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project** (from U.S. Rte. 20 to Ridge Street) that were reviewed. The total probable cost of the project is \$1,219,340. The pump station upgrades at the Industrial Park are a part of the project. The completion date is May 15, 2021. Tom Gray re-emphasized that we are repaving the entire street. Curbing is cost prohibitive, as discussed previously. This does involve replacing any lead pipe from the water main to the curb. If we discover a lead service line from the meter to the house, we have to notify the resident, and they have to replace that section of the line according to EPA rules and regulations. Discussion and more review of handouts was held.

Neal Materni passed out handouts for the **Water Meter Project** that were reviewed. The new system will save significant time and should increase revenue on the water side. And also, the other big component of that, not to say we want to take money away from the residents, but at the same time, the new system will have the capability to alarm people if they have leaks within their home so they don't pay more than they should be, into faulty internal plumbing and things of that nature. It's a win-win for everybody. New meter capabilities were reviewed. The remote-read meter system has an estimated cost of \$205,000 and the Village would install the meters. We would go through the OWDA (Ohio Water Development Authority) for a low interest loan, probably over a 20-year term, to pay back this project as well as the Broad Street Project. Mayor Fries-Seip wanted to verify that all the meters would be under some kind of warranty even though we installed them ourselves. Neal Materni stated that is correct.

Neal Materni presented handouts for the **US 20 Water Line Project**, to replace the existing water line from Hollister to Subway. We would replace all service lines between the two locations, meter pits would be upgraded with the new meters we purchase. The total project cost is estimated at \$630,122.50. All of those costs can be rolled into the loan that we have secured for 30 years with 50% principal forgiveness. More information on this will be presented to Council in August per Tom Gray. Discussion was held.

With no further questions, Mayor Fries-Seip thanked Neal Materni, Don Clark, and Wes Brewer for coming in and sharing their expertise, and appreciated all of their hard work, and continued hard work, on behalf of all of our well-being. They left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Administrator** - Tom Gray stated his report was contained in the package to Council. He appreciated the opportunity to have Neal, Wes, and Don here to fill in the gaps.

**Fiscal Officer** – Report was previously provided to Council by Bonnie Beck. Deb Ewell stated Fiscal Officer is asking approval to remove \$426.66 of sewer charge from account 04\*1342\*14 due to a water leak of 48 thousand gallons. Mayor entertained a motion for that. Sam Wiley requested additional information. The motion to forgive the sewer charge was made by Craig Franklin, with Sam Wiley providing the second. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Police** - Chief Lyons referred to his monthly activity report, obviously it reflects Covid-19. We are still getting some of the major calls, the routine stuff is kind of down. It's hard to put into words but people are just acting weird. He doesn't know how else to put it. Perhaps it's a combination of everything that's been going on. Lieutenant Kimball and Officer Eggleston were involved in a call. They recovered a stolen vehicle out of Grand Rapids, Michigan. The whole thing started in Clyde and ended up in Norwalk. He stated they did a good job. Nick Meyers is progressing from his rehabilitation from his back surgery. He is hoping he might be back next Monday, if not then, perhaps the following Monday. Regarding enforcement, obviously some things have happened to where we've suspended our operations, he doesn't know if anything has been decided by the group as far as what direction we want to take, he needs some direction as where we are going on that.

Chief requested approval of two policies – # 311 Search and Seizure and # 316 Missing Persons. Jim Barney corrected some things in the missing persons and he is satisfied they are adequate. With no questions, Sam Wiley made the motion to approve the policies. Craig Franklin seconded. Motion carried with no discussion. Mayor Fries-Seip asked if the accommodation for Jordan Hanuscin was still in the works. Chief said yes, he was waiting for the award ribbons to come in, which they did. He is waiting for Jordan to come back from vacation.

Regarding the speed cameras, Jim Barney said there is really nothing new. The Chief sent out that case, it was kind of a totally different case, but the Supreme Court said basically that the State Legislature had a right to make us go to Municipal Court for all these things, so we won't be having Administrative hearings. There is going to be a substantial cost to it. We talked about this two years ago. Huron County Common Pleas Court Judge is to rule on our permanent injunction by July 16. We were optimistic two weeks ago, but now we are very pessimistic. He thinks the next step is how aggressively we want to pursue an appeal knowing what the Supreme Court is probably going to say anyway. We should not plan

on those funds anytime soon. He does not think it is a viable option. He is not optimistic at this point. He will keep us advised on this.

