

On Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 6:00pm Mayor Fries-Seip opened the Council meeting in the MMC Council Chambers with a word of prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was then recited by those present. 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
	Mark Rupp		

Also attending: Heather Alicea, and Chief Gary Lyons.

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

EXCUSAL OF COUNCIL MEMBER

Mayor Fries-Seip asked for a motion to excuse Sue Rogers from the meeting, as she had called requesting to be excused. Sam Wiley made the motion to excuse Sue, seconded by Craig Franklin. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Mayor asked for Council's approval of the agenda. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Craig Franklin, to approve the minutes of the October 14th regular meeting as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to approve the October 2020 financial reports as presented. Bob asked why the MMC loan payment was less than expected. Bonnie replied that we have not used all of the loan funds yet, as there is a final pay application that has not yet been processed. Motion carried with no further discussion.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY CREDIT CARD REPORTS

Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to approve the October credit card reports as presented. Motion carried with no discussion.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrator - Tom reported that in the last few weeks there have been talks about a Berry Global expansion, which would create a significant increase in water and electric usage, as well as employment. They would like to add four state-of-the-art machines. The key is for us to adapt the electric rates. In 2014 we reset the rates to their benefit, but John Courtney has come up with a method to adjust the demand under the present usage pattern. The Utilities Committee will need to meet to discuss the large power rate schedule, then present it to Berry. There will be no impact on any other of the rate structures. Mark asked if AMP could help with this, but Tom said they could not. Tom then announced that Christmas in the Park would be on Saturday, December 5th from 3-5pm, with the focus again being in Commons Park. At the close of the event there will be a tree lighting. Santa can still be in his house, using plexiglass as a means of safety. Kids can still have their pictures taken in front of the house with Santa, and goodie buckets will be distributed. The former PD building at 9 Monroe St will be taken down on the 13th and 14th. Bob asked if the parking lot will still be done this year, and Tom said it would, as Studer-Obringer is ready to go. They can put a rough coat of blacktop down and we should be good. Tom said he has three action items for Council approval later in the meeting. **Fiscal Officer** - Bonnie asked for Council's approval to add Heather's name as a signatory on the bank accounts. This would enable any of the three office personnel to sign any documents as necessary. Mark Rupp made the motion to approve this request, seconded by Sam Wiley. Motion carried with no discussion. Bonnie then asked for Council's consideration of approving a CARES credit to approved utility accounts in the amount of \$100 instead of \$25. Since residents have to now show proof of financial need due to COVID, the funds are available for this increase, and it would be great to show a more significant amount of assistance to our residents. Trusting that Council would be in favor of this, Bonnie said she included it in the Resolution for CARES Act appropriations for their official approval. Bonnie asked for Council approval to hire Jacqueline Slate at \$14/hr for the MMC custodial position. There were three people who expressed interest in the position, but only two submitted letters of interest or resumes. Ms. Slate visited the building to see what the job entailed, and her references gave her highly commendable remarks. Sam Wiley made a motion to hire Jacqueline Slate as recommended, seconded by Chris Raftery. Motion carried with no discussion.

Tom

RESOLUTION 2020-42**CARES ACT SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM**

A Resolution authorizing the awarding of Monroeville's CARES Act Small Business Grant Program grant funds to qualifying businesses within the community, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to adopt Resolution 2020-42 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

RESOLUTION 2020-43**TRANSFER FUNDS FOR MMC**

A Resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Monroeville Municipal Complex Fund for fiscal year 2020 budget amendment purposes, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to adopt Resolution 2020-43 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

ORDINANCE 2020-18**TEMPORARY 2021 APPROPRIATIONS**

An Ordinance to make temporary appropriations for expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Monroeville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to pass Ordinance 2020-18 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

ORDINANCE 2020-19**AMEND APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE**

An Ordinance amending, reducing or supplementing certain funds for Appropriations Ordinance No 2020-06, and declaring an emergency was presented for adoption. Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to pass Ordinance 2020-19 by title only. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF BILL SUMMARY

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to approve the bill summary that included memo expenses and check #42561 to #42669 for a total of \$716,186.77. Motion carried with no discussion.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Bob asked about selling the former administrative office building. Tom said there are three parties who are enthusiastically interested in buying it, but until we have everything moved out we won't be doing anything. Right now it's being used for storage. The Mayor asked if Tom felt that if hanging on to it might change anything. Tom said it wouldn't. Legislation will be needed to approve the sale of the building. Bob asked about the progress of the sidewalk program. Tom said this will not be pursued this year as desired. The preliminary numbers from Poggemeyer did not meet our financial plan. It's possible there can be an electrical contribution with the removal of underground wiring. Comments were then made about the nice job the employees did in laying the bricks in front of the MMC. Tom was asked about W&LERR 's approval for hanging Monroeville lettering from their bridge/overpass. Tom said he has had 2 refusals, but he will call in markers with our legislative friends. The S. Ridge St underground cabling was then discussed. Tom said it's on the schedule, but the funding stopped at the railroad. Bob said the guys did a nice job on the Whitacre ditch. Discussion ensued about the Chrome books that Council approved to purchase. Jim commented that it is necessary for the public to be able to participate in Council meetings by whatever means Council is using for the meetings. Bonnie said her concern is the relationship of the purchase to the pandemic, as our meetings have never been closed to the public. Chris asked about the future use of them, and Bonnie said that kind of purchase is not permissible. (Note: the language used from the OBM is "pre pays or a future forward expense is not consistent with the ordinary policies and procedures for CARES Act.") Discussion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sam Wiley, to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a public employee. Motion carried with no discussion. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 6:47pm and reconvened at 7:10pm.

FINAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Mark Rupp, to authorize the internal posting for an apprentice journeyman lineman position. Motion carried with no discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before them, Sam Wiley made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to adjourn. Motion carried with no discussion. The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Bonnie Beck, MMC, Fiscal Officer

Melissa M. Fries-Seip, Mayor