

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 1 of 7

The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:20 P.M. in the McConnelsville Village Office. Mayor John W. Finley called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Councilman Tom Bragg	Present
Councilman Darrell Newton	Present
Councilman Terry Robison	Present
Councilman Mark Dille	Present
Councilwoman Michele Blackburn	Present
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

EMPLOYEES: Chief of Police Troy Copeland, Fiscal Officer Ellen M Henry, Village Administrator John Thompson, and Solicitor David Tarbert

VISITORS: Jay Cordray, Shawn Shannon, Galen Finley, Travis Brownrigg, Jeremy Welsh

Invocation

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of July 21, 2015

Councilman Newton made a Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Councilman Robison.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Abstain; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Bills of the Village

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to approve the bills, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation

Council signed off on the July Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 2 of 7

Mayor John W. Finley

Mayor Finley reported Council was given a copy of a flyer he received from the Muskingum River Advocacy Council; they are asking for everyone's support for their project.

Mayor Finley reported he received information from Columbia Gas requesting a Proclamation for a National 8-1-1 Day on August 11, 2015. Mayor Finley explained that 8-1-1 is the State's free phone number you can call to request utilities to be marked prior to digging.

Councilman Newton made a Motion to proclaim August 11, 2015 National 8-1-1 Day; seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Mayor Finley reported July Parking Meter receipts as follows: Fines - \$321.14; Meters - \$1,951.58 for a total of \$2,272.72. . Mayor Finley reported July Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$6,090.45; Morgan County Treasurer - \$237.30; Treasurer of State - \$1,373.45 for a total of \$7,701.20. Mayor Finley reported July Income Tax receipts as \$46,322.02.

Mayor Finley reported the Village Administrator received a letter from the EPA dated July 23, 2015 addressing the hazardous waste they cited us on. The letter states the Village has abated all violations and we are in compliance.

Mayor Finley reported he received a letter from the Morgan County Convention and Visitor Bureau. They are requesting to vacate the current lease they are in with the Village and would like to be moved out by September 1, 2015. Mayor Finley questioned if Council had any objection to this.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to approve their request, seconded by Councilman Dille.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Nay; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Mayor Finley requested the Fiscal Officer to advise them by letter.

Mayor Finley passed around information from Ohio Parks and Recreation Association for council to view.

Mayor Finley reported he has been contacted by a business owner that is concerned about the number of times we have closed the Square; he stated it was making him loose a considerable amount of business.

Mayor Finley reported the Village Administrator received a letter from the Ohio Department of Transportation thanking us for interest in the Safe Routes to School Program; however, we did not receive the funds for this.

Councilman Dille stated we can reapply next year.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 3 of 7

Mayor Finley reported he negotiated with Columbia Gas and they have agreed to assist in the expense towards the Fourth Street slip. Mayor Finley stated he will be signing an agreement with them stating we will not hold them responsible for any other slippage. Mayor Finley stated he is hoping to get with them yet this week; sign the Agreement and receive the check. Mayor Finley stated he appreciated the way they worked with us; and they commented the same. They stated if we have future projects and need assistance within the village, they would be willing to work with us on them.

6:20 P.M. Galen Finley and Travis Brownrigg and Jeremy Welsh entered the meeting.

Resolution 15-13

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 15-13, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MORGAN COUNTY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TO APPLY ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE FOR FUNDING TO COMPLETE THE OPERA HOUSE THEATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Robison.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Nay; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Dille made a Motion to adopt Resolution 15-13 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Nay; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 15-13 was duly adopted.

Ordinance 15-14

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-14, AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT SWIMMING AND FISHING FROM THE BOAT DOCK AND BOAT RAMP AT THE WHARF PARK.

Councilman Newton made a Motion to pass Ordinance 15-14 on the first reading, seconded by Councilman Robison.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Ordinance 15-14 was passed on the first reading.

Ordinance 15-15

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-15, AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE 2008 FORD CROWN VICTORIA AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO ADVERTISE FORD BIDS AND TO SELL TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER OR DISPOSE OF AS NECESSARY.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 4 of 7

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place on emergency measure, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilwoman Blackburn made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 15-15 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Dille.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Ordinance 15-15 was duly adopted.

Ordinance 15-16

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 15-16, AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place on emergency measure, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 15-16 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Ordinance 15-16 was duly adopted.

Public Participation

Mr. Galen Finley addressed Council in regards to the traffic light on Fifth Street. Mr. Finley asked Council to consider protesting the removal of this traffic light. Mr. Finley's vehicle was almost hit the other evening as he was trying to turn onto Main Street from Fifth Street. Mr. Finley stated you cannot see oncoming traffic until you are out into the road way. Mr. Finley also noted he watched two elderly ladies trying to cross the street and they were unable to do so as the traffic would not stop for them.

Mayor Finley stated that is why we are doing the thirty day study, so we can see how it does or does not work.

