

McDONALD VILLAGE COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Visitors: Ken Miner, Joe Dugan, Karly Wireman, Damien Rouns, Steve Papalas,
JoMarie Jones and Hannah Jones

Staff: Fiscal Officer Robin DeBow, Fire Chief Todd Stitt, Police Chief Bill Woodley,
Solicitor Douglas W. Ross, Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich, and Office
Manager Char McCracken

1. The March 7, 2018 meeting of McDonald Village Council was called to order by Mayor Glen M. Puckett at 6:15 p.m.

Roll call:

Mr. O'Brien – present
Mr. Seitz – absent*
Mr. Fisher – present

Mr. Harvey – present
Mr. Lewis – present
Mr. Bradley – present

* Mr. Seitz is absent due to his work schedule

2. Pledge of allegiance

One minute of silence in remembrance of American troops serving throughout the world and the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

3. Approval of the February 21, 2018 council minutes.

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to approve the February 21, 2018 minutes as mailed:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

4. Adoption of agenda:

It was moved by Mr. Fisher to accept the agenda as presented:

Roll call:

Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye

4. Adoption of agenda cont'd.

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

5. Mayor's report - Mayor gave the monthly court report as follows:

For the month of February, Mayor's Court had computer fund I \$194, costs \$656, overpayment/adjustment \$3, fines \$1128, Niles Municipal Court fines \$25.40 parking tickets \$185, law enforcement fund \$12 for a grand total of \$2203.40.

Mayor asked for confirmation on the appointment of David Smith as a full-time police officer. He comes highly recommended and has a great record. He has been with multiply agencies over his career. This will bolster our current police department since we have a shortage of officers. He thanked the officers we have for picking up extra shifts during time.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis to confirm the appointment of David Smith as a full-time officer.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor asked Council to waive the last six months of probationary period for Officer Jeff Walp. He has been an officer here for a while and is a great asset to our Police Department. He has shown he can do the job and we're glad to have him.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis to waive the second six months of probation for Officer Jeff Walp.

Discussion: Mr. Lewis stated both Officer Walp and Officer Smith have done a great job for our department.

5. Mayor's report cont'd.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Puckett stated he would like to appoint Hannah Jones as park supervisor. He interviewed Miss Jones who loves kids and is dedicated and has lots of ideas.

It was moved by Mr. Harvey to approve the appointment of Hannah Jones for park supervisor this coming season.

Discussion: Mr. Harvey stated we have a program that is second to none and she has the heart and abilities to take the program to another level.

Roll call:

Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

6. Report of Village Officials:

Village Administrator Thomas Domitrovich stated that this year's curbside spring cleanup will be held the regular pickup day, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 20 and 21. You will be allowed to put out extra bulk items such as refrigerators, furniture etc. and extra bags of garbage. Any questions, please call the Municipal Building.

The 2018 road paving project is completed in paper form. After review, a legal ad will be prepared for bids. The project will start after July 1.

Mr. Domitrovich gave his condolences to previous Fire Chief Nick Kish and his family on the death of his wife, Terri.

6. Report of Village Officials cont'd.

Police Chief Bill Woodley thanked Mayor and Council for their support on the appointment of Dave Smith as a full-time officer and for waiving the last six months of Officer Walp's probationary period. Both of them are outstanding and have done an outstanding job.

He stated he distributed his end of the month report as follows: For the month of February, the department received 154 calls for the 911 center. They investigated 25 formal complaints, conducted 63 traffic stops resulting in 29 citations, and made 5 criminal arrests. They issued 10 parking tickets, 3 parking warning and conducted 2 welfare checks. They responded to 4 alarm drops, 1 animal complaint, 22 medical calls, 2 lockout calls, 2 missing persons calls, 4 suspicious activity calls, 2 suspicious person calls, and 2 suspicious vehicle calls. All officers completed 4 hours of continue police training and annual taser recertification. Several officers attended a judgmental driving simulator course.

Chief Woodley attended a Board of Directors meeting for the McDonald Federal Credit Union and spoke with them about active shooters. Niles Municipal Court Judge Shaker appointed all officers as bailiffs for Niles Court.

Mr. Bradley stated that Officer Walp had expressed an interest for additional training and programs. The struggle we have right now is we don't have anyone to replace him while he attends a four-day program but I wanted us to keep in mind if we get that opportunity he is really seeking out extra training. I think it is very commendable that someone wants to better further himself.

Fire Chief Todd Stitt stated for the month of February, the Fire Department answered 24 EMS calls and 5 fire calls. They had a fire drill at the high school on February 27 and all went well. Terri Kish, EMT, passed away on 3/1/18.

Solicitor Douglas W. Ross – no report.

7. Committee reports:

President Pro Tem Mr. Lewis reported on tonight's Caucus where the following items were discussed: agenda, Fiscal Officer's report, council minutes, legislation, promotion of Officer David Smith, Jeff Walp's probationary period, appointment of our park supervisor, and the date of the Service committee meeting.

7. Committee reports cont'd.

Park & Buildings Mr. Harvey reported they met last evening and discussed the Easter egg hunt, which is March 24, at 11:30. The Village is co-sponsoring it with Girl Scout Troop 80172. The event is a non-smoking event. He commented on the appointment of Hannah Jones as park supervisor. He stated that our park programming is second to none and he looks forward to working with Miss Jones. The committee discussed the Positive Impact Day. The Village is working with Chris Rupe on the project. The Relay for Life will be held here again this year and there is a meeting tomorrow evening at the Liberty Administration Building. They are looking at expanding the splash pad hours by one hour to 11- 6 Monday through Friday. We will have 6 concerts in the park this year and they will begin in July. The Firefighter's Festival will be held June 27-30 this year. The basketball courts are open 8-6 daily. It will continue for now to see how it will go. There will be an ad hoc committee to discuss it further.

Mayor Puckett stated the ad hoc committee will meet Monday, March 12, at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Safety Committee Mr. Seitz – In the absence of Mr. Seitz, Mr. Lewis gave the Safety report as follows: Safety met yesterday. Congratulations to Officer Jeff Walp. You just don't get the waiving of your second six months of probation but he had done a knockout job. Also, congratulations to Officer David Smith on being promoted full time in the Police Department. The big topic of discussion was the Police Department in regards to hourly wages. We had a lengthy discussion last September where the department did some research at our request for the hourly rates. The bottom line is we have phenomenal group of officers and we are paying them the lowest rates compared with other departments in this area. To show them how we appreciate them to let them know we want them to stay in McDonald and keep this the best and safe Village in the state we have offered a raise to our six full-time officers.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis to authorize the Solicitor to amend the salary ordinance to increase the full-time police officers wage by one dollar per hour.

Discussion: Mr. Lewis stated that this wasn't just a decision that was made last night. This is something that we have had lengthy discussion. We will still be twenty percent less than some departments.

Mr. Bradley stated these other departments that are trying to grow and have manpower, they can just come in and cherry pick our people of who they want; the best that we have. This isn't something where the officers say if I don't get

7. Committee reports cont'd.

what I want I'm leaving. The bottom line is we have an obligation to respect their position and what they offer to this town and what they are up against every day. I'm happy that we going to do this.

Mr. Fisher stated we've never considered a pay raise without undergoing a study of local and state departments as well. We have been diligence in doing those studies and comparisons.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Harvey – abstain
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

Mr. Lewis sends his condolences to the Kish family. He thanked the Weathersfield Fire Department for manning our station from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. so our firefighters could attend the calling hours.

Finance & Capital Improvement Mr. Lewis reported Finance met last evening at 6:03 p.m. and it ended at 6:13 p.m. The discussion regarding the raises was part of the Finance discussion. It is within our budget for it to happen. Tonight, we have the third reading of two pieces of legislation.

We also had our Service Chair, Mr. Fisher, discuss financial information with regards to Service although he did not hold a Service meeting.

Mr. Fisher stated oftentimes our committees do cross lines. There are things that do associate with both. Most of the time contracts do involve financial matters. In this particular case we did discuss during the Finance meeting that the Village Administrator was taking bids for demolition of 328 Illinois Ave. Probably by the end of next week we should have that all wrapped up. We did discuss the Armstrong contract which will be in the record for the third meeting in a row for those that continue to seek information on that. We were informed that this is not the year that we need to renew the franchise fee agreement. We collect a check periodically on that. We will be submitting for sidewalk replacement grants which will take place in 2019-2020 years. It is always good to plan ahead for those things. That will be an 80/20 match. We did receive some updates on the

7. Committee reports cont'd.

insurances and the associated costs. We received one grant in the past with NOPEC our energy consortium. They are offering another grant to be used for improvement for energy related issues in the Village. We want to submit it to garner some money for our buildings to make them energy efficient.

Service Committee Mr. Fisher extended his condolences to the Kish family. It is a big loss. They were heavily involved in the Village.

He apologized for cancelling the last Service Committee meeting on Tuesday. He cut his finger off at work and was at the surgeon's office at the time of the meeting. He attended the other committee meetings at 6:00 p.m.

Service will meet Monday, March 19, at 8:30 a.m. in the old income office of the first floor of the Municipal Building so that anyone with a handicap will be able to attend.

Planning Commission Mr. Bradley stated Planning Commission is scheduled to meet at 7:00 p.m. on March 14 here at the Community Room.

Community Chest Mr. O'Brien reported all is well with Community Chest; no report.

8. Remarks from persons or groups present: Steve Pappalas, Trumbull County Engineers office, stated he will attend our meetings periodically now. In the near future he will reach out to Mr. Domitrovich to schedule a meeting you (Mayor Puckett) and him to talk about some things of interest.

Joe Dugan, 501 W. Marshall Rd. asked if the smoking ban extended to the baseball fields and Council answered yes, it is part of the park system.

9. Old Business: none

10. New Business: none

11. Legislation:

A Third reading of an Ordinance No. 3216-18 To Make Appropriations For 2018 To Various Divisions Of The Village Government For Each Of The Several Objects For Which The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, Has To Provide Out Of The Monies Known To Be In The Treasury Of Said Village During The Year From

11. Legislation cont'd.

The Collection Of All The Taxes And From All Other Sources Of Revenue For 2018.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis that Ordinance No. 3216-18 be passed as read.

Discussion: Mr. Lewis stated last year we came through the auditor's report with flying colors and I have no doubt in my mind that that will happen again because the folks that we have running the departments and the Fiscal Officer watch every dime, nickel, and penny.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

B Third reading of Ordinance No. 3217-18 Transferring Funds Within Various Funds Within The Village Of McDonald, Ohio, For A Period Beginning January 1, 2018, And Ending December 31, 2018.

It was moved by Mr. Lewis that Ordinance No. 3217-18 be passed as read.

Roll call:

Mr. Lewis – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Bradley – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Motion carried.

12. Fiscal Officer's report.

Mrs. DeBow reported that the bills for the Fiscal Officer's report total \$58,480.07.

I, Robin DeBow, Fiscal Officer of the Village of McDonald, Ohio do hereby declare that the bills are true and correct and the money is in the bank to pay them.

12. Fiscal Officer's report.

It was moved by Mr. Bradley to accept the Fiscal Officer's report and pay all bills.

Roll call:

Mr. Bradley – aye
Mr. Harvey – aye
Mr. Fisher – aye

Mr. O'Brien – aye
Mr. Lewis – aye

Motion carried.

13. Miscellaneous: Mr. Harvey stated regarding the smoking ban it is going to be a learning process. I've been down there and you get near the splash pad or music in the park and someone wants to smoke. Now this will give us the opportunity to say no. I've sat at the splash pad and watched people at the benches and somebody will light a cigarette there with the kids and you have to move. We don't want that to happen. We want the experience to be smoke free. This will give us a tool to say please put it out, please honor our wishes here, enjoy your visit. Cortland is looking to do the same thing.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Harvey at 6:48 p.m. All voted aye.

Mayor

Attest to:

Fiscal Officer