

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## VILLAGE OF MCCONNELSVILLE COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 5, 2014

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The Village of McConnelsville convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:25 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	Absent
Councilwoman Mary Gessel	Present

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

**VISITORS:** Carol Morris, Fred Morris, Jim Greer,

#### **Invocation**

Invocation given by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Lead by Mayor John W. Finley.

#### **Excuse Absent Council Member**

Councilman Robison made a Motion to excuse Councilwoman Blackburn from the meeting, seconded by Councilman Bragg.

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

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Minutes of July 15, 2014**

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

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Bills of the Village**

Councilman Dille made a Motion to add the June Malta water billing in the amount of \$6,407.71 to the Bill Sheet, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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

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Councilman Newton made a Motion to approve the bills with the addition of the June Malta water billing in the amount of \$6,407.71, seconded by Councilwoman Gessel.

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

#### **Monthly Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation**

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

#### **Mayor John W. Finley**

Mayor Finley reported he has met with several people recently; Tara Campbell, Loan Officer and Andy Hardy, Director of Public Affairs with Finance Fund; Kathleen Young, Regional Liaison with Governor Kasich's office; Marilyn Ashcraft, Southeast Regional Representative with Lieutenant Governor Taylor's office; and, Jeff Siegler, Director of Revitalization with Heritage Ohio. Mayor Finley has given each of these people a tour of the Village offices. His purpose of meeting with them is to try and find grants and funds for a new Village Hall and/or property to build one on.

Mayor Finley reported he has recently met with a potential business owner. At this time, the gentleman does not want the business to be disclosed. Mayor Finley welcomed him into the area to look at the community; he was very pleased and interested when he left.

Mayor Finley stated he will continue to try and find new businesses or new jobs for the area.

Mayor Finley reported the Fiscal Officer is in receipt of a request from the Ohio Department of Commerce in regards to the transfer of a Liquor License from Wing Slinger to Bad Eye Bobs. Mayor Finley questioned if council wanted a hearing.

Councilman Newton made a Motion to not request a hearing, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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

Fiscal Officer Henry will return the request stating that Council does not require a hearing on this transfer.

Mayor Finley reported July Income Tax receipts as \$43,571.16. Mayor Finley reported July Mayor's Court receipts as follows: Village - \$4,868.50; Morgan County Treasurer - \$296.20; Treasurer of State - \$920.80 for a total of \$6,085.50. Mayor Finley reported July Parking Meter receipts as follows: Fines - \$174.00; Meters - \$1,687.18 for a total of \$1,861.18.

Mayor Finley reported he done a Proclamation for Dale Silvus' retirement and presented it at his party last week. Mayor Finley stated he also presented Mr. Silvus with a Proclamation from Governor Kasich's Office; and, Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor's Office.

Mayor Finley reported he is in receipt of a letter from Attorney John Wells in regards to the Hess property. Attorney Wells explained the estate is requesting the property be returned to them. Mayor Finley stated he has asked Solicitor Tarbert to look into this.

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Solicitor Tarbert stated he feels it will be OK; however, he would like to discuss this with Attorney Wells. Solicitor Tarbert stated we would need to stipulate and acknowledge that we have not complied with the two year maintenance agreement; thus, allowing it to be reverted back to them.

Mayor Finley turned the matter over to Village Administrator Thompson and Councilman Robison for further review.

Mayor Finley reported Ashland would like to donate their property on North Seventh Street to the Village for green space. The Village would be responsible for tearing down the buildings; and, they would probably give us a donation. Mayor Finley stated if the Village does not accept it, he will continue working with them to get it torn down.

Councilman Robison questioned if we had anything from the EPA regarding this property. Mayor Finley stated he does not; however, they went back and remediated the property again.

Village Administrator Thompson stated they still have monitoring wells and are monitoring it now.

Council requested the Mayor to find out how much of a donation they would give us.

Mayor Finley stated he will work on it.

Mayor Finley stated we have several Ordinances and Resolutions that need to be passed on emergency this evening.

Councilman Robison stated he wanted to make everyone aware that these emergency ordinances are for Grants and such; and, if we did not do them on emergency we could possibly lose them.

#### **Ordinance 14-29**

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 14-29, AN ORDINANCE REDUCING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

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, Aye; Councilman Terry Robison, Aye; Councilman Mark Dille, Aye; Councilwoman Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-29 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 Mary Gessel, Aye.

Ordinance 14-29 was duly adopted.

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#### **Ordinance 14-30**

Mayor Finley introduced Ordinance 14-30, AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Councilman Robison made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place 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 Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Bragg made a Motion to adopt Ordinance 14-30 on emergency measure, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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

Ordinance 14-30 was duly adopted.

#### **Resolution 14-31**

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 14-31, A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to suspend the rules requiring three separate and distinct readings and place 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 Mary Gessel, Aye.

Councilman Robison made a Motion to adopt Resolution 14-31 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 Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 14-31 was duly adopted.