Mr. Travis Brownrigg addressed Council stating he has had the same issue.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 5 of 7

Village Administrator John Thompson

Village Administrator Thompson reported U.S. Bridge has completed the repair to the slip on Fourth Street.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the crew is currently working on a water leak on School Street.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has hired John Kirkbride to paint the front of the Mayor's Office and the Visitor's Center.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the fund balance within the water fund is growing and if Council chooses to, we can wait another year before painting either of the water tanks. Village Administrator Thompson stated it may help us in the long run in getting some grant money or zero percent loans; plus, we can build the fund up more. Village Administrator Thompson stated in talking with the Engineer, they do not feel it would hurt to go another year before we paint them.

Council asked Village Administrator Thompson if he was recommending we wait another year before moving forward with the painting of the tank.

Village Administrator Thompson stated yes.

Council also discussed the possibility of replacing the tanks with grant monies instead of painting them.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to hold off on the tank painting until next year; seconded by Councilman Bragg.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

The Motion carried.

Village Administrator Thompson is to apply for grants to see if we could possibly get funding to replace the tanks instead of painting them.

Mayor Finley reported he talked with Prosecutor Mark Howdysshell; he has been opening and closing the Wharf Park restrooms on a daily basis and has been keeping an eye on them for us. Mayor Finley wanted to thank him for this.

Chief of Police Troy Copeland

Chief Copeland reported the Samo Day event at Shrivens Pharmacy was well received from the community and he wanted to thank everyone that attended. Chief Copeland stated everything went very well.

Chief Copeland reported OK Coal donated two yards of concrete for Samo's kennel. He wanted to thank OK Coal for the donation and the village crew for pouring and setting it up for us.

Councilman Dille questioned if Chief Copeland seen any problems with the traffic light on Fifth Street.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 6 of 7

Chief Copeland stated he feels it will create some speeding issues; and, will have the same issues turning onto Main that we currently have on Fourth Street.

Councilman Newton questioned why we couldn't time the Fifth Street traffic light with the other lights.

Mayor Finley stated he feels we would have to replace them to do so as they are getting so old.

Councilman Bragg feels one of the biggest issues the light causes is with Maxwell's Drive Thru.

Councilwoman Gessel and other members noted they have had calls of concern in regards to removing that traffic signal.

Councilman Robison stated he feels the biggest problem(s) it will cause is pedestrians being able to get across the street; and, speeding.

Councilwoman Blackburn stated in looking at it from an Economic Development point of view; if people have to stop at the traffic light it gives them the opportunity to see our businesses and look at the beauty of our town.

Mayor Finley stated he wanted to compliment Chief Copeland. Chief Copeland has been working very hard on projects within the Village.

Recreation & Buildings Committee

Councilman Newton reported the signs are to be delivered to the pool the first of next week. Councilman Newton reported the pool is very busy with parties.

Mayor Finley stated he was very pleased as well with the pool this year.

Streets & Alley Committee

Councilman Robison stated he feels the property at Ninth and Union have had the sidewalks closed long enough. Councilman Robison stated he has been receiving a lot of complaints. Other council members noted they had received complaints also.

Chief Copeland stated he sent the property owner a letter regarding the safety issues and the weeds. Since the letter was mailed, he has put the fencing back up and taken down the weeds.

Councilman Robison stated the complaints he has been getting are due to the sidewalk still being closed and people having to walk into the streets causing safety issues.

Village Administrator Thompson stated the property owner has purchased a building permit and on it he stated construction would begin in September.

Mayor Finley stated he told him earlier this year it would start in May and nothing has happened yet.

Village Administrator Thompson stated he will send him a letter addressing the sidewalks directly and let him know they must be opened up and made safe.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 4, 2015

Page 7 of 7

Public Utilities Committee

Councilwoman Gessel reminded everyone of the Joint Utility Meeting that will be held on August 17, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in Malta Council Chambers. Councilwoman Gessel requested Fiscal Officer Henry to post the meeting and remind Malta Village.

Finance Committee

Councilman Bragg reported he brought information to Council at the last meeting in regards to the Village Health Insurance. After a brief discussion, Councilman Robison made a Motion to stay with the current plan; and, to look at making changes next year, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

The Motion carried.

Public Safety Committee

Councilwoman Blackburn reported she had a Committee Meeting on July 23rd. They reviewed the current curfew ordinance and discussed some changes that could be made. Councilwoman Blackburn stated she needs to have another meeting so more of the committee can be in attendance; and, she asked Chief Copeland if he could attend also. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.

Technology and Website Committee

Councilman Robison reported there was a little problem getting the Microsoft Office ordered; however, it is now ordered and the Sales Order has been given to the Fiscal Officer. Councilman Dille and Councilman Robison will schedule a time to get them set up.

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Blackburn.

Votes were: Councilman Tom Bragg, Aye; Councilman Darrell Newton, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Michele Blackburn, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

The meeting was adjourned till August 18, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at the McConnelsville Village Office.

John W. Finley
Mayor

Ellen M. Henry
Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the Village of McConnelsville concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.