Chief Lyons segued back to the overloaded trucks messing up our roads. He asked if we could do truck weight enforcement. He would like to explore this to see if we could do a Village ordinance to address truck weights that would basically copy the state standards. If they are in violation, the fines are quite heavy, anywhere from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per violation. If they are causing a problem with our water lines, he would think we could use that money toward funding projects like that. Tom Gray asked if he thought there was supplemental funding from the state or federal to fund an officer to do something like that. Chief said not necessarily to fund the officer but we would be able to train them. We would have to put up some money. Mayor Fries-Seip asked how that would affect our farmers. Craig Franklin stated that agriculture has an exemption. Discussion was held.

**Mayor** - Mayor Fries-Seip said she attended a meeting with the Huron County Commissioners on June 30<sup>th</sup> regarding the CARES Act. They stated there were thirty different townships, cities, and villages that were eligible for this money and at that time, only four of them properly did everything to receive this money. The Village of Monroeville was one of them! Mayor said we are doing great job doing what we are supposed to do. We received just shy of \$70,000 to use on Covid related expenses. She went on to explain how we can use the funding. She shared the information with the Fiscal Officer. After October 15, for any entities that did not complete the paperwork properly to claim their share, their funding will go to the remaining ones that did.

Sam Wiley said he went through the OML training on line. One of the things they discussed was a Charter. Have we ever considered that? Jim Barney stated the difference between being a Charter Village and a Statutory Village. Discussion. Jim Barney stated he is not sure being a Charter Village is an advantage. Sam Wiley said he appreciated being able to take the training.

#### **BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Bob reported that the HRJFD met on July 1. There were 5 calls in June. They are working on painting the outside trim on the building. They are talking about hiring a new Chief. Chief Stang hasn't officially resigned. They are still working toward getting a new pumper.

Chris said the Planning Commission met last night and by unanimous vote they approved the amended map plans for Marsh Field. It does create additional parking, defines a new roadway into the park, and establishes a walkway from one parking area to the next. The trees on North Street are retained, the memorial stays as is, and the playgrounds stay as they are. They are ready to start at the end of the month or first of August. It will include drainage.

#### **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS FOR PASSAGE**

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to suspend the rules for the following legislation. Motion carried with no discussion.

##### **ORD 2020-10**

##### **AMEND/SUPPLEMENT**

*An Ordinance amending or supplementing certain funds for Appropriations Ordinance No 2020-06, and declaring an emergency was presented for passage. Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to pass Ordinance 2020-10 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion*

##### **RES 2020-21**

##### **AMENDMENT**

*A Resolution amending Resolution 2020-20 to reflect the recently passed legislative bill number and USC number regarding the distribution of Coronavirus relief funds, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to pass Resolution 2020-21 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.*

##### **RES 2020-22**

##### **W BROAD ST SANITARY SEWER PROJECT**

*A Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to advertise and receive bids for the W Broad Street sanitary sewer project, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to pass Resolution 2020-22 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.*

##### **RES 2020-23**

##### **ADVERTISE WATER METER REPLACEMENT**

*A Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to advertise and receive bids for water meter replacement project, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sue Rogers, to adopt Resolution 2020-23 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.*

**APPROVAL OF BILL SUMMARY**

Sue Rogers made a motion to approve the bill summary as presented, which includes memo expenses and check #042207 to #042319 for a total of \$975,922.44. Bob Whitacre had a question regarding payment to Doug Clifford. Chief Lyons explained the breakdown for the confiscated funds due to a drug bust, the majority of it went back to the defendant through his attorney Doug Clifford. Chris Raftery seconded the motion on the floor. Bob Whitacre had another question regarding payment to Studer-Obringer of \$165,000. Tom Gray explained it was all part of the municipal complex project. With no further questions, and roll being called, the motion carried with all in favor.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Bob Whitacre wanted to know if bricks were still available, Sue Rogers stated they were. Secondly, Bob said, there are a lot of holes created at Marsh Field from poles pulled out of the ground. Tom Gray said they would fill those in and put the fence up on North Street. Sue said over 70 bricks have been sold. Sam Wiley asked about any success with a new BZA officer. No information was noted at this time. Mayor said that the next work session we want to have here at the Legion. Tom Gray will make those arrangements. Mayor wanted to know when the summer help ended, as she wants to have a summer picnic but is not sure that is advisable. Some discussion. Perhaps we could do small samplings in each office instead of bringing everyone together. It is something to think about but definitely not within the next couple of weeks. Tom Gray said at least four weeks due to vacations. Chris thought maybe we could have it at the shelter house, with a cookout, and then we could invite everyone that wants to come. Mayor said it is something to think about. Sam Wiley asked if we happened to do any water flow testing at Berrys. Tom Gray said probably in the next couple of weeks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to adjourn. Motion carried with no discussion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

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Deb Ewell, Administrative Specialist

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Melissa M. Fries-Seip, Mayor

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