

On Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:00pm 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. This was the first meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the new Monroeville Municipal Complex. Social distancing was maintained.

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		Bonnie Beck, Fiscal Officer
	Chris Raftery		Tom Gray, Administrator
	Sam Wiley		Jim Barney, Solicitor
	Sue Rogers		

Also attending: Travis Seip, Melissa James, Police Chief Gary Lyons, Officer Jordan Hanuscin, his mother and his girlfriend Amanda, and Lt. Troy Kimball.

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

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Mayor asked for Council's approval to amend the agenda to include Resolution 2020-33. Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Sue Rogers, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **DISPOSITION OF MINUTES**

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2020 regular meeting and the August 25, 2020 special Council meeting as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **APPROVAL OF AUGUST FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve the August 2020 financial reports as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **PRESENTATION**

Mayor Fries-Seip welcomed Officer Hanuscin and his guests to the meeting, and asked him to step forward so she could present his award of recognition. She then read aloud the presentation which cited the life saving event on June 25<sup>th</sup> where Officer Hanuscin saved the life of a resident who had overdosed by administering Narcan twice and physical stimuli until the person regained consciousness, thereby saving the subject's life. Officer Hanuscin accepted the award and received a round of applause. He then shared a story of when he was first employed here, noting the kind of Chief Gary Lyons was, and asking for a standing ovation for him.

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

Melissa James introduced herself as a candidate for the Huron County Commissioner's seat. She stated that she was the Executive Director for the Chamber of Commerce for 16 years, and has been a resident of this area since 2000. As a Commissioner, she would like to attend local meetings at least twice a year. She has a great political network, and she wants the communities to be treated with the importance that they are. She said she is a local farmer, and she wants to make communities move forward with creativity and new ideas, and she would like to be blessed with that opportunity. She concluded by congratulating Council on their new building.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Administrator - Tom reported that with the heavy rain event yesterday there were two basement issues called in. Thor Johnson on Baker St. knows that his issue is on him. The issue with Lee Schnell, on Horseshoe Dr., is on us. The storm drainage has been an issue there for years, so we're going to have to hire a firm to camera and jet the line to find where the issue is, and what we may have to fund. Mr. Schnell had just installed a new storm water line to his house, hoping to alleviate the consistent rain issues. There were 2.7" of rain recorded at the water plant, but with numerous levels reported they were all significant. The Mayor asked how the virtual EPA certification went, and Tom replied that it went well. Mayor Fries-Seip interjected that she just received a text from Mark Rupp asking that he be excused from tonight's meeting. Chris Raftery made that motion, seconded by Sam Wiley. Motion carried with no discussion. Fiscal Officer - Bonnie asked what Council's thoughts were on **trick or treating** this year. She had received correspondence from the Huron County Health Department with the following recommendations: 1) No self-serve bowls of candy that children reach into should be permitted; 2) No entry into homes; and 3) All family groups should maintain appropriate physical distancing between

others. Bob stated that if the kids could go to school they should be able to do trick or treating. The Mayor agreed, adding that the kids should be able to do something fun. Bonnie said that unless Bob or Craig knew differently, the fire department would not be doing the parade. Bob said we need to start getting things moving, and Chris added that we can always cancel it if things changed. The Mayor asked if we should keep the same time frame. After a short discussion, it was determined that trick or treating would be the last Sunday in October, and since there might not be a parade, to extend the time from 1pm – 3pm. Announcements will be made. Bonnie stated that the actual second funding from CARES Act would be \$34,994, and this amount has been reflected in the legislation for tonight's passage. She also noted that with Debbie no longer employed by the Village, the bank has requested that she show them the Council minutes in which Council requests that her name be removed as a signatory on all of the Village bank accounts. Sam Wiley made a motion, second by Sue Rogers, to **have the bank remove Deborah Ewell's name from all Croghan Colonial Bank accounts effective immediately.** Motion carried with no discussion. Bonnie concluded her report by stating that Heather, the part-time office assistant, approached her about becoming full-time and learning Bonnie's duties with the potential of becoming the Fiscal Officer upon Bonnie's retirement. Bonnie stated that she was not going to pursue hiring another person right away, but since Heather has expressed an interest, Bonnie asked Council if they would approve the **internal posting** for the office's vacant position. Chris Raftery made the motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve Bonnie's request. Motion carried with no discussion. **Police** – The Chief said he didn't have a written report for the meeting, but the department has begun to do more officer initiated activity while maintaining safety. A week ago a group of safety officials met to discuss the timeline for the county-wide radio system. They are looking for an October date for issuance of the portables. He stated that he had sent copies of policy numbers 317, 320, 321, and 701 for review. Jim Barney had suggestions or comments for some of the policies, but it appears that they are now good to go. The Mayor asked if there were specific changes, and the Chief said they were mostly grammatical, with lines to include certain descriptions. Jim added that there were some off duty officer issues, too. Craig Franklin made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to approve the policies as requested. Motion carried with no discussion. The Chief stated that the security camera and locking system were installed by RJ Beck, and offered to give a quick tour for everyone at the end of the meeting. The Mayor asked about looking into our school zones, and the Chief said there's an updated list of the school times. It appears that the State took away the St. Joe's lunch time school zone. He and Ralph Moore will be looking into this.

