

**Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of Council
August 27, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Routson opened the regular meeting of Council with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Council members present: Jason Frentzel, Keith Funk, Anna Hale, Todd Hickman, Christina McElfresh, and Robert Routson

Mr. Funk moved to excuse Mr. Clark; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Staff members present:

- City Manager William J. Brock
- Law Director K. Philip Callahan
- Chief of Police Robert Buchanan
- Fire Chief John P. Centers
- Director of Finance Karen Ervin
- Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk of Council

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Funk moved to approve the Council Minutes of August 13, 2019; Finance Committee Minutes of August 13 and August 20, 2019; and Public Involvement Committee Minutes of August 19, 2019; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

Present were Maureen Corl; Dr. John Taylor, Medical Director for the emergency department; and Mark Johnston, EMS Coordinator of Liberty Christ Hospital.

Maureen Corl of Liberty Christ Hospital stated that they are a full service emergency room, licensed with the state as an inpatient hospital because it is labor and delivery, and mandated to have inpatient beds as well as an ICU. We do not typically keep our inpatients and ICU patients in that facility, but we do have the capabilities in case there was an emergency. The emergency room is full service and we can do anything there that any other emergency room on the same level can do. We have observation units and outpatient surgeries, mostly some laparoscopic surgery such as hips and knees.

We have about 10 cardiologists that see patients mostly in the outpatient office. The rest are different noninvasive diagnostic testing. We have CT scans and MRIs, ultrasounds, labs, and

different types of therapy. It is a three-story hospital and most of the building is outpatient and we have physicians and nurse practitioners that see patients. We try to provide just about every specialty so people do not have to go downtown. We are pretty equal across the board except for Atrium and West Chester that do have more capabilities.

Whenever a patient is picked up the most important thing is what is going on with that patient, what is their condition, and how severe it is. If someone is having an encephalitic situation we want to get them to the closest place that can do intubation and give them medication as fast as possible. What is the best for the patient. Time of day and the day of the week is also important because one of the things we talk about is having a cath lab or not having a cath lab. Monday through Friday there might be hospitals that have cath labs, but on nights and weekends there is no one in that cath lab. There are no physicians or staff. If you have a patient that is having a heart attack and needs to be taken to the emergency room, we allow 30 minutes for staff to come in. That 30 minutes is going to happen no matter where the patient goes unless the staff happens to be there for another patient. The 30 minutes coincides with the staff coming in and the patient being transferred downtown.

Patient preference is important as they are comfortable with their primary care physician if they are there or they have seen a cardiologist they are comfortable with and they prefer to stay in that network. This does get important. Even though every hospital is on EPIC, which is our electronic medical records system, we can share information. It is nice if a patient already has a relationship with a certain facility and it helps with continuity of care. We want to streamline their care. We do not want to duplicate services as that gets expensive. It also can bring the patient on a different track than maybe what they have been working on for a while. We had a patient that we had been watching and they duplicated tests and wound up with a device that he didn't need. Insurance coverage is a risk if the hospital is in network or out of network.

Hospital quality is very important because once you get into system you are at their mercy of what is going on. Not all emergency rooms and hospitals are equal in quality.

Mr. Funk asked if her presentation was given in the order of how she would rank them as most important. Ms. Corl replied that she may flip the patient preference and continuity of care, but felt they are equal. The first thing we want to do is take the patient where they need to go. Sometimes you can have a patient with shortness of breath and you do not know is from an asthma attack, heart attack, or a collapsed lung.

Dr. Taylor added that EMS have protocols that assist with where to go as they have a list of the capabilities of the different hospitals.

Mr. Funk is concerned that when patient preference is fourth on the list and a patient requests to go to a certain hospital; however, during that transport another call is received with a patient that has a much more severe condition, we are looking at response time because our medics are tied up. Mr. Funk asked if this happens frequently.

Ms. Corl replied that she listed the amount of miles the facilities are and the time of day makes a difference as well. For example, on a Friday evening when traffic is higher it is going to take an

ambulance out of commission for a longer period of time. For the most part, the hospitals are pretty close to each other so that is not a huge concern. Some communities only have one hospital near them.

Mr. Hickman asked if a patient needed transported quickly would Liberty Christ transfer the patient to West Chester if that was their preference. Dr. Taylor advised that if a patient needed to be transferred they would offer the transportation to the main Christ hospital or, if a patient wanted to go to a closer hospital such as West Chester, a consultation with that hospital would take place to make sure they can care for that patient.

Mr. Hickman asked if there were any issues with the turn-around time for EMS such as, how long it takes to leave the patient at the hospital and get back to town. Dr. Taylor advised that he has not received any complaints.

Ms. Corl added that the Liberty hospital and the main hospital downtown have the same tax identification, which means that there is no additional cost to the patient for transporting from one to the other.

Mr. Funk asked for an opinion on what is the bare minimum that they need to provide the residents, such as fastest, closest, best.

Dr. Taylor referred to the EMS and referring to their protocol.

Mr. Hickman is hoping to have a system in place when EMS arrives there is something in place that indicates where the patient prefers to be transported to. He noted that Kettering Middletown will be present at the September 10th Council meeting. The goal is for the residents to have a choice of which hospital to be transported to. Mr. Hickman referred to a resident that resides on State Route 4 and understood that EMS would use State Route 63 to I-75 and noted that you could go north or south on I-75 and you are only talking a minute.