#### **Resolution 14-32**

Mayor Finley introduced Resolution 14-32, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT; AND, OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

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

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Councilman Dille made a Motion to adopt Resolution 14-32 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 Mary Gessel, Aye.

Resolution 14-32 was duly adopted.

#### **Village Administrator John Thompson**

Village Administrator Thompson reported the Sunset sewer pumps are in; and, the control panel has been set. They had a few issues and had to replace a couple more check valves; this project is pretty much completed.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the Specs for the boat docks are completed; and the bid will come out in the paper tomorrow. The Bid Opening will be on August 28, 2014 here at Village Hall. Village Administrator Thompson stated his plans are to have them purchased within six to eight weeks after the bid is awarded.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he and Fiscal Officer Henry met with Buckeye Hills and MS Consultants about funding the next phase of the sewer separation. We are looking at ARC, CDBG, and OPWC Grants. We have to apply for OPWC first; and wait to see if it is awarded in December. Then we can begin applying for the other grants next spring. Due to this factor, it is going to throw the project back one year in getting construction started. Per EPA requirements; we are to have this project completed by 2017.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he has a little dilemma regarding the OPWC application. When applying for this grant, you can apply for a partial grant and partial loan; or you can apply for a one hundred percent loan at zero percent interest for thirty years. If we apply for the grant and loan; and, do not get funded, we can reapply for Small Government using the same application from the original round. If we would not get funded through either round, then we would have to wait until next year in the fall and apply again for OPWC; thus, holding us back another year for beginning construction.

Village Administrator Thompson explained to Council how the point system worked in rating the grants. Village Administrator Thompson is going to work on the numbers some more and bring the information back to Council at the next meeting to help make the decision on which way to apply.

Mayor Finley read over the Village's current loan situation.

Village Administrator Thompson reported the crew has begun patching the streets.

Village Administrator Thompson reported he met with the County Water Authorities yesterday and they are discussing emergency connections. They want Council's input on what they want to do and what they feel needs to be done.

Village Administrator Thompson passed out a copy of the fence they are going to put up at the Fourteenth Street building. The cost to purchase the fence will be between \$500 and \$1,000 dollars.

Village Administrator Thompson passed out water charts for Council to view.

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Councilwoman Gessel stated she has previously discussed this matter with the Village Administrator; however, she wanted the record to show that she brought this matter before Council. Mr. Steve Inman has contacted her about the Tennis Courts needing resurfaced; and, in talking with the Village Administrator we do not have the money to do so right now. They are going to repair the cracks before winter.

Mayor Finley stated we will continue to keep looking for grants to help in getting the Tennis Courts resurfaced.

Councilman Robison reported he has received a complaint of open burning on Jefferson Avenue and Third Street. Mayor Finley stated this is small enough to fit within the Ordinance.

Chief Copeland will check into it to make sure they are not burning trash.

Councilman Bragg questioned if the new signs that have been placed within the Historic District have been checked into to see if they comply.

Mayor Finley requested Chief Copeland to look into the matter.

#### **Recreation & Buildings Committee**

Councilwoman Gessel reported the Pool Manager is concerned about the lack of attendance to date for the Employee Pool Party.

Mayor Finley stated he does not feel there is enough participation and it should be cancelled. Council concurred. The Employee Pool Party was cancelled.

Councilwoman Gessel stated she would contact the Administrative Assistant to put a notice out.

Councilwoman Gessel stated the Assistant Pool Manager has requested the ramp in the pool to be removed and replace it with the steps. She stated the kids are swimming underneath the ramp.

Mayor Finley stated he felt we would have to get the State's permission to have it removed.

It was discussed to possibly build something under the ramp so the children cannot get in rather than removing it.

#### **Streets & Alley Committee**

Mayor Finley reported he was contacted by a village resident in regards to the trash truck traveling in the alley that runs off of Liberty and comes back up on Seventh Street. It is tearing up the new paved alley. Mayor Finley requested Chief Copeland to look into this.

#### **Public Utilities Committee**

Councilman Bragg stated the sidewalk to the new bridge being edged looks one hundred percent better.

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Mayor Finley reminded everyone the Joint Water and Sewer Meeting will be held on August 25, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in Malta's Council Chambers.

#### **Public Safety Committee**

Councilman Dille reported he has heard from Allen Kraig and someone is assigned to the Village regarding the Sidewalk to School Program and they will be getting with us.

#### **Other Business**

Mayor Finley stated he has taken the Employee Ordinance to the President of Council to review; and after he gets it back to the Mayor, he is going to send it to the Solicitor to review. Mayor Finley is hoping to present it to Council on August 19<sup>th</sup> for the first reading.

Mayor Finley stated if Council does not object; he is going to make an Administrative decision to go ahead and make Kelly Wells position full-time in the interim of passing this Ordinance.

None of Council made an objection.

#### **Adjournment of Meeting**

Councilwoman Gessel made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Robison.

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

The meeting was adjourned till August 19, 2014 at 6:00 P.M. at the McConnelsville Village Office.

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John W. Finley  
Mayor

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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.