

**Monroe Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting of Council  
March 9, 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 6:48 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Roll Call***

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

***Approval of the Minutes***

Mr. Funk moved to approve the Finance Committee Minutes of February 23, 2021; Council Minutes of February 23, 2021; Public Involvement Committee Minutes of February 25, 2021; and Public Safety Committee Minutes of March 2, 2021; seconded by Mr. Routson. Voice vote. Motion carried.

***Visitors***

None.

***Committee Reports***

Mayor Frentzel reported that the Public Involvement Committee met and approved a monument commemorating the City Seal. The Committee is waiting on an updated quote and slight revisions to the wording on the monument. Mayor Frentzel further reported that the Committee discussed Fourth of July. The Lions Club will not be holding their Light Up the Sky Event this year due to COVID; however the Committee would like to proceed with the fireworks. We don't have everything worked out yet, but should have everything figured out by the next meeting. Mrs. McElfresh advised that it may not be definitive that the Lions Club will not have anything for Light Up the Sky and closer to July, it might change.

Mr. Funk would like the Committee to work up the resources necessary to hold the event strictly sponsored by the City if the Lions Club isn't comfortable in doing it. He would like to have the infrastructure and everything in place to have it in-house and, depending on the COVID pandemic, we could always pull it back to just the fireworks. He believes the residents would really like to have that event back. If we could try to plan it and have it with or without the Lions Club. Mr. Funk asked Mr. Brock if this is something we could do. Mr. Brock advised from a staff resource since we will already be doing fireworks police will already be there, public works will already be on site for trash pickup, and the fire department will be present because of the fireworks. We will already have staff present it just depends on how long that event will go.

Mayor Frentzel noted if we are able to do this it would not be the same as what the Lions Club has done in years past as they begin planning a year in advance, but the Committee will look into it.

Mr. Routson pointed out that before the Lions Club took over the other group that took care of it didn't have the total plans put together until June and they were still looking for money from the City. He understood it takes time to plan all of this and let's try to plan something as he is sure we could make it work.

Mr. Brock commented that the Governor is coming out with new guidelines later this month and that will help us determine what we can do.

### ***Old Business***

**Resolution No. 16-2021.** A Resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to apply for any and all grant funds; provided that acceptance of any grant funds, including matching funds, must be specifically approved by City Council. (Second Reading)

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 16-2021 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Routson. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 16-2021 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 16-2021; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

**Resolution No. 17-2021.** A Resolution expressing Council's intent for the sale of personal property not needed for public use or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired by Internet auction. (Second Reading)

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the second reading of Resolution No. 17-20201; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried

The Clerk of Council read Resolution No. 17-2021 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 17-2021; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

### ***New Business***

**Emergency Resolution No. 18-2021.** A Resolution approving a Then-and-Now Certificate in the amount of \$19,793.80 to Majors Supply and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported this is for the emergency purchase of salt. We had several snow events which we were unable to retrieve salt from our existing vendor due to the logistics of trucking

deficiencies and were not getting those deliveries. We were in the middle of a couple of snow events and we almost ran completely out. We received some salt from Butler County, but that was not enough to ensure safety of the roads. Mr. Brock authorized the purchase of 152.262 tons from Majors Supply at \$130/ton for them to go get it and bring it back to us.

Mayor Frentzel asked if the salt we were waiting on has arrived. Mr. Brock replied that it has arrived and we restored the tonnage that we borrowed from Butler County. Mayor Frentzel asked how the amount payed to Majors Supply compares to what we were paying at the beginning of the season. Mr. Brock advised that the negotiated price was \$55.37 per ton. Mr. Funk asked if it is typical that the salt is delivered or does the City normally pick that up. Mr. Brock replied that it is delivered and the delivery is included in the \$55.37 per ton. He added the problem was the trucking companies spent four hours getting loaded up and they were delivering to the highest bidder.

Mrs. McElfresh is grateful that we had a local entity that was able to get it for us in an emergency. Mr. Brock noted that both salt bins are full at this time.

Mr. Funk thanked Mr. Brock and Mr. Morton for acting quickly during this time.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 18-2021 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 Resolution No. 18-2021 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 18-2021; seconded by Mr. Routson. Roll call: seven ayes. Motion carried.

**Ordinance No. 2021-07.** An Ordinance, otherwise known as the permanent appropriations ordinance, to meet current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Monroe, during fiscal year ending December 31, 2021.

Mr. Brock explained this is the annual permanent appropriations ordinance and most of what was added is capital projects for the year. Referring to the five-year forecast included in the packets, Mr. Brock pointed out that the fund balances are healthy and, based on our policy, we have target fund balances for cash which is around \$4.7 million. Those items do not include the hold on positions in police and fire that he will release, which will amend those fund balances. We are building the five-year capital plan so there will be discussion on prioritization and what to include.

Mrs. McElfresh asked if there is a special meeting to address the future of the budget. Mr. Brock advised we are planning a work session or retreat to discuss those items for the upcoming year after the Tax Budget in July. Mrs. McElfresh asked how many positions in police and fire are being released. Mr. Brock replied there were three in police, three in fire, and one in dispatch.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Ordinance No. 2021-07 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 Ordinance No. 2021-07 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-07; seconded by Mr. Routson. Roll call: seven ayes. Motion carried.

**Ordinance No. 2021-08.** An Ordinance authorizing the City to participate in cooperation with, and requesting the Warren County Port Authority's participation in, the refunding of Port Authority Development Revenue Bonds issued to finance public improvements for the Monroe special assessment project; and authorizing the execution of a First Amendment to Cooperative Agreement in connection with such refunding.

Mr. Brock stated this relates to a bond issuance that the Warren County Port Authority put into place for a special assessment project that will have a Tru Hotel and Verizon Store on it. They are refinancing that bond and we just need to amend that cooperative agreement.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 2021-08 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2021-08 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2021-08; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

**Ordinance No. 2021-09.** An Ordinance authorizing the extension of the existing contract with Rumpke through January 31, 2023, and amending Section 1060.03(a) of the Codified Ordinances to increase the rate charged for garbage and trash collection to \$18.48.

Mr. Brock explained this Ordinance considers increasing the trash collection from \$13.50 to \$18.48 as recommended by the Finance Committee of Council.

Mr. Funk moved to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 2021-09 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Ordinance No. 2021-09 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2021-09; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

**Discussion/Motion** amendments to the Rules of Council.

Mayor Frentzel asked if Council is happy with the suggested changes proposed by Mrs. Wasson. Mr. Funk felt that if any proposed changes that Council has they could send to Mrs. Wasson and she in turn could send to Council for review prior to discussion.

Mrs. McElfresh noted that the Charter Review Commission brought up some good points that made her reconsider some items.

Mr. Hickman moved to put the Rules of Council on the City's website; seconded by Mrs. McElfresh. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mayor Frentzel asked everyone to submit their changes to Mrs. Wasson for discussion at the next Council meeting.

### ***Administrative Reports***

Mr. Brock, in response to Mr. Hickman's inquiry, advised that the DTE form for the land swap was submitted to the property owner for his signature and we are waiting on that return.

- **Executive Session.** To consider the purchase of property for public purposes.

Mr. Funk moved to adjourn into executive session to consider the purchase of property for public purposes; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Council adjourned into executive session at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Hickman moved to reconvene into regular session; seconded by Mr. Callahan. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Council reconvened into regular session at 8:26 p.m.

### ***Adjournment***

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

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, MMC  
Clerk of Council