Mr. Hickman informed Council that we know what Atrium and West Chester can do and if you want them to come to a meeting he can arrange that.

Mr. Frentzel asked if we are still evaluating if the preference of the residents can be put in the system.

Chief Centers replied that he spoke with the Chief of Police about putting the information in the CAD system; however, that system is driven by address and, since the occupants change, it would be difficult to update and maintain that. Chief Centers explained the EMS sign post program that has a scanable ID that is a magnet that goes on their refrigerator. The problem is we may not have time to go to the refrigerator to get the information. We use our experience to make the best transport decisions. It is based on time of day, where the patient wants to go, their condition, and their base hospital where they have most of their medical things done if they have a significant history. There are a lot of things that are taken into consideration.

Mr. Frentzel was not discounting any of this, but asked if someone is cognizant and they give their preference, EMS would analyze the time of day and their condition. Chief Centers explained that if they have a preference that is farther away and the patient has an unstable medical condition, his staff would contact their Medical Director at Atrium and explain the situation to get the permission. He noted this eliminates the City's liability

Mr. Hickman asked if there was a psych patient, with a previous history of psych, would you be able to handle any person for that. Dr. Taylor stated that they can pretty much handle anything and with psych, they could stabilize and treat them.

Committee Reports

Public Works Committee
Finance Committee
Administrative Liaison Committee
Technology Committee
Public Involvement Committee
Public Safety Committee

Old Business

Resolution No. 38-2019. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with multiple Butler County jurisdictions to apply for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for a multi-agency radio grant. (Second Reading)

Mr. Brock noted this is for a grant application for radios in the fire department.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 38-2019 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 38-2019 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 38-2019; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 39-2019. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement by and between the City of Monroe and Liberty Township. (Second Reading)

Mr. Hickman asked if we are sending a squad as well as a fire truck to Liberty. Chief Centers replied that this only deals with structure fires and the squad would not be sent.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 39-2019 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 39-2019 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 39-2019; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 40-2019. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract by and between the City of Monroe and KZF Architects for professional design services for fixtures, furnishings, and equipment design and support services at 601 South Main Street. (Second Reading)

Mr. Brock requested that Council adopt this Resolution as an emergency so the design and project can be completed.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Resolution No. 40-2019 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the second reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 40-2019 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 40-2019; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 41-2019. A Resolution granting consent to the Ohio Department of Transportation for bridge inspection program services. (Second Reading)

Mr. Brock reported that this bridge inspection program continues through 2022.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 41-2019 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 41-2019 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 41-2019; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2019-18. An Ordinance levying assessments for sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and drive aprons. (Second Reading)

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Ordinance No. 2019-18 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2019-18 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-18; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2019-19. An Ordinance authorizing the trade in of a 2010 International 4300 no longer needed for municipal purposes. (Second Reading)

Mr. Brock advised that staff is continuing to review the options for the trade in of the vehicle and requested that the Ordinance be tabled.

Mr. Hickman moved to table Ordinance No. 2019-19; seconded by Mr. Funk. Voice vote. Motion carried.

New Business

Resolution No. 42-2019. A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.

Mr. Brock reported that this is an annual resolution following the submission of the Tax Budget.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the first reading of Resolution No. 42-2019 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 42-2019 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 42-2019; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried

Consideration of Motion to proceed with the annexation of 4.497 acres, more or less, consisting only of a portion of Hankins Road.

Mr. Callahan confirmed Mr. Frentzel's understanding that this is authorizing the process that was attempted last year.

Mr. Hickman asked if an attempt will be made to obtain 100% of the owners. Mr. Callahan advised that the City was unable to obtain 100% of the owners and will attempt to obtain a majority of the owners. Mr. Hickman was pleased that it came to Council for a vote. Mr. Frentzel pointed out that it was previously discussed by Council. Mr. Callahan noted that he did not prepare a petition to annex Hankins Road without the direction of Council. Mr. Hickman was of the opinion that Council should vote on whether or not to proceed with an annexation and requested that the documentation reflecting previous discussions or votes be sent to Council.

Mr. Hickman asked if Yankee Road in front of the school is in Lemon Township. Mr. Brock advised that there is a portion of Yankee Road that is located in Lemon Township. Mr. Hickman asked if the City can petition to annex that portion of Yankee Road. Mr. Callahan replied that he would need to look at a map to see what exactly he was referring to.

Mr. Funk moved to proceed with the annexation of 4.497 acres, more or less, consisting only of a portion of Hankins Road; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Executive Session

To consider confidential information relating to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development and consider the compensation of a public employee.

Mr. Funk moved to adjourn into executive session to consider confidential information relating to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development and consider the compensation of a public employee; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Council adjourned into executive session at 7:20 p.m.

Mr. Funk moved to reconvene into regular session; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Council reconvened into regular session at 8:08 p.m.

Mr. Hickman asked if there will be legislation in the future to amend the Planned Unit Development on South Main Street to allow for a gas station. Mr. Brock advised that there will be.

Adjournment

Mr. Funk moved to adjourn the regular meeting of Council; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, MMC
Clerk of Council