



**Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 8, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Mr. Bellapianta moved to appoint William J. Brock as Clerk Pro tem for this meeting; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Roll Call

Council members present: Marc Bellapianta, Kelly Clark, Jason Frentzel, Keith Funk, Christina McElfresh, and Ben Wagner.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to excuse Mr. Callahan; seconded by Mr. Bellapianta. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Frentzel moved to approve the Council Minutes of January 25, 2022; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh.

Visitors

- Retirement of Police K-9 Helix

Chief Buchanan introduced K-9 Helix and his handler, Officer Mike Doughman. Helix has been with the department since 2013 and is retiring. Chief Buchanan highlighted one of Helix's accomplishments in locating an elderly man that had wandered from his house and fallen down a ravine. If it wasn't for Helix he probably would not have survived. He will be remaining with Officer Doughman and his family. Helix is also the only K-9 that has been officially patched-in as part of the Warren County Drug Task Force Team.

- Ceremonial promotion of Robert "Eddie" Myers to the rank of Police Sergeant

Chief Buchanan introduced Sergeant Eddie Myers who has been with the Monroe Police Department since 2006.

Law Director Callahan administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Myers.



- Introduction of Police K-9 Nelson

Chief Buchanan introduced the newest K-9 Officer, Nelson. He and his handler, Officer Doughman, have completed training and are already on the streets. Nelson has picked up right where Helix left off.

- Major Steve Arrasmith, Investigations Division Commander of the Warren County Sheriff's Office & Drug Task Force – Presentation of DTF Annual Report for 2021

Major Arrasmith distributed the Warren County Sheriff's Office Drug Task Force Annual Report. We remained a multi-jurisdictional drug task force. We are a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area that is part of the Federal, State, and local law enforcement to work together with the same mission. In 2021, we had 21 law enforcement officers assigned to our unit. Council thanked the Major for all that he and the Task Force does.

Mr. Frentzel pointed out that the video feed is out on Facebook, but the sound is still working.

Mr. Frentzel moved to not live-broadcast this meeting in the event we are unsuccessful with the video; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2022-02. An Ordinance granting an easement to Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for the purposes of replacing a casing over an existing gas main. (Second Reading)

Mr. Brock advised what was included in the packet for this meeting included the temporary easement and the permanent easement.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to amend Exhibit "1" of Ordinance No. 2022-02 to reflect both temporary and permanent easements; seconded by Mr. Bellapianta. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to consider this the second reading and have it read by title only; seconded by Dr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The City Manager read Ordinance No. 2022-02 by title only.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-02; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.



New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 06-2022. A Resolution approving a Then-and-Now Certificate in the amount \$3,442.50 to The Center for Local Government and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock noted this is for the annual fees to the Center for Local Government and the invoice came in before the purchase order was opened.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 06-2022 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Dr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The City Manager read Emergency Resolution No. 06-2022 by title only.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 06-2022; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 07-2022. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a professional services engineering agreement by and between the City of Monroe and Woolpert, Inc. for Imagery/LiDAR Acquisition.

Mr. Morton explained this is for LiDAR imagery that will be used by every department in the City. It would be a much higher resolution imagery than what we get from Butler and Warren Counties. Right now when we receive the mapping from the counties you cannot see both counties together. This would be more accurate and you can see the entire City together. The GIS Analyst will be managing this software. One thing it would be used for is the storm water and this will determine the amount of impervious surface on each parcel of land and accurately bill them for storm water run off fees. We collect around \$300,000 per year and just to run the payroll and day-to-day operations in storm water we need about \$1.2 million. We need to fairly assess the storm water fees.

Mrs. McElfresh asked if there are any maintenance fees for this. Mr. Morton replied there are no maintenance fees and this should last us at least 10 years.

Mr. Bellapianta, noting the GIS Analyst was just recently hired, questioned if that person will be able to take on all of this so soon. Mr. Morton advised that the GIS Analyst is very capable. Mr. Bellapianta asked if she would be the one to monitor the return on investment if it is supposed to pay for itself. Mr. Morton explained that as we start pushing out those new fees we will show that this will pay for itself. Mr. Bellapianta would like to have a report, if this is approved, to show that we are getting a return on our investment.

Mr. Frentzel asked if there would be an impact on residents for new storm water fees. Mr. Morton stated the software gives the ability to bill the residents individually or an average amount.



Mrs. McElfresh moved to consider this the first reading of Resolution No. 07-2022 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The City Manager read Resolution No. 07-2022 by title only.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to approve the first reading of Resolution No. 07-2022; seconded by Dr. Clark. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion authorizing the expenditure of \$39,317.60 to Stryker for two Lifepak 15 V4 Monitors/Defibrillators for the Department of Fire.

Assistant Fire Chief David Leverage reported that there are two units being traded in as they have met their life expectancy.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to authorize the expenditure of \$39,317.60 to Stryker for two Lifepak 15 V4 Monitors/Defibrillators for the Department of Fire; seconded by Mr. Bellapianta. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion authorizing the expenditure of \$16,800.00 to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC for Lawton Avenue Pipe Lining for the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Morton advised this is lining for an 18 inch corrugated pipe on Lawton Avenue and, if it is not repaired soon, we will begin to see the area collapsing.

Mrs. McElfresh moved to authorize the expenditure of \$16,800.00 to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC for Lawton Avenue Pipe Lining for the Department of Public Works; seconded by Dr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion requesting a hearing on the issuance of a new D5 Liquor Permit for Don Julio Street Food LLC located at 3113 Heritage Green Drive.

No action taken.

Administrative Reports

- Council Committees

Mr. Brock advised he is having each department head reach out to the associated Council Committee to get the ball rolling. He advised he has been talking to the department heads about some items he believes would be good to discuss. If we could have those meetings scheduled and discuss how we want to proceed from there. Some of the items will roll into what we talk about at the retreat and how we go from there on the strategic plan items or comprehensive plan items. Some will be tied to the budget process for the rest of the year.



- Pedestrian Bridge Report

Mr. Brock sought input from Council on the report as if we wanted to pursue that, the soonest is five years out to get any kind of funding through OKI.

Mayor Funk noted it was a high cost, but it is an opportunity to seek grant funding. Mayor Funk asked if there is any other project we could use grant funding for if we are not going forward with the bridge. Mr. Brock advised there are a lot of other capital projects. We need to make sure OKI is aware of these requests.

Mrs. McElfresh commented it is a lot of money and is worried about the General Fund budget and it depends on how much grant money you could get. That park is not going to be ready soon and cannot see spending money now on a park with playground equipment. Mr. Brock explained that we could time the application for grants in the future and we could study the best timing for this. The most important thing to Mr. Brock was the alignment so that as development happens we can say we have the alignments we want to reserve. The intent of the study was not to proceed with this right away it was just to get the alignment and a cost estimate.

Mr. Bellapianta could not vote for this with a clear conscience and expressed concern of the cost five to ten years from now.

Mr. Brock is just gathering input from Council and not to prompt any action in the near future.

Mr. Bellapianta felt that we could do a better job in communicating these meetings out to the taxpayers. We need to come up with a better way. Council has a responsibility to improve on this. Mayor Funk suggested this is a good topic for the Technology Committee.

Mayor Funk reported that he had a telephone conversation with Aaron Levering, Minister at LifeWay Church and with the Area Church Council. They would like to know if there are any needs of the City they could help with. Mayor Funk told him about the events and directed him to the Public Involvement Committee.

Adjournment

Mrs. McElfresh moved to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Clark. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, MMC
Clerk of Council