#### **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**HRJFD** - Bob reported that the HRJFD Board met on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were 4 calls in August. They received a \$278,000 grant for the purchase of a new tanker. It's almost impossible to get a grant for a truck, so they're all very happy about this. There will be a 5% match for the grant. They have also received \$35,000 for a new jaws of life apparatus, and they will be paying \$20-21th total for the two purchases. Now they will be looking for a new pumper. Bob reminded everyone of the chicken barbeque on September 27<sup>th</sup>, starting at 11am. **Utilities Committee** - Chris reported that the Utilities Committee met on September 2<sup>nd</sup> to review the utility rate recommendations made by John Courtney. Regretfully, the Committee had to look at increases for the water and sewer rates in order to meet our debt requirements, and determined that the recommended increases will be done in two increments, one beginning with the October billing, invoiced in November, and the second one with April billing, invoiced in May. The Committee also looked at the SSR rates, but determined that because the rates meet the intended requirements there would be no increase. The Committee also recommends increasing bulk water rates by 50 cents per thousand gallons, effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. Sam asked why the split for the rate increases, and Chris replied that they want to phase into the full recommended increase. Legislation for the proposed increases is on tonight's agenda.

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

With all of the legislation being presented as emergency measures, the Mayor asked for a motion to suspend the rules. Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to suspend the rules for all of the legislation on the agenda. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **ORDINANCE 2020-13**

#### **SEWER RATES**

*An Ordinance amending the rates and charges for wastewater/sewerage services for Monroeville, Ohio, thereby amending Chapter 921.02 of Monroeville's Codified Ordinances, and declaring an emergency was presented for passage.* Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sue Rogers, to pass Ordinance 2020-13 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

#### **ORDINANCE 2020-14**

#### **WATER RATES**

*An Ordinance amending Section 929.02 of Monroeville's Codified Ordinances regarding water rates, and declaring an emergency was presented for passage.* Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to pass Ordinance 2020-14 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

**ORDINANCE 2020-15****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 Chris Raftery, to pass Ordinance 2020-15 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

**RESOLUTION 2020-31****RF WATER METERS CONTRACT**

*A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Neptune Equipment Company, Inc for the purchase of RF meters for the Water Meter Replacement Project, and declaring an emergency* was presented for adoption. Bob Whitacre made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to adopt Resolution 2020-31 by title only. Sam questioned the number of meters to be purchased, and Tom replied that we have a few meters that already have the pulse necessary for RF. Motion carried with no further discussion.

**RESOLUTION 2020-32****REPAY ADVANCE MILAN/RIVER**

*A Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to repay the General Fund for a portion of the advancement of funds used from OPWC for the Milan Ave/River Road Resurfacing Project, and declaring an emergency* was presented for adoption. Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to adopt Resolution 2020-32 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

**RESOLUTION 2020-33****CREATE CUSTODIAL FUND**

*A Resolution establishing a custodial fund for the accounting of county contributions for collection and distribution of funding for Milan Ave/River Road project, and declaring an emergency* was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to adopt Resolution 2020-33 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

**APPROVAL OF BILL SUMMARY**

Bob Whitacre made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to approve the bill summary as presented. The summary included memo expenses and check #042405 to #042458 for a total of \$847,905.26. Motion carried with no discussion.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Sue asked when the bricks were going to be laid. Bonnie noted that the area right in front of the main door is where they will be installed, and the bricks have already been ordered. She was told it would take 4-6 weeks for delivery. Tom asked if it was possible to order more bricks, and Bonnie said it was, but it was recommended that we wait until we have an order with more than one brick because the company charges \$25 for individual brick orders. There are 14 brick openings left.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to adjourn. Motion carried with no discussion. The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

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Bonnie Beck, MMC, Fiscal Officer

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Melissa M. Fries-Seip, Mayor

**This is not a ratified or  
approved copy.**