Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

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

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

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Funk moved to approve the Council Minutes of October 26, 2021; Finance Committee Minutes of October 26, 2021; and Public Involvement Committee of October 27, 2021; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

None.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 54-2021. A Resolution endorsing and ratifying the filing of a Community Development Block Grant Funding Application for an Americans with Disabilities Act Program and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported this is for next year's ADA program and the grant application was submitted with a note that the required resolution would be presented to Council this evening.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 54-2021 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 Resolution No. 54-2021 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Resolution No. 54-2021; seconded by Mr. Callahan. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-53. An Ordinance authorizing the purchase of real property from Performance Food Group, Inc. to be used as right-of-way to allow for the widening of Lawton Avenue and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock advised this is related to a follow up item to purchase real property for the Lawton Avenue Project.

Mr. Funk moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-53 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-53 by title only.

Mr. Funk moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 2021-53; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to authorize the expenditure of $33,055.00 to Universal Contracting for the remodeling of 980 Holman Avenue.

Mr. Morton advised this is to make room for additional staff and privacy for existing staff as now you have to walk through someone else's office to get to other parts of the building.

Mr. Funk moved to authorize the expenditure of $33,055.00 to Universal Contracting for the remodeling of 980 Holman Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to authorize the expenditure of $23,050.00 to Universal Contracting for the remodeling of 1000 Holman Avenue.

Mr. Morton explained that we do not have sufficient space for meeting space and lunch space and will utilize an existing bay. This will also remodel an existing locker room and restroom.

Mr. Funk moved to authorize the expenditure of $23,050.00 to Universal Contracting for the remodeling of 1000 Holman Avenue; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion to authorize the expenditure of $19,071.90 to Southeastern Equipment Company for a trailer for the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Morton reported this trailer will be used to haul the excavator.

Mr. Funk moved to authorize the expenditure of $19,071.90 to Southeastern Equipment Company for a trailer for the Department of Public Works; seconded by Mr. Callahan. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion authorizing the expenditure of $100,000.00 to Badger Water Meters for the purchase of residential water meters.

Mr. Morton stated it will be for approximately 200 water meters for replacement. Mayor Frentzel asked how many water meters do we go through in a year. Mr. Morton replied that it will begin to replace the older water meters that need replaced.

Mr. Funk moved to authorize the expenditure of $100,000.00 to Badger Water Meters for the purchase of residential water meters; seconded by Mr. Wagner. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion accepting the July 2021 Finance Reports as submitted.

Mr. Funk moved to accept the July 2021 Finance Reports as submitted; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Brock referred to his proposal for engineering services for a pedestrian bridge and the connection to Monroe Bicentennial Commons rather than crossing State Route 4. There was no objection from Council to proceed with the engineering services in approximate amount of $8,994.00. This report would be completed within about 60 days. He noted that grant funds would be sought for the bridge.

Mr. Brock asked Council if they had a preference on the cost of living for the non union employees. It was the consensus of Council to authorize a 3.5% cost of living.

Mrs. Waggaman proposed some adjustments to our benefits policy. The suggested changes are:

- vacation buy back as non union does not have that. It would allow cashing in 50% of the vacation accrual with a cap of 80 hours.
- cash out at separation for all accrued and unused vacation leave. Right now non union can only cash out two weeks.
- carry over of vacation. Currently, it is with the approval of the City Manager on a case-by-case basis.
- new hires immediately start to accumulate vacation immediately based on time worked rather than waiting until January 1 to receive two weeks vacation.

The first three items Mrs. Waggaman would like to see adopted first as they would affect the budget.

- across the board all non union employees get the same holidays and we do allow for the trade of holidays and would like to open this up where they could use a holiday for any scheduled days.
- consider adding Juneteenth to the observed holidays. Mrs. Waggaman sought Council's opinion on having the four days for swapping. Council had no objection to having the four days as flex/swap days.
- we receive two personal days per year and suggesting that these two days be permitted to carry over to the following year.

Mr. Hickman asked if it could be emergency legislation on the first reading. Mrs. Waggaman replied that it could.

Adjournment

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

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, MMC
Clerk of Council