



**Monroe Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting of Council  
July 27, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.  
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

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***Pledge of Allegiance***

Mayor Frentzel opened the regular meeting of Council at 6:31 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Roll Call***

Council members present: Tom Callahan, Jason Frentzel, Keith Funk, Anna Hale, Todd Hickman, and Christina McElfresh.

***Approval of the Minutes***

Mr. Funk moved to approve the Council Minutes of July 13 and July 21, 2021; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

***Visitors***

Paul Lane of Lebanon Street asked about the status of the speed limit reduction request on Lebanon Street. Mr. Funk advised that the Public Safety Committee will be discussing this tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.

Chris Bailey, Director of Community Partnerships, and Matt Devries, Business Development Analyst with AEP Energy spoke about Integrated Renewable Energy (IRE). Mr. Bailey explained that this product was created because companies such as, Google, Amazon, and Microsoft wanted to build their new data centers in Ohio with local renewable energy. The City of Columbus wanted to supply their electric aggregation with newly built renewable energy and they agreed to this beginning in March. AEP enters into agreements to create 100% renewable energy for cities, is a long-term agreement, and budget friendly.

Mrs. McElfresh asked where the power supply source comes from. Mr. Bailey advised that it would not be built in Monroe, it is likely to come from facilities in northern Ohio.

Mr. Funk asked if it was less expensive than current utility providers and what if someone would want to opt out. Mr. Bailey advised that it isn't always less expensive and a resident can opt out or join anytime.

***Committee Reports***

None.

***Old Business***

None.



***New Business***

Mr. Callahan reported that a resident contacted him about a speeding problem on Apple Knoll and the residents he spoke with would like a four-way stop at Granny Smith at Apple Knoll. Mr. Brock advised that both police and engineering can look at this to see if a four-way stop is warranted.

**Emergency Resolution No. 44-2021.** A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and CT Consultants for professional engineering services for the observation and reporting for the State Route 63 and Lawton Avenue Reconstruction Project and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock advised this will provide for inspection services for the State Route 63 and Lawton Avenue Reconstruction Project.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 44-2021 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on its first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Callahan. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 44-2021 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 44-2021; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

**Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-25.** An Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of amendments to Section 4.01 of the Charter of the City of Monroe, Ohio, establishing term limits for members of City Council, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-25 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-25 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-25; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: three ayes; three nays (Callahan, Funk, and Hale). Motion failed.

**Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-26.** An Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of amendments to Section 4.02 of the Charter of the City of Monroe, Ohio, to allow any eligible Council member to submit their name for consideration of Mayor and/or Vice Mayor, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-26 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-26 by title only.



Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-26; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

**Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-27.** An Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of amendments to Section 4.06 of the Charter of the City of Monroe, Ohio, to reduce excused absences from four to three and require the attendance of 66% of regularly scheduled meetings in a calendar year, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-27 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-27 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-27; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: three ayes; three nays (Callahan, Funk, and Hale). Motion failed.

**Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-28.** An Ordinance providing for the submission to the electorate of amendments to the Charter of the City of Monroe, Ohio, to provide for gender neutral references; require Council proceedings on public media platforms; include additional duties of the City Manager; amend what is to be adopted by an ordinance; permit legislation to be read by title only unless otherwise indicated; allow resolutions to become effective immediately; increase the time limit for zoning public hearings from 30 to 60 days; add or eliminate departments; eliminate the requirement for Council to authorize obtaining bids; and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-28 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-28 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-28; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Roll call vote: four ayes; two nays (Callahan and Hale). Motion carried.

**Consideration of Motion** setting the public hearing on an application of rezoning real property located at 860 Holman Avenue for Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Brock noted that Planning Commission heard the request and gave a favorable recommendation to rezone from agricultural to industrial.

Mr. Funk moved to set the public hearing on the application of rezoning real property located at 860 Holman Avenue for Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

**Consideration of Motion** authorizing the expenditure of \$310,000.00 for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Department of Fire.



Chief Centers reported this is the final step in the replacement of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

Mr. Funk moved to authorize the expenditure of \$310,000.00 for Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Department of Fire; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Frentzel noted that there is still a vacant seat on Council and the existing members of Council have been unable to come to an agreement on the appointment to fill the vacancy. Mayor Frentzel asked if anyone would like to make a motion or adjourn into executive session to discuss this.

Mr. Funk moved to appoint Marc Bellapianta to the open seat on Council; seconded by Mr. Callahan. Roll call vote: three ayes; three nays (Frentzel, Hickman, and McElfresh). Motion failed.

Mr. Callahan moved to adjourn into executive session to consider the appointment of a public official; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Council adjourned into executive session at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Funk moved to reconvene into regular session; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh.

Council reconvened into regular session at 7:24 p.m.

### ***Administrative Reports***

Mr. Brock provided an update to the strategic priority areas:

#### *Well Managed Services and Infrastructure*

**Asset and infrastructure management.** Projects have been submitted by departments through the budget process.

**Staff resources.** The position of Human Resources Manager was approved by Council and interviews will begin next week.

#### *Strategic Growth and Development*

**Strategic approach to maintaining a small-town feel.** Complete and adopt the Comprehensive Plan and educate boards and commissions on its content. The Plan will be distributed to Council and Planning Commission this week and it will be on the website by Friday.

#### *Communication and Interpersonal Connections*

Nothing is moved here as it was already scheduled for later this year.



*Parks and Connectivity*

**Creating a formal organizational structure and staffing for parks and recreation.** This is scheduled to be discussed during the October budget retreat.

**Trails and connectivity.** Work is scheduled to begin in the fourth quarter.

Mrs. McElfresh stressed the need that Planning Commission understands the need for connectivity.

Mr. Hickman advised he received another complaint about the LeSourdesville Fire Station. Mr. Brock will check with Mr. Morton on the timeline for demolition.

Mr. Hickman asked the Clerk of Council to go over the votes for 2021-25 and 2021-27. Mrs. Wasson replied that Mr. Callahan, Mr. Funk, and Mrs. Hale voted no on Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-25 and Emergency Ordinance 2021-27.

***Adjournment***

Mr. Funk moved to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, MMC  
Clerk